

COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 23, 2003

#03-12

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 23rd, 2003 at 7:00 p. m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Doug Robinson presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning
Councillor Lloyd Smith
Councillor Lois Smith
A.D. Brown, Town Clerk
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

REGRETS: Councillor Lyle Yorke

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all those in attendance. He also noted that Councillor Yorke was not present for personal reasons.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councillor Lloyd Smith requested the addition of Water Protection Advisory Committee under committee reports as item 8. (e).

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

3. RCMP REPORT

Cst. Colin Morton presented the following report noting that the past month was relatively quiet as far as complaints are concerned. Cst. Morton reported a total of 49 complaints including 5 Noise Complaints; 2 Reports of Property Damage; 2 Reports of Break and Enter; and 5 Minor Assaults. The remainder were administrative items such as background checks for people applying for jobs, etc. Under Public Relations Cst. Morton advised that planning for the upcoming Spookarama program is ongoing and he acknowledged the generous support of the Town and local businesses. At this time Cst. Morton requested the financial support of the Town and was advised by the Clerk that the Council had budgeted a grant for Spookarama for which a cheque would be issued. Cst. Morton also noted that the Block Parent program is up and running with

scheduled talks at the schools; there is a Youth and Senior initiative being developed by Cst. Penny and Cst. Bergeron; Cst. Penny is involved in discussions with high school students regarding a youth centre which may help alleviate some of the problems in the downtown area; and Cst. Bergeron attended a school dance.

4. BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Carl Skidmore reported a total of 19 complaints regarding dogs, several cat complaints and 2 unsightly premises complaints.

Responding to a question from Deputy Mayor Canning as to whether the number of complaints about cats is unusual, Mr. Skidmore noted that the majority of those complaints concerned an ongoing problem at one residence in particular. He noted that he does not normally respond to complaints about cats, however, due to the special circumstances of this case he has become involved to help find a resolution to the problem.

Mayor Robinson noted the understanding that there is another avenue being explored to deal with this situation.

5. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Arnold Wood presented the following report covering the period July, August and September 2003.

EMERGENCY CALLS

2 fire calls

3 vehicle accidents

1 rescue

2 life flights

2 false alarms

2 smoke alarms

TRAINING

Sept. 11 - Vehicle extractions

Sept. 18 - Mock fire call

UPCOMING TRAINING

Not Scheduled

NEW FIREFIGHTER

Welcome Jonathan McCulley as a new firefighter

Councillor Lloyd Smith asked if the department has a full roster of volunteer firemen with the new recruit. The Fire Chief advised that there remained two vacancies, however, endeavours are being made to fill them.

6. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$296,071.37 be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of July 7, 2003 - #03-11.

Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(8.a) Finance - Report given by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning:

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2003

(a) Capital Projects - The Committee drafted a list of capital projects to consider for fiscal 2003/2004 and the reviewed the list of reserves available to fund the projects.

After a discussion the list of capital projects was not finalized, however, the Committee did recommend the replacement of two pieces of Public Works equipment and that the Superintendent be given the authority to purchase a sidewalk snowplow/snowblower to replace the Holder and a front end loader to replace the grader for the best price he can negotiate within the budget. The funds are to come out of the Equipment Reserve for Public Works.

(b) Swan Creek Road Landfill Site - The Committee has a concern that a logging contractor has cut and removed trees from the former Swan Creek Road Landfill site without the authority of

the Town.

The Committee recommends a survey of the property to determine boundary lines and that the matter be turned over to our solicitor to recover the Town's financial losses.

(c) Tax Write-Offs - The Clerk presented two tax accounts to be written off as uncollectible. The first is a property account in the name of Larry Stronge in the amount of \$186.54 and the other a business occupancy account in the name of Gail's Pizza in the amount of \$76.03.

The Committee recommends that these two accounts be written-off.

(d) Appointment of Fire Inspector - The Town of Springhill has advised that fire inspection services will be performed by present Building Inspector, Pat Boyce, an arrangement that will be reviewed in one year.

After a discussion the Committee recommends that Parrsboro contract Fire Inspection Services from the Town of Springhill in combination with building inspections and that a meeting be arranged between the two municipalities to discuss the delivery of the service.

(e) Tax Reduction Policy - Over the summer the Committee has reviewed the policies of other municipalities regarding temporary tax relief to owners of property that has been involuntarily destroyed or partially destroyed by fire after the assessment roll has been filed. A similar policy for the Town of Parrsboro was drafted and finalized at the last meeting which the Committee recommends for approval with an effective date of January 1, 2003.

(f) Ship's Company Theatre RE: Lease - The Ship's Company Theatre has requested a lease with the Town for a portion of the former Irving property on Lower Main Street to be used for parking once the new theatre is up and running. After representatives of the Ship's Company met with the Committee to discuss the matter in more detail, our solicitor was requested to draft a lease, a copy of which has been presented to both parties for review. The lease document will be finalized once representatives of the Town and Ship's Company have an opportunity to meet again.

(g) Noise Bylaw - Progress is continuing on the drafting of a noise bylaw for the Town. The Committee has reviewed sample bylaws from other municipalities and a meeting will be scheduled with Cpl. Oliver for his input into the development of the bylaw.

(h) CREDA RE: High Speed Internet - A letter from Paul Hopper has advised that CREDA has applied for the third stage of the implementation of the High Speed Internet this fall.

(i) Note of Appreciation - A card of thanks has been received from Crystal Roberts, recipient of the Town's 2003 High School Bursary. Crystal noted that the bursary will greatly assist her with her future studies.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith

that the Finance Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted. Motion carried.

(8.b) Public Works - Report given by Councillor Lloyd Smith:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2003

(a) Superintendent's Report - John Henwood reported the following activity in the Public Works Department:

- mowing lawns, ballfields and ditches more often this year due to the wet weather**
- cut brush on footpath between Whitehall Rd. and Lambs Hill Rd.**
- raised some water shut offs for paving contractor**
- graded gravel roads in town and at Glooscap Park**
- replaced culvert on Willow Street**
- pavement at end of King Street cut for new culvert**
- pressure and flow test to assist with the design of the sprinkler system for the new Kipawo Theatre**
- new flow meter for the wells installed**
- the new lights for the cenotaph are in and will be installed by an electrical contractor, hopefully by mid-September**
- the silt curtain, weights and floats are in that will be put in place in the Aboiteau when it is drained for repairs.**
- catch basin repaired on Church Street**

- picnic tables and garbage cans were provided for the Band Day Barbeque and Antique Auto Show

- a load of culverts brought in from Truro

- guardrail repaired in Whitehall

- a guardrail set back on the tide side of the Aboiteau Bridge

- bushes cut back on Willow Street

(b) New Equipment - John has negotiated an agreement to purchase a new street sweeper/ sidewalk snowplow to replace the Holder and is in the process of obtaining firm prices on a front end loader to replace the grader.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Public Works Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted. Motion carried.

(8.c) Planning, Development and Housing - Report given by Councillor Lois Smith:

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2003

(a) Building Inspector's Report - Following is a summary of all permits issued and activity of the Building Inspector's Office since the last report to August 31, 2003:

| | <u>No. of Permits</u> | <u>Value</u> |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|
| New Construction & Additions (Residential) | 2 | \$36,000 |
| Repairs and Alterations (Commercial) | 2 | \$ 6,500 |
| Repairs and Alterations (Residential) | 1 | \$ 2,500 |

| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------------|
| Garages and Sheds (Residential) | 4 | \$41,000 |
| Demolition (Residential) | 2 | N/A |
| Development | 2 | N/A |
| Total | 13 | \$86,000 |

Activity during this time:

- 10 building inspections were done.
- Reviewed 4 final plans of consolidation and subdivision.
- Approved 1 final plan of subdivision.
- Contacted 4 persons doing work without a permit.
- Performed 8 dangerous and/or unsightly premises inspections.
- Issued 1 dangerous and/or unsightly premises notice.
- Issued 3 dangerous and/or unsightly premises orders.
- Issued 2 zoning conformation letters.

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Planning, Development and Housing Committee report be accepted. Motion carried.

(8.d) Protective Services - Report given by Councillor Lloyd Smith:

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2003

(a) Presentation by RCMP - Staff Sergeant Wade Blake accompanied by Cst. Guy Bergeron

presented a report to the Committee with the purpose of providing information on the RCMP's planning and reporting process, how it relates to National and Local interests and how elected officials and the community can have input into the process so that their local policing needs are met. There are two formal documents associated with this process which are Performance Agreements completed by senior RCMP personnel which ensure that plans are followed, actions are taken on timely basis and people are accountable, and the Roles and Responsibilities document which provides input into the RCMP operations at the community level and is flexible so that it can fit into the unique and individual needs of our community.

The Committee was advised that the first step in this process would be to appoint a committee to develop the Roles and Responsibilities document. After a discussion it was recommended that this committee consist of detachment commander Cpl. Phil Oliver, S/Sgt. Wade Blake and the two Council members on the Protective Services Committee being Councillors Gleneida Canning and Councillor Lloyd Smith.

(b) County RE: Fire Departments - Correspondence from the County of Cumberland advised that the County is initiating a study regarding the provision of fire protection services and is inviting a representative from the municipalities with whom they have fire service contracts to participate in and have input into the process.

After a discussion it was recommended that Councillor Lloyd Smith be appointed to this committee as the Town's representative.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning that the Protective Services Committee Report and the recommendations contained therein be accepted.
Motion carried.

(8.e) Water Protection Advisory Committee - Councillor Lloyd Smith advised that the WPAC met on Thursday, September 18th with two members absent. He noted that there were a couple of invited guests at the meeting, namely Scott Lister of the Provincial Department of Environment's Water Strategy Board in Halifax and Bill McLeod from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Resource Stewardship. Councillor Smith advised that the main action that took place was the disbanding of the existing committee that was dealing with the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaws with the recommendation that there be a new committee set up called the Water Source Protection Advisory Committee that would not simply deal with the MPS/LUB but with all issues related to water protection.

Mayor Robinson noted the understanding that this was not something new but a natural progression in the process.

Councillor Lloyd Smith confirmed the Mayor's understanding noting that at the Committee meeting it was acknowledged by the Department of Environment that the step that was taken at

that time through their direction perhaps was not the proper step to take first.

After a discussion there was a motion by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Council accept the recommendation of the Water Protection Advisory Committee to disband the committee and look at setting up a new Water Source Protection Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the establishment of the new Water Source Protection Advisory Committee be held over until Council has had an opportunity to review the matter in more detail.

On the question,

Mayor Robinson noted the understanding that there are members of the public who feel that it is the Town trying to take something away from them and he wanted to state for the record that the process that has been followed was not initiated by the Council but rather at the direction of the Environmental people and it is they who have indicated that maybe Council should have been pointed in a different direction and have rearranged the process.

As there was no further discussion the motion was voted on and carried.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised there was no correspondence to present this evening.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Councillor Lloyd Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.