

# COUNCIL

JANUARY 27, 2004

#04-01

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Doug Robinson presiding.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Lloyd Smith  
Councillor Lois Smith  
Councillor Lyle Yorke  
Janie Pettigrew, Deputy Clerk  
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

**REGRETS:** Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning  
A.D. Brown, Town Clerk

## 1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all those in attendance.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Robinson requested the addition of "Town Caucus" as item (11.5) under Committee Reports and "Atlantic Institute of Market Studies" under Correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the agenda be approved with these additions. Motion carried.

## 3. PRESENTATION - V. KELLY RE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK

Valerie Kelly introduced herself as the Domestic Violence Coordinator with the police for Cumberland County and advised that she was here this evening to announce that Family Violence Week is coming up February 8<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> with the purpose of bringing awareness of the problem to the community through the schools, the churches, etc. Ms. Kelly noted a fact sheet about Family Violence which she passed to the Council and indicated that one fact that is not included but is astounding is that 32 incidents happen to a woman or a man on average before they actually opt out of a relationship. She also advised that in Cumberland County there is an

**Interagency Committee with representation from approximately 26 agencies that get together to make each other aware of their services, therefore, if she has a client with problem she would know where to sent her or him for help.**

**Mayor Robinson asked Ms. Kelly if someone in Parrsboro wanted to contact the Committee would it be appropriate to do that through her.**

**Ms. Kelly indicated that the contact could be made either through herself or the local RCMP detachment. She noted that in Cumberland both high risk and low risk cases are dealt with which is a little bit above what the program is mandated for, and in fact, they are even going to start statistically looking at incidents that the police are called to but for which charges may not be laid so that they can keep an eye out and help people before problems begin. She advised that anyone with questions about any of the services can get in touch with her and she will put them in contact with the proper people.**

**Following the presentation Mayor Robinson thanked Ms. Kelly for bringing such an important issue before Council this evening.**

#### **4. PRESENTATION - JOHN PADDON RE: CANADA DAY FIRE WORKS**

**John Paddon advised that he appreciated the opportunity to address Town Council this evening as a resident of Parrsboro who moved here in May 2003. He noted being an ex-member of the military with 18 years service that included two peace keeping tours of duty. Mr. Paddon noted that in his present position as an EMT on duty for Canada Day 2003 he was looking forward to the normal Canada Day fireworks display, however, his anticipation turned to disappointment when he learned that there was no fireworks display scheduled to take place. Mr. Paddon expressed the opinion that besides being a patriotic tribute to the Canadian forces, the fireworks display on Canada Day benefits the Town of Parrsboro economically by keeping people here, both tourists and local residents, who would otherwise have to travel to other communities to see a fireworks display. Mr. Paddon concluded his presentation by asking three questions: a) Why were there no fireworks last year?, b) Who is responsible for the cost of the fireworks display? and c) How does Council plan to put on the fireworks display this year?**

**Mr. Paddon was advised that over the past 8 - 10 years or more a fireworks display has been part of the Fire Department's activities on Canada Day and that the Fire Department has traditionally organized and been financially responsible for the event. Jim Atkinson, Fire Chief, noted that the fireworks display which costs about \$2,500 is a major expense to the Fire Department with funding coming from various sources including a grant from the Town and donations from businesses and individuals. However, last year there was a serious shortfall in funding and the fireworks had to be cancelled. Regarding whether the Council has a plan to put on a fireworks display this year, the Mayor advised that at present there is no plan, however, without making any promises Council would be willing to investigate the matter with the Fire Department to see if it**

would be financially feasible to do it this year. Mr. Paddon noted the understanding that there were others besides himself who were disappointed that there were no fireworks and this was supported by the Fire Chief who noted that there were a few people who travelled to Springhill. Mr. Paddon also noted the understanding that there are people willing to put money into the fireworks and suggested some type of fund raising campaign. Councillor Lloyd Smith noted that it is a lot easier for an organization to canvass for extra funds than it is for the Town of Parrsboro to collect additional money over and above tax revenue. Councillor Smith added that being on the Recreation Committee he would look forward to working with an organization that would be interested in spearheading such a campaign.

After further discussion Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Paddon for making his presentation and assured him that the matter would be given careful consideration.

## **5. RCMP REPORT**

Cpl. Phil Oliver reported the following activity between November 26<sup>th</sup> to date: 3 Sexual Assault complaints; 7 Physical Assault complaints; 1 Break & Enter into a residence; 2 Theft complaints; 2 Possession of Stolen Property complaints; 1 Fraud complaint; 1 Obstruction of Police Officer offense; 2 Breach of the Peace calls; 1 Liquor Act call; 4 Other Provincial Statute calls (Mental Health Act, Adult Protection, Child Welfare); 3 - 911 Act offenses; 2 Property Check requests; 6 False Alarms; 4 criminal records check requests; 1 Motor Vehicle accident with property damage; 3 tickets issued; and 4 Public Relations matters to deal with.

Councillor Lloyd Smith enquired about the status of the Noise Bylaw.

Cpl. Oliver advised that the bylaw had been forwarded to headquarters in Halifax for review by the legal department and hopefully there will be a response in the near future.

## **6. BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT**

Carl Skidmore reported 17 complaints and that he had made several trips to a particular residence in town regarding an ongoing situation that is not over yet. He noted that otherwise things have been fairly quiet.

## **7. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Jim Atkinson presented the following report for December 2003 and January 2004:

**Emergency Calls**

**2 Fire Alarm (false alarms)**

**1 Structure**  
**3 Chimney**  
**1 Auto Accident (call cancelled)**

## **Training**

### **Equipment Checks, Personal Protective Equipment**

**One member attended 4 level 1 Fire Fighter courses at the NSFF School in Waverly. In house courses from NSFF School were cancelled due to poor registration from other departments.**

**Medical First Responder course to be held in the near future. No firm dates were established at our last meeting.**

### **Upcoming Training**

**Monthly Equipment Checks**

### **New Member**

**Chris Hunter**

**With regard to the Medical First Responder course, Councillor Lloyd Smith asked whether this meant that the department was staying at its current level or that it was advancing.**

**The Fire Chief confirmed that the department is maintaining its current level.**

**Responding to a question about the roster, Mr. Atkinson advised that with the new member there is a complement of 21 volunteer fire fighters with one vacancy remaining.**

**The Fire Chief also noted the need for some equipment upgrading and training and he requested a copy of the Fire Department's budget. The Deputy Clerk advised that she would have this information available for him the following day.**

## **8. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET**

**Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Lyle Yorke that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$291,651.71 be approved as circulated. Motion carried.**

## **9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes dated November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003 - #03-14 and the Special Council minutes dated November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003 - #03-15. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as presented.**

## **10. 1<sup>st</sup> READING OF MPS/LUB WATER PROTECTION AMENDMENTS**

The first reading of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw Water Protection Amendments was moved by Councillor Lois Smith. The motion was seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith and carried.

Mayor Robinson indicated that with the passing of the first reading there will be a public meeting advertised 14 days prior to which anyone can come to make their views known. Copies of the MPS/LUB Water Protection Amendments will be available at the front desk for those interested.

## **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**(11.1) Finance - Report given by Councillor Lyle Yorke:**

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**DECEMBER 2003/JANUARY 2004**

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**(a) Interest on Prepayment or Overpayment of Taxes - The Clerk recommended a written policy be added to the Town's Tax Collection Procedures dealing with interest on prepayment of taxes in advance of the billing or an overpayment resulting from a successful tax assessment appeal.**

After a discussion the Committee recommended that Town Council adopt a rate of 0% interest on overpaid or prepaid taxes.

**(b) Noise Bylaw - The Committee has reviewed the draft of the Noise Bylaw dated November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003 and being reasonably satisfied with the document recommend that it be sent to S/Sgt. Wade Blake for review by the RCMP's legal department.**

**(c) Dog Bylaw RE: Fees - The Committee reviewed the fees charged for licensing dogs under the new Dog Bylaw adopted on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003.**

After a discussion the Committee recommended that as of January 1, 2004 there be no licensing fees charged.

**(d) CJSMA - Presentation - The Joint Services Management Authority's Education Officer, Brenda Kellegrew, presented the Committee with an overview of the proposed public education program for solid waste disposal. Pending approval of the budget the program will include a newsletter specific to each municipality, media advertising, a Christmas flyer and hazardous waste**

drop-off program. It is the objective of this campaign to encourage everyone to use the proper methods of solid waste disposal.

(e) Tim Hortons Planning Appeal - The Clerk has received notice that the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board has set the date for the public hearing for the appeal of a development agreement to permit the operation of a Tim Hortons Restaurant for Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

(f) Tax Exemptions - The Committee discussed the 2004 Tax Exemption and agreed to recommend the same tax exemption and income level as last year, being \$90.00 and \$12,000.00 respectively. The tax exemption will be appropriately advertised outlining the qualifying criteria and deadline for submission of applications.

(g) Returning Officer - With the upcoming municipal elections in October 2004 the Committee discussed the appointment of a Returning Officer and recommend the appointment of Town Clerk Ashley Brown to this position.

(h) New Committees - The following committee appointments are being recommended for 2004:

DEPUTY MAYOR  
LLOYD SMITH

YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL  
Councillor Lois Smith

FINANCE  
Full Council

NORTHERN REGION SOLID WASTE MGMT.  
Mayor Doug Robinson

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY  
Mayor Doug Robinson  
Councillor Gleneida Canning

CREDA  
Councillor Gleneida Canning

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Councillor Gleneida Canning  
Councillor Lyle Yorke

JOINT SERVICES MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY  
Councillor Lyle Yorke  
Councillor Lloyd Smith  
Alternates - Councillor Gleneida Canning  
Councillor Lois Smith

PROTECTIVE SERVICES  
Councillor Lloyd Smith  
Councillor Gleneida Canning

LIBRARY  
Councillor Lloyd Smith

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT &  
HOUSING  
Councillor Lyle Yorke  
Councillor Lois Smith

PROV. CHIGNECTO PARK  
Councillor Lois Smith

CNTA

**PUBLIC WORKS**  
Councillor Lyle Yorke  
Councillor Lloyd Smith

Councillor Lyle Yorke

**WHARF COMM. LIAISON**  
Councillor Lois Smith

**PERSONNEL**  
Councillor Lois Smith  
Councillor Lyle Yorke

**RECREATION**  
Councillor Lloyd Smith  
Councillor Gleneida Canning

**TOURISM/PARK**  
Councillor Lois Smith  
Councillor Gleneida Canning

**HERITAGE**  
Councillor Lois Smith

Moved by Councillor Lyle Yorke, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Finance Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted. Motion carried.

Mayor Robinson noted that the original date for the Tim Hortons Planning Appeal had been set by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for March 11<sup>th</sup>, however, the Board had subsequently rescheduled the hearing to be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> in consideration that more than one day may be required and it was not possible to tie up March 12<sup>th</sup> for this purpose.

(11.2) Public Works - Report given by Councillor Lloyd Smith:

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**DECEMBER 2003/JANUARY 2004**

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(a) Superintendent's Report - John Henwood reported that with the mild weather lasting well into December the works crew were able to continue working on projects such as brush cutting, searching for property lines at the well site and carpentry work at the library and works garage. Three part-time workers were hired for a while to help out and hopefully will be brought on again in the spring to clean up ditches, etc. Since the winter weather arrived the crew has been kept busy with plowing, salting and removing snow from streets and sidewalks. John reports that the new equipment including the sidewalk machine with attached salt spreader and the front end loader

are working out very well.

(b) Shades for Cenotaph Lights - Due to a concern about the glow from the recently installed lights at the Cenotaph, a shade was positioned on one of the lights and found to be very effective in reducing the problem. It was therefore recommended that additional shades be ordered for the two remaining lights.

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

(11.3) Planning, Development and Housing - Report given by Councillor Lyle Yorke:

## **PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**DECEMBER 2003/JANUARY 2004**

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(a) Building Inspector's Report - The following is a summary of all permits issued and activity of the Building Inspector's Office for the month of November 2003:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New Construction & Additions (Residential)	1	\$10,000
Repairs & Alterations (Residential)	1	\$30,000
Garages & Sheds (Residential)	4	\$21,100
Total	6	\$61,100

During this time:

- 3 building inspections were done.
- 4 building plan reviews were done.
- performed 1 dangerous and/or unsightly premises inspection.
- reviewed 1 final plan of subdivision
- issued one 911 civic addressing number
- responded to one unsafe condition complaint
- attended a Building Inspector's course in Halifax, N.S. from November 24 to 28, 2003.

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

(11.4) Recreation - Report given by Councillor Lloyd Smith:

## RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

DECEMBER 2003/JANUARY 2004

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(a) Provincial Volunteer Awards - An information package has been received from Recreation Nova Scotia regarding the 2004 Provincial Volunteer Awards. The Recreation Committee recommends the Town's participation in the Provincial Volunteer Awards program with appropriate advertising requesting nominations from the community for Representative Volunteer of the Year, Volunteer Youth of the Year, Sobeys Family Volunteer of the Year, Building Healthier Futures Corporate Award and Model Volunteer Community of the Year. Anyone interested in submitting nominations for any of these categories can pick up nomination forms at the Town Office. Applications must be completed and returned to the Town Hall by 4:30 p.m., Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

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

(11.5) Towns' Caucus Meeting - Mayor Robinson noted that presently the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities have three representatives from each of the regions, the counties and the towns whereas before there were area reps where there was one representative for both towns and counties. He advised that under the rules of the UNSM they do not provide funding for the caucus itself although they do arrange for meetings at both the spring and annual conferences. In order to have other meetings the executive of the Town Caucus brought forth a budget and is requesting \$100.00 from each town toward the expenses such as meeting space, etc. The Mayor pointed out that up until now, where there were meetings before it became an official function, Truro has been very kind in picking up a lot of the expenses and we have in the past contributed small amounts of money to the Caucus to cover expenses. Mayor Robinson advised that he would like a motion to contribute \$100.00 to the Town Caucus.

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Town of Parrsboro contribute \$100.00 to the Town Caucus. Motion carried.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE

(12.1) Bowl for Kids - The Deputy Clerk noted an invitation to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Bowl for Our

**Kids which will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at the King Pin Bowling Lanes in Amherst. This is a fund raiser for the Cumberland Early Intervention Program and they want co-workers, family and friends to get some teams together and come out and have some fun. The cost for three strings is \$9.00 per person and family rates are available. Sign up sheets were enclosed for anyone interested.**

**Mayor Robinson noted that generally most years there is someone from the Town staff that forms a team and attend this function.**

**(12.2) Parrsboro Figure Skating Club - Correspondence from the Figure Skating Club was presented in which some financial assistance was requested.**

**It was agreed to refer this to the budget.**

**(12.3) Natural Resources Canada - The Deputy Clerk noted correspondence regarding the Energuide for Houses which provides a pre-renovation home energy use evaluation service. There is a toll free number to request the booklet, 1-800-387-2000.**

**Councillor Lloyd Smith suggested forwarding a copy of this correspondence to the Building Inspector.**

**(12.4) Atlantic Institute of Market Studies - The Mayor noted correspondence from the UNSM regarding a luncheon organized by the Atlantic Institute of Market Studies for everyone with an interest in urban development in Atlantic Canada and the country. It will be taking place on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00 noon at Casino Nova Scotia in Halifax. The Mayor noted he and the Clerk plan to attend as part of the discussion will be "Smart Growth in Cities" and it well behoves the hinterland to attend because too often cities get a lot of attention and the outreaches do not.**

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon a motion by Councillor Lloyd Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.**

**SUMMARY OF APPROVED EXPENDITURES:**

**Shades for Cenotaph Lights - Due to a concern about the glow from the recently installed lights at the Cenotaph, a shade was positioned on one of the lights and found to be very effective in reducing the problem. It was therefore recommended that additional shades be ordered for the two remaining lights.....10**

**Towns' Caucus Meeting - Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Town of Parrsboro contribute \$100.00 to the Town Caucus. Motion carried.....12**

