

COUNCIL

JUNE 22, 2004

#04-07

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 22nd, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Doug Robinson presiding.

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

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith that the agenda be approved as presented.

The Deputy Mayor requested the addition of John Paddon RE: Fireworks as 6. (a). This was agreed to by the mover and seconder of the motion. Motion carried.

3. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY GEORGE JORGENSEN

Mr. George Jorgensen, the Town's Auditor, presented the audited financial statements for the fiscal year April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.

Mr. Jorgensen reviewed the General Operating Non-Consolidated financial statements noting operating revenue of \$1,588, 216 and operating expenditures of \$1,577,739 leaving a net surplus of \$10,447. He reported an accumulated surplus of \$92,207 and operating reserves of \$143,966. Mr. Jorgensen noted that the Town's balance sheet is in excellent shape with good current assets compared to current liabilities. He also commended Town staff for doing an exceptional job

collecting taxes with only \$14,937 outstanding at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Jorgensen reviewed the Water Utility financial statements noting an operating revenue of \$263,659 and operating expenditures of \$178,011 for a net operating profit of \$85,648. He noted a surplus at the end of the year of \$154,897. Mr. Jorgensen reminded Council that it had been decided to finance the water capital project by way of a bank overdraft with the loan being repaid from depreciation funds and operating surplus as excess funds are available. He noted that this year \$75,000 is being allocated from the water utility operating surplus and \$25,000 from the depreciation fund for a total of \$100,000. Mr. Jorgensen estimated that the debt would be paid off within the next three to four years and he commented that it is a very sensible practice to get the debt out of the way before the Town is faced with another large debt down the road.

After reviewing the financial statements Mr. Jorgensen answered questions from Council and noted his appreciation to the Town staff for their assistance. Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Jorgensen for his presentation and called for a motion to accept the financial statements.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the 2003/2004 audited financial statements be accepted. Motion carried.

4. RCMP REPORT

The Clerk noted having been contacted by the RCMP at approximately 6:15 p.m. with their regrets due to work commitments.

5. BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Bylaw Officer not present to give report.

6. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The Fire Chief was not present, however, Fireman John Paddon noted that the Fire Department has been busy setting up a Field Day Committee and making plans for events on July 1st.

(a) Fireworks - Mr. Paddon advised that a donation received after the last Council meeting has put funds donated to date over \$3,000. He also acknowledged contributions from the Royal Bank, Home Hardware and Post Office which held various fund raisers with the proceeds going to the fireworks. The Council was advised that any excess funds will remain in the account and be used for next year's fireworks. Mr. Paddon noted that the fireworks had already been ordered and received and are in storage at the Fire Hall.

Mayor Robinson asked whether the account holding the funds for the fireworks was an account within the Fire Department or a separate, private account.

Mr. Paddon advised that it is an account of the Fireworks Committee with two committee members handling the funds. He noted that from the beginning in January when the matter was brought up, the Fire Department had stressed that while it is willing to assist with the fireworks it wanted the finances kept separate.

Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Paddon for his update and noted the appreciation of Council for his hard work in bringing the fireworks to a reality.

7. 1st READING OF THE TOWN OF PARRSBORO NOISE BYLAW

There was a motion by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Lyle Yorke to move the first reading of the Town of Parrsboro Noise Bylaw. Motion carried.

The Clerk noted that he would check on the requirements for advertising for the second reading and there will probably be a special meeting called for the second reading as the RCMP would like this bylaw to be in force as soon as possible.

8. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lyle Yorke that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$213,308.68 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 of May 25th, 2004 - #04-05. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

The Mayor asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Special Council minutes of June 15th, 2004 - #04-06 which was the meeting to approve the budget and tax rates for fiscal 2004/2005. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(10.1) Finance - Report given by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith:

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

JUNE 2004

(a) Household Hazardous Waste Event - The Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority is planning a Household Hazardous Waste event for Amherst, Parrsboro and Pugwash during the summer and fall. The tentative date for Parrsboro is September 11th at the Public Works Garage between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Further details will be announced when they become available.

(b) Buildings Used for Recyclables - The Clerk advised that complaints have been received regarding the buildings being used to temporarily store recyclables. The information received is that the buildings are not being maintained and there is litter around the exterior of the buildings and the Public Works property. The Clerk advised that he had written to the individual who is responsible for these buildings and to date has received no reply.

Following a discussion the Committee recommended that the Clerk contact the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority to request that these buildings which are owned by the Authority be removed from Town property.

(c) Parrsboro Community Radio - Parrsboro Community Radio is planning to broadcast this summer from July 1st to 18th covering Canada Day, Old Fashioned Saturday Night and Old Home Week. The Radio Society is again seeking the financial support of local businesses to make it possible to provide special events programming by sponsoring on-air commercial announcements.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Town of Parrsboro sponsor 80 commercial announcements at \$5.00 per spot.

(d) Board of Trade RE: Summer Workers - The Town and Board of Trade have had ongoing discussions regarding the operation of the Tourist Information Centre. In an effort to assist the Board to provide this service, the Town has taken over the payroll functions associated with the VIC staff through the various employment programs approved for the Board.

(e) Parrsboro Merchants Association - Correspondence from the Parrsboro Merchants Association requested permission to put sunflower flags on the poles around the Band Stand for which they have verbal approval from the Band Association.

After a discussion the Committee recommended approval of this request.

(f) The following correspondence was noted for information -

(f.1) Cumberland Regional Library Board - Copy of correspondence addressed to Robert Angel, Chair, from Jamie Muir, Minister of Education, reporting funding allocations to the Cumberland Regional Library Board for fiscal 2004/2005.

(f.2) TIANS RE: Tourism Week - The Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia advised that

Tourism Week is scheduled for June 20th to 26th and extended an invitation to the Tourism Week Celebration Breakfast at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax on June 21st .

(f.3) Canadian Federation of Small Independent Business - Correspondence outlining the Federation's concerns regarding the provision of tax relief to commercial day care operators, the elimination of the Business Occupancy Tax and the need for a property tax policy for the province.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Finance Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

On the question, the Deputy Mayor asked if the correspondence regarding the recycling buildings had been sent.

The Clerk advised that the letter had been drafted and would be sent out tomorrow following approval of the Finance Report. He also noted that contact had been made with the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority regarding the buildings.

As there was no further discussion the motion was called to a vote and carried.

(10.2) Recreation - Report given by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith:

(a) Summer Art Camp - The Parrsboro Regional High School has requested the consideration of Town Council to offer a Summer Art Camp through the Summer Recreation Program which would be under the management and supervision of instructor Katelyn Peltier. Week 1 would be for students from grades three to six and Week 2 would be for students from grades seven to twelve with a maximum of 10 participants in each camp. The cost would be \$50 per participant and the location is yet to be finalized.

The Committee recommends approval of the request with registration for the art camp taking place during registration for day camp, sports programs, etc.

(b) Recreation Program - The Recreation Committee met with Linda Atkinson from Nova Scotia Sport and Recreation to review various programs being offered by the department to promote physical activity among our youth. The Committee requests the approval of Council to further investigate funding opportunities for Parrsboro through these programs.

Brochures outlining Sport and Recreation's strategy for Active Kids, Healthy Kids are available at the Town Office for anyone interested.

(c) Summer Recreation Program - The YMCA is on staff with Kathleen Welton as the program administrator, sports leaders Linda McPhee and Kyle Harvey and day camp leaders Katie

Henwood, Terilynn Brown, and Kayla Orr. They will be offering various programs from July 5th to August 27th and the contact would be through the recreation office upstairs in the Town Hall.

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

On the question, Councillor Gleneida Canning noted the understanding that the programs promoting physical activity mentioned in item (b) were not only for youth but also for adults.

The Deputy Mayor indicated that while the youth are the target group, it is correct that there are programs for adults as well with funding available for different organizations that put a program forward. He also noted that further information is available either from himself or Linda Atkinson who is our regional representative for Sport and Recreation, Health Promotion.

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

11. LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWN AND JIM & MARION MERRIAM

Mayor Robinson advised that the lease agreement between the Town and Jim and Marion Merriam to use the mini park commonly known as Gavin Park expired as of April 1st, 2004. He noted the understanding that the Merriam's are agreeable to renewing the lease and if Council is also agreeable it would be simply a matter of approving an extension to the lease. The Mayor indicated that the term of the original lease was five years and that its expiration had gone unnoticed for a couple of months. He recommended to avoid this happening in the future the lease be automatically renewed on a year by year basis if it is agreeable to the Merriam's. If the Merriam's are not agreeable, then the lease would be renewed for five years.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that Town Council approve the renewal of the lease between the Town and Jim and Marion Merriam for the use of Gavin Park on a year by year basis if the Merriam's are in agreement to the change in term, or if they are not, then the lease be renewed for a 5 year term. Motion carried.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

(12.1) Don Yorke Memorial Committee - The Clerk noted correspondence from the Don Yorke Memorial Committee advising that they are in the process of doing some repair work to the dug outs which are in a deteriorated condition and are looking to see if the Town is in a position to provide some financial assistance to replace them.

After a discussion it was agreed that the letter be referred to the next Committee-of-the-Whole to look at the overall implications of the request.

(12.2) Garbage Pick-Up Calendar - The Clerk advised that CJSMA is in the process of producing calendars for garbage, compost and recycling pick-up for which a draft has already been approved by Council. He noted that the printing contractor is ready to print the calendars, however, prior to printing them Joint Services want to bring a copy down on Thursday or Friday for the Town to look at to confirm that the colour scheme is appropriate.

Mayor Robinson noted that if the calendar had been ready today, staff from CJSMA would have been here this evening to present it and that he was sure that Council would not want to get together on Thursday or Friday just to look at the calendar.

After a discussion it was agreed that the Mayor and Clerk be given the authority to approve the calendar.

(12.3) Dinner for Anne Murray - Mayor Robinson noted a dinner for Anne Murray on July 28th at a cost of \$50.00 per person which is a fund raiser for the new arena in Springhill. He advised that he intends to attend this function on a personal basis and that anyone else who may be interested could contact him for more information.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.