

# COUNCIL

MAY 31, 2005

#05-06

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Doug Robinson presiding.

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

**REGRETS:** Councillor Lois Smith

## **1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Before proceeding, the Mayor advised that he had attended the Lieutenant Governor's Award ceremonies in East Hants earlier in the day and that on behalf of Council he would like to extend congratulations to Linda Frances Lee McPhee and Brady Keith Quinn, Grade 11 students from the Parrsboro Regional High School who were presented with medals for their outstanding academic achievements.

## **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Robinson requested the addition of "Resolution in Support of the Nappan Experimental Farm" under correspondence on the agenda.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the agenda be approved with this addition. Motion carried.

## **3. RCMP REPORT**

**Cst. Dwayne Penney presented the following report of activity for the month of May 2005:**

**Total of 28 occurrences for the month of May 2005**

<b>3</b>	<b>911 Calls</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Assist General Public</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Breach of Peace</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Sudden Death</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Break and Enter</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Fire Act</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Property Lost or Found</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Liquor Control Act</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Litter Act</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Mental Health Act</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Mischief, Damage to Property</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Motor Vehicle Act</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Theft</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Other Provincial Statute</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Written Warnings</b>

**Mayor Robinson noted having had a conversation with Cpl. Oliver that it is once again skateboarding season and it should be impressed upon the youth that they should be using the Skateboard Park and not the Main Street for this type of recreational activity.**

**Cst. Penney indicated that with the warmer weather skateboarding is becoming prevalent and that he has observed that the Skateboard Park is being well utilized. He noted that a skateboarder here and there on the Main Street when it is fairly empty does not usually create much of a problem, however, if the street is busy and the RCMP observe skateboarders congregating in one area, they will be asked to move along to a more appropriate place.**

**Councillor Lloyd Smith noted that there was an item coming up in the Finance Committee report about children playing in parking lots during business hours.**

**Mayor Robinson advised that this matter had also been brought to the attention of Cpl. Oliver. The Mayor emphasized that it was not so much a complaint, but rather a concern for the safety of the children.**

**As there were no further questions or discussions, Cst. Penney left to attend to his duties.**

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

**The Clerk noted that the Fire Chief was not available, however, he had submitted a written report which he presented as follows:**

**Monthly Report: April 25, 2005 - May 30, 2005**

**Emergency Calls:**

<b>False Alarms</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Fire Alarms</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Flue Fires</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Vehicle Fire</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>MVA</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>First Responder</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Structure Fires</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Grass/Brush Fire</b>	<b>0</b>

**Training:**

**Two of the Department's Safety Officers, Jim Atkinson and Arnold Wood went on a two day course, Firefighter Safety and Survival. Both found the course to be very informative and helpful. We will be hosing an MFR training course on June 16, with the evening topic being Air Way Management.**

**We are now getting ready for July 1<sup>st</sup>, Firefighters Field Day, with all day events, including a Parade through town at 10 a.m.**

**5. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET**

**Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$183,553.06 be approved as circulated. Motion carried.**

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council Minutes of April 26, 2005 - #05-05. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.**

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**(7.1) Finance - Report given by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke:**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

(a) **Dangerous and/or Unsightly Premises** - A written complaint has been received regarding a property abutting Main Street and Dominion Street under the Dangerous and/or Unsightly Premises Bylaw. The complaint will be investigated and appropriate action taken. A concern has also been expressed about children playing in the parking lot behind the post office as well as skateboarders on the sidewalk and the dangerous situation these activities present. It was agreed that these matters should be taken up with the RCMP to see what can be done.

(b) **Swimming Pool Bylaw** - With the growing number of residential swimming pools being installed in Parrsboro the Committee recommends that the Town look at adopting a regulatory bylaw in the interest of public safety. Over the next while the Committee will be looking at sample bylaws from other municipalities and drafting a bylaw for Council to consider.

(c) **Town Pins** - The Committee was advised that there is a very limited supply of town pins on hand and it was agreed to recommend that the pins be re-ordered with the style to be determined later.

(d) **Ship's Company Theatre** - Correspondence were received from the Ship's Company Theatre advising that they are holding their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ship's Company Theatre Charity Golf Tournament on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Parrsboro Golf Club. The support of the Town was requested with a donation, prize, gift or gift certificate for prize presentations at the Golf Tournament. After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Town donate a hard covered "Heritage Homes and History of Parrsboro" book and two nights free camping at the Glooscap Park.

Another letter from the SCT requested the Town to purchase advertising space in their 2005 Season Program. After a discussion the Committee recommended purchasing an ad in the program promoting Glooscap Park and Campground.

(e) **UNSM RE: Special Meeting** - The Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities has advised that a special meeting of the Board of Directors has been scheduled for Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005 the purpose of which is to decide if a special meeting of the UNSM membership should be held, within 30 days, to determine the UNSM's position on the recently launched report "A Question of Balance - An Assessment of the State of Local Government in Nova Scotia".

(f) **Application for Funding RE: Sewer Project** - Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations has acknowledged receipt of our application for funding under the Canada-Nova Scotia Infrastructure Program for Phase I of the Pier Road Sewer Upgrade. We have been advised that at this point funding under this program is fully committed, however, our request will be retained on file for future consideration under either the new proposed Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund or the

**Federal Gas Tax Program once in place.**

**(g) Summer Workers - The Town has been advised that all seven summer student positions applied for through HRDC have been approved. This includes five positions for the Summer Recreation Program (3 youth leaders and 2 sports coordinators) and two positions for Glooscap Park.**

**(h) Cumberland Youth Retention Project - The Mayor has passed information on this project to the Youth Town Council with particular emphasis on festivals and events that they may look at doing to encourage the activity of youth in the town. The YTC were encouraged to review the information and approach the Council with any ideas they may have.**

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

**On the question, Councillor Lloyd Smith referencing item (a) noted that it could be interpreted that the RCMP are responsible for handling Dangerous and/or Unsightly Premises complaints, when to his understanding, this is not the case.**

**The Clerk confirmed that the Town responds to Dangerous and/or Unsightly Premises complaints and that the recommendation to contact the RCMP referred only to the concern about children playing in parking lots and skateboarders on the sidewalk.**

**Councillor Lloyd Smith also noted the understanding that Council were to have a discussion tonight regarding the style of town pin to order.**

**Councillor Gleneida Canning noted the understanding that it was the intent to have a consensus of all members on the style of pin to order and that it was agreed to discuss it this evening based on the assumption that Councillor Lois Smith would be present.**

**Councillor Smith agreed it would be appropriate to wait until all members are present to make this decision.**

**With regard to item (e), Councillor Smith noted the opinion that the UNSM should wait until the fall conference instead of having any special meetings and that a letter should be sent to the UNSM stating this.**

**In the discussion there was a concern that the purpose of the special meeting is not known and it was decided at this point to contact Executive Director, Ken Simpson for an indication of what the meeting is about.**

**For clarification purposes, Mayor Robinson advised that the Town's application for the sewer**

project has only been acknowledged and that there is no commitment on funding from the Federal Government.

Councillor Gleneida Canning asked when the interviews will be taking place for summer student workers.

Councillor Lloyd Smith anticipated that the interviews would be conducted within the next week.

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

**(7.2) Public Works - Report given by Councillor Lloyd Smith.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**MAY 2005**

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**(a) Superintendent's Report - John Henwood reported the following activity over the past month:**

**- the annual spring clean up was into its first day on May 24<sup>th</sup> and seemed to be going quite well. *Councillor Smith updated this item noting that the clean up was completed on schedule within three days compared to the 7 to 8 days it has taken over the past couple of years.***

**- a hydrant flushing program was undertaken the last two weeks of April. Hydrants and valves were repaired as required.**

**- the Christmas lights were taken down and put in storage. They will require some repairs and repainting before being reinstalled in the fall.**

**- water service has been restored to the cottages at the First and Second Beaches**

**- gravel was hauled to Glooscap Park for some road and campsite improvements.**

**- regular patching of gravel and paved roads**

**- benches, garbage cans and bins have been refurbished and are being put out around town**

**- sidewalks, the Main Street and intersections have been cleaned up using the broom on the sidewalk machine.**

**- centre lines have been repainted**

- Ron and Phillip attended a Water Treatment Course and all works employees took the Traffic Control Person course and renewed their Signing and WHIMIS
- the Aboiteau gates were regulated to maintain water levels
- the crew helped unload and plant the Family Trees on the Town Hall property

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Gleneida Canning that the Public Works Committee Report be accepted. Motion carried.

(7.3) Planning, Development and Housing - Report given by Councillor Gleneida Canning.

**PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**MAY 2005**

(a) Building Inspector's Report - Following is the activity in the Building Inspector's Office for the month of April 2005:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New Construction & Additions (Residential)	1	\$30,000
Residential Fences	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

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

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

**RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

**MAY 2005**

(a) YMCA Agreement - The Committee has reviewed the contract from the Cumberland YMCA to provide administration and supervision of staff for the Town of Parrsboro Summer Programs for Youth 2005. The cost of the contract is \$4,448. The Committee recommends that the Council accept the terms of the contract as submitted by the "Y".

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Gleneida Canning that the Recreation Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted. Motion carried.

**(7.5) Economic Development - Report given by Councillor Gleneida Canning:**

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

**MAY 2005**

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**(a) Clean Up of Main Street - On May 15<sup>th</sup> a group of people from the Committee, Garden Club and interested citizens cleaned the tree grates on Main Street which included weeding and raking, straightening the guards, fertilizing and applying mulch. Gavin Park was also raked up and the bushes pruned. Two Family Trees have been planted on Main Street to replace a couple that had died last year, two trees were planted in Gavin Park and several more have been planted on the Town Hall grounds.**

**(b) Recreational Park - The Committee has been investigating funding opportunities to establish a recreational park on the former Scott property and recently met with Linda Atkinson, Fundy Regional Representative for Nova Scotia Sport and Recreation. There are a couple of programs for which money for this type of project is available. The Committee will be looking at developing a plan and will bring it to Council once it has been finalized.**

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the Economic Development Committee Report be accepted.

**On the question, Councillor Canning noted for clarification that the two trees placed on Main Street were not family trees, but regular, less expensive trees. She advised that the two trees planted at Gavin Park were donated by the Gavin and Vaughan families and that the remainder of the family trees were planted on the Town Hall property.**

Councillor Lloyd Smith emphasized the importance of acknowledging the efforts of those responsible for undertaking the clean up project and the family tree project. Mayor Robinson noted that the Town does, indeed, fully appreciate the efforts of the citizens in contributing to these projects.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE**

**(8.1) Councillor Lloyd Smith RE: Flyer Delivery - Councillor Lloyd Smith expressed a concern about the new method of flyer delivery. He noted the understanding that the bags of flyers are supposed to be somehow secured to the door when delivered, however, in many cases the bags are simply being tossed into yards and driveways. The concern is that if people are not home when the**

flyers are delivered or they do not notice them, a lot of litter will result. Councillor Smith recommended a letter to those responsible for the home delivery of the flyers.

After a discussion it was agreed to investigate who is responsible for the delivery of the flyers and that a letter be written outlining our concerns.

**(8.2) Amherst Cadets - Mayor Robinson noted an invitation to the annual ceremonial review of the Amherst Cadet Squadron on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. He advised that he plans to attend this function and asked anyone else wishing to attend to let him know.**

**(8.3) Resolution RE: Nappan Experimental Farm - Moved by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that Town Council pass the following resolution:**

**Resolution in Support of the Nappan Experimental Farm**

**WHEREAS the Nappan Experimental Farm was established in 1887 for the advancement of agriculture in Nova Scotia and the Atlantic Provinces; and**

**WHEREAS the farm is excellently situated and has the expertise to further enhance agricultural products in Atlantic Canada; and**

**WHEREAS Nova Scotia has realized many advantages from the research and development of agricultural issues in Atlantic Canada, particularly beef products; and**

**WHEREAS the closure of this facility will have a serious negative impact on Nova Scotia farming;**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Parrsboro Council support the efforts of the Experimental Farm at Nappan to reverse the decision of the Federal Government to close the Nappan facility.**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Parrsboro write a letter to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture stating our position on the matter.**

**On the question, Mayor Robinson noted that the letters to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture will be copied to our MP, Premier and local MLA's. He also noted that he was present at the rally last Sunday in support of the Nappan Experimental Farm and that it had been well attended. He also indicated that it is difficult to understand the logic behind the Federal Government's decision to move the eastern centre of experimental farming to Ontario and that it is one more step the Federal Government is taking to withdraw its presence in Atlantic Canada. He stated that it is very important that the Nappan Experimental Farm remain in operation not only for the good work they do, but also because of the impact of having Federal agencies in Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada.**

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

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon a motion by Councillor Gleneida Canning the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.**