

COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 27, 2005

#05-09

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 27th, 2005 at 7:00 p. m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Doug Robinson presiding.

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

REGRETS: Councillor Gleneida Canning

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

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

Mayor Robinson noted that due to other commitments the RCMP had requested to be put on earlier in the agenda and he recommended that the RCMP Report be moved to item #3.

The mover and seconder of the motion agreed to this change. Motion carried.

3. RCMP REPORT

Cst. Dwayne Penney presented the following report of activity to today's date:

Total Occurances - 54 files

Including:

2 - 911 Calls

1 - Assault

- 1 - B & E
- 2 - Theft
- 2 - Coroners Act
- 5 - MVA
- 7 - Index Checks
- 4 - Noise Bylaw
- 5 - Lost and Found
- 1 - LCA
- 2 - Property Checks
- 9 - Mischief
- 2 - Dangerous Driving
- 1 - Impaired Operation of MV
- 2 - Trespass Act
- 1 - Possession
- 1 - Uttering Threats

4. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION TO CARL MACFARLANE

On behalf of the Governor General of Canada, Mayor Robinson presented Carl MacFarlane with a Certificate of Commendation for his efforts in rescuing Sherry Jeffers and infant daughter Jessica from their burning home on Jenks Avenue on February 12th, 2005. The Mayor read the following letter from Mary de Bellefeuille-Percy, A/Deputy Secretary of the Chancellery of Honours, to Mr. MacFarlane:

"On behalf of Her Excellency the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, I am pleased to inform you that a Certificate of Commendation has been awarded to you on the recommendation of the Canadian Decorations Advisory Committee in recognition of your actions following an incident in Parrsboro on February 12, 2005.

The Certificate of Commendation was created in 1993 to be issued to those who have made a significant contribution by providing assistance to another person in a selfless manner. It is intended for eligible candidates whose actions are deemed notable by the Committee. The Commendation is not automatic; eligible candidates are selected through a voting process.

His Worship Doug Robinson, Mayor of the Town of Parrsboro, has kindly accepted to present you with the certificate on behalf of the Governor General; he will communicate directly with you in due course.

Your selfless actions are an inspiration to others and represent a high form of citizenship of which you can be very proud. The Governor General takes pleasure in extending to you her warmest congratulations, to which I add my own."

The Mayor also read the following letter addressed to himself:

"I wish to thank you for accepting to present the Certificate of Commendation awarded by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Canadian Decorations Advisory Committee to Mr. Carl Alvin MacFarlane in recognition of his actions following an incident in Parrsboro on February 12, 2005.

Since the creation of the Certificate of Commendation it has been our tradition to request that a prominent official present the document on behalf of Her Excellency the Governor General. The time, place and venue are left to your discretion. I would appreciate it if you would inform our office of the date of the event in order to complete our files.

I have enclosed a fact sheet about the award as well as information relating to the incident. If, however, you require additional information, please do not hesitate to call Mrs. Sylvie Barsalou, Coordinator of Decorations.

Certificate of Commendation

"In 1993, the Governor General approved the creation of a Certificate of Commendation to be issued to those who have made a significant contribution by providing assistance to another person in a selfless manner.

The Certificate of Commendation is signed by the Governor General and is intended for eligible candidates whose actions are deemed notable by the Canadian Decorations Advisory Committee. The Commendation is not automatic; eligible candidates are selected through a voting process."

Mayor Robinson read the Commendation itself:

"This Commendation is awarded to Carl Alvin MacFarlane for an act of great merit in providing assistance to others in a selfless manner in Parrsboro, Nova Scotia, on February 12th, 2005."

At this point the Mayor recalled the incident for which the award was being presented. He advised that due to a fire at a residence next door, Mr. MacFarlane went over and attempted to help Mr. George Jeffers out of the burning structure, however, Mr. Jeffers went back in to try and rescue his daughter and granddaughter. Mr. MacFarlane then went around to the back of the building, ripped out a window and saved the life of the mother and her baby. The Mayor indicated that unfortunately Mr. Jeffers perished in the fire. Mayor Robinson described Mr. MacFarlane's actions as quick thinking and outstanding and that it was his character and his own bravery that caused him to react. At this point the Mayor invited to participate in the presentation Councillor Lloyd Smith who submitted Mr. MacFarlane's name for the award and from the Parrsboro Volunteer Fire Department, Fire Chief Will Dunphy and Deputy Fire Chief Greg Matthews, who

were also instrumental in making sure that this event would take place.

After the presentation Mr. MacFarlane thanked the Mayor, Councillor Lloyd Smith and the Fire Department and indicated that the award was very much appreciated.

5. PRESENTATION BY KARLA FULTON

Karla Fulton advised that on behalf of the Don Yorke family she would like to present an award from the Nova Scotia Baseball Hall of Fame inducting their father into the Hall of Fame in 2000 on loan to the Town for the purpose of display. She noted that the Town would not be held responsible in the event that something happened to the plaque such as fire, theft, etc., other than they would ask for a replacement if that were possible, also if the family would like to remove it there is a release form attached to the back that hopefully would meet with the Town's approval. Ms. Fulton noted that the plaque was once displayed at Dave's Barber Shop and Sports Museum, however, since that establishment has closed the family would like to have it on public display and the Town Hall seemed the appropriate venue.

Mayor Robinson gladly accepted the plaque in accordance with the terms of the agreement and indicated that it would most likely be displayed in the Council Chambers. He also acknowledged that the Don Yorke Memorial Ball Tournament has turned over a lot of money to the Town of Parrsboro in various ways and that the Yorke family has been instrumental in assisting the Town Works crew to maintain the ballfield.

6. PRESENTATION BY ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

On behalf of the Parrsboro Legion, Bedford Winters requested that the Town purchase a bronze plaque for peacekeepers for the cenotaph which is the property of the Town of Parrsboro. The price of the bronze plaque is \$430 including HST with an additional charge of \$125 including HST to mount the plaque. The plaque would have a raised, buffed border, lettering and design with a small maple leaf in each corner and a brief inscription. An existing peacekeeping crest can be used at no additional charge. If another crest is chosen there is an art charge and set up fee of \$175 including HST. Mr. Winters indicated that the usual lead time for a custom bronze plaque is 6 - 8 weeks, therefore, time is of the essence if it is to be installed by Remembrance Day at which time the Legion would like to unveil the plaque.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the Town cover the cost of purchasing and installing the peacekeepers plaque at the cenotaph.

On the question, Councillor Lloyd Smith asked where the new plaque would be located on the memorial and if it would be similar to the Korean Veterans' plaque facing Main Street.

Mr. Winters advised that the new plaque would be situated on the side facing Whitehall, and that

it would be 18" x 4" to match the size of the existing plaque on the cenotaph.

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

Mayor Robinson thanked the Legion for all the work that they do in maintaining the cenotaph.

7. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Will Dunphy noted that it had been a rather uneventful summer and that over the past month there was one fire call and a false alarm. Also, one member left the department and a new member, Tom Brown was taken on. The Chief advised that the emphasis will be on training over the next few months in anticipation of increased activity as we move into the fall and winter seasons.

Mayor Robinson asked if the department still needs members.

Chief Dunphy affirmed that more members would certainly be welcomed.

Councillor Lloyd Smith inquired about the member who had resigned.

The Chief advised that the member was Daniel Yorke and that he had resigned due to family and work commitments. However, he would still like to remain an auxiliary member in order to help out the department from time to time.

Mayor Robinson thanked the Fire Chief for his report and commented that the Town is very well served by its fire department and the commitment of the members is very much appreciated.

8. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$463,760.71 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Mayor asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on March 31st, 2005, being #05-03A. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

The Mayor asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of the Council meeting held on June 28th, 2005, being #05-08. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

10. 1ST READING OF TAX EXEMPTION BYLAW

Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke moved and Councillor Lois Smith seconded the first reading of the proposed amendment to the Tax Exemption Bylaw with regard to the Ship's Company Theatre.

To clarify for those present, Mayor Robinson advised that bylaws now require two readings. The first reading is simply to give the title of the bylaw to show that it is on the books. There will be copies of the bylaw available to the public at the Town Hall and there will be a public meeting on the bylaw which will probably take place at the next regular council meeting.

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

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2005

(a) Superintendent's Report - Assistant Superintendent Phillip Forbes advised that the Superintendent was on vacation this week and, therefore, he was attending the meeting on his behalf. He advised the Committee that since the last regular meeting routine maintenance work has been undertaken by the Public Works staff. This included the ongoing process of mowing grass, clearing ditches, bush cutting and tree removal along town roadways. The Department is also renewing a number of service lines that were old and needed upgrading. There were four on Western Avenue, two on Jenks Avenue and some replacement work on Eddy Street later this week. A new service had been hooked up for the Eric Henwood property on Eastern Avenue. Rather than digging up the street to install the new water service they were able to drill a hole under the road and slide the water line through with the assistance of some equipment and staff from the Town of Amherst thereby saving the cost of tearing up and replacing the asphalt. This process takes considerably more time but is more cost effective in the long run. The old salt storage shed by the ball field not in use for a number of years has been removed and the land restored. Contractors are in the process of installing a new roof on the Public Works building.

(b) Curbing - The Clerk advised that he had a request from the Superintendent of Public Works to consider removing the curbing from the former tourist bureau site which is on the Town Hall property. The purpose of the request was to make snow removal easier until such time as Council decides the future use of the property. The Committee reviewed the site and are recommending that the curbing be removed by Public Works.

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

(11.2) Youth Town Council - Report given by Councillor Lois Smith:

YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2005

Councillor Lois Smith advised that as part of her report she would like to introduce two of the executive members of the YTC who were present in the Council Chambers. She introduced Miranda Bowden who is the new Chair and Linda McPhee who is the Vice Chair for the YTC this year. Councillor Smith noted that both Miranda and Linda have been on the YTC for a number of years, are very hard workers and she was pleased that they were here this evening.

Councillor Smith advised that over the summer months the skateboard park has been very well used with between 30 and 40 at the park at any given time. The YTC made arrangements to have the grass cut which improved the overall appearance of the park. There were also minor repairs carried out and the YTC was able to obtain funding to build a new ramp, taking advice on the design from some of the male skateboarders who use the park frequently. Councillor Smith looked forward to a quiet winter so that there will not be too much damage to the equipment due to the weather, however, it is anticipated that minor repairs will be required next spring.

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the Youth Town Council report be accepted. Motion carried.

On the question, Mayor Robinson recognized the two members of the YTC and expressed the opinion that the YTC as an addendum to this Council is serving the Town well. He noted that when this Council travels to other communities they always receive positive comments about our Youth Town Council and he expressed his gratitude for what they do and that the Town of Parrsboro should also recognize their efforts.

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

(11.3) Planning, Development and Housing Committee Report - Report given by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke:

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2005

Following is the activity in the Building Inspector's Office for the months of June, July and August 2005:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Permit Fee</u>
New Construction, Alterations & Additions (Residential)	3	\$92,000	\$73.68
Garages & Sheds	2	\$32,500	\$32.56
Mobile Homes	2	\$57,900	\$112.84
Development Permits	1	-	-
Total	8	\$182,400	\$219.08

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

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

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2005

(a) Summer Program - The Committee was advised that the Recreation Programs had ended at the end of August. During the summer months no complaints had been received from the parents or children taking part in the programs. The overall indication is that the summer programs were excellent and everybody was happy. Lloyd advised that he had reviewed the report by the Recreation Coordinator for the summer and is pleased with the overall results. The Summer Recreation Programs were carried out with the assistance of the Cumberland YMCA whose services are greatly appreciated.

(b) Recreation Assistance Programs - Councillor Lloyd Smith noted that he was a member of a couple of other committees dealing with youth, one being the Cumberland Chapter of the Active/Healthy Kids Coalition that has applications for grants for different organizations, and the second being the Cumberland Chapter of the Canadian Tire Jump Start Program and the Sport Nova Scotia Kidsport which has grant applications for children who are in financial need to participate in organized sports. He encouraged anyone who knows of children who need financial assistance to participate in sports to contact him for application forms if they have not already received them through the various organizations that they go out to.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Recreation Committee Report be accepted.

On the question, Councillor Lois Smith asked for which sports the financial assistance would be available.

Councillor Lloyd Smith advised that the sports have to be recognized by Sport Nova Scotia which includes school sports i.e. soccer and badminton and are of a 6 week duration such as hockey, swimming lessons, horse back riding, etc. Not included would be such things as a hockey school or baseball camp which are short term.

Mayor Robinson noted that the Town of Parrsboro has always been well served by the YMCA in their assistance to run the Summer Recreation Program, however, this year under Coordinator Jill Butler from the "Y" the program was exceptionally well managed. She had a very good staff that worked well together as a team and as the report indicated there were no problems or complaints. He indicated that Jill even managed to get some of the parents directly involved in the program. The Mayor also noted that Jill is applying for a recreation degree from the University of Maine and that he took the liberty of sending a letter of recommendation for her to that institution.

Being no further discussion the motion was voted on and carried.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

(12.1) Association of Municipal Administrators - Mayor Robinson read the following letter addressed to himself:

"I am pleased to inform you that on October 20th, 2005, Ashley Brown will be among those receiving the professional designation, Certified Municipal Manager.

The AMA recognizes the need for continual personal and professional development in municipal managers in Nova Scotia. It has therefore developed a process by which managers can attain recognition for a high level of academic and professional achievement. Eighteen administrators will be receiving their professional designation this year. This distinction is awarded to only those municipal administrators who met the criterial for certification as set out in the AMA bylaws. All certified municipal managers are entitled to use the letters CMM after his or her name.

The AMA certificate program is a step toward the ongoing goal to enhance the quality of municipal administration in Nova Scotia and I hope you will join us in congratulating Ashley in his accomplishment."

After reading the letter Mayor Robinson, on behalf of himself and Council, congratulated Mr. Brown for receiving this designation.

(12.2) Snowmobile Club - The Clerk read a letter from the Snowmobile Club requesting an informal evening meeting between the Club, Council and interested parties to discuss the gas situation.

After a discussion the Council agreed to meet with the Snowmobile Club at a mutually agreed time.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Councillor Lois Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.