

COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 29, 2005

#05-12

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 29th, 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
Councillor Lois Smith
A.D. Brown, Town Clerk
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. RCMP REPORT

Not present. No report.

4. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Will Dunphy presented the following report for the period October 28 - November 21, 2005.

Emergency Calls:

False Alarms:	0
Fire Alarms:	1
Flue Fires:	0
Vehicle Fire:	1
MVA:	0

First Responder: 0
Structure Fires: 1
Grass/Brush Fire: 1

On the evening of October 31, after the Spookarama dance there was an incident with a large garbage bin being set alight. We hope this will not be a repeated activity. On November 5, I

(Chief Dunphy) went to an open house at the Five Islands Fire Department. We did some vehicle extrication training and had a great time. On November 18 a group of local fire fighters; Peter Greenham, Danny MacAloney, Tom Brown and Robert Fancy went to the Elementary School to teach the children about fire safety.

Tom Brown was voted into the fire department. He recently retired from the military and we hope he will be a strong addition to our ranks.

As of right now not all of the fire fighter positions were filled during our annual meeting. This state will hopefully be changed during our next meeting with more members present.

We have two of our members going for Medical First Responder training, Jeremy Lawless and Tom Brown.

At this point Chief Dunphy presented the following fire fighter team list noting that the two positions that are yet to be filled are Secretary/Treasurer and Training Officer.

Chief	Will Dunphy
Deputy Chief	Gregg Matthews
Captain #1	Aubrey Fenton
Captain #2	Larry Orr
Captain #3	Chris Clarke
Driver #1	John Guilderson
Driver #2	John Henwood
Driver #3	Danny MacAloney
Secretary/Treasurer	
Training Officer	
Communications	Aubrey Fenton
Bingo Chairman	Wesley Andrews
Safety Officers	Arnold Wood, Jim Atkinson, Aubrey Fenton
Public Information Officers	Will Dunphy, Gregg Matthews

Moved by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Town Council approve the appointment of Will Dunphy as Fire Chief. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$146,052.28 be approved. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of October 25th, 2005 (#05-10). Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as presented.

The Mayor asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of a Special Meeting held on October 25th, 2005 (#05-11). Hearing none the minutes were declared approved as presented.

Councillor Gleneida Canning requested an update on #05-11 which dealt with the situation with the Citizens Band.

She was advised that the Band Association had received a copy of the transfer documents and that the Town is waiting for a response from them following their meeting.

7. 1ST READING OF AMENDMENT TO LAND USE BYLAW TO REGULATE OUTDOOR WOOD BURNING APPLIANCES

The Clerk noted a report from Planner Jason MacDonald which had been circulated to all members and had come about as a result of the review of the MPS/LUB which is currently underway. He advised that the amendment pertains to the large outdoor wood burning appliances used to heat homes, garages, etc. and that many municipalities with strong urban centres have put bylaws through restricting how these appliances can be set up because they can become a nuisance in these areas. There are strong residential areas in Parrsboro, therefore, Mr. MacDonald was asked to draft this amendment.

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the Town Council approve the 1st Reading of the Amendment to the Land Use Bylaw to Regulate Outdoor Wood Burning Appliances.

Mayor Robinson noted that the 1st reading is simply the reading of the title to inform people that it has been introduced and that copies are available. Then Council awaits any comments from the public and at the second reading, if nothing has been heard, Council will pass the amendment and if something has been heard then the Council will take it under advisement. For clarification the Mayor also advised that anyone wishing to make representation has to submit it in writing prior to the next meeting which is just a Council meeting, not an open "Town Hall" meeting.

Being no further discussion the motion was carried.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(8.1) Finance - Report given by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2005

(a) Mileage Rates - Due to increasing costs associated with travel such as gas, insurance and vehicle maintenance, the Committee agreed that the time was appropriate to look at the possibility of increasing mileage rates. In the discussion it was noted that the other levels of government and some government funded organizations have taken the lead to adjust their mileage rates to reflect these increased costs and a they were compared with the Town's current mileage rate of \$0.34/km which has been in effect for many years.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that our mileage rate be increased to \$0.45/km effective July 1st, 2005.

(b) Letter RE: Noise and Vandalism - Correspondence from a concerned citizen regarding noise and vandalism was read. The citizen noted a particular concern about enforcement of the new Noise Bylaw and that it has not had the desired effect of curbing this type of activity.

After a discussion the Committee recommended a public consultation meeting be coordinated with the RCMP to address this issue and others of concern to residents of the town. Mayor Robinson agreed to contact Cpl. Oliver to arrange the meeting.

(c) December Meeting - The Committee discussed meetings in December and agreed that there would be no Council meeting in that month.

(d) Heritage Strategic Task Force - For information the Committee was advised of the public forum on the importance of heritage organized by the Voluntary Planning Heritage Task Force scheduled to be held on Thursday, November 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

(e) Union of Canadian Postal Workers - A letter from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers advised that Canada Post is in the process of reviewing its national network and has announced plans to close a mail processing plant in Quebec City. The Union is concerned that the corporation may close other parts of its network in the course of its review. It was pointed out in the letter that in 2001 a moratorium was placed on post office closures, however, since the moratorium was put in place 50 post offices have been shut down in Canada. The Union requests that municipalities

pass the following resolution to help keep postal service and jobs in the community.

POST OFFICE AND PLANT CLOSURES

WHEREAS Canada Post is reviewing its entire postal network and has announced plans to close a mail sorting plant in Quebec City as the very first step in its review.

WHEREAS the government appears to support Canada Post's plan to close the plant in Quebec City, beginning in December 2005, which would eliminate 302 jobs.

WHEREAS the government is allowing Canada Post to close rural post offices in spite of a moratorium on post office closures in rural and small towns.

WHEREAS our public postal network connects communities throughout this vast land, helping us to overcome differences and distances.

WHEREAS our public postal network plays a key role in our social and economic life by providing jobs and the infrastructure that healthy communities need to thrive and businesses need to grow.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Parrsboro write to John McCallum, the Minister Responsible for Canada Post and request that the federal government instruct Canada Post:

- to stop the closure of the mail sorting plant in Quebec City and proposed closures in other locations.
- to consult with the public, postal unions and other major stakeholders to develop a uniform and democratic process for making changes to the Canada Post's network.
- to maintain, expand and improve our public postal network.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Town Council pass this resolution.

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

Regarding the noise and vandalism issue, Mayor Robinson advised that he had contacted Cpl. Oliver and a meeting has been arranged for mid-January, tentatively the 19th. This will be a town hall meeting and notices will be forthcoming when details have been finalized.

With regard to the Heritage Strategic Task Force meeting, the Mayor noted that there had been an excellent turn out which was acknowledged by one of the Task Force facilitators who also indicated that it was one of the best presentations. The Task Force also indicated it was the first

time they had seen a working school teacher give a presentation which impressed them greatly.

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

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2005

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

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New Construction, Alterations & Additions (Residential)	1	\$22,000
Garages and Sheds	1	\$20,000
Total	2	\$42,000

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

(8.3) CREDA - Report given by Councillor Gleneida Canning.

CUMBERLAND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT

NOVEMBER 2005

(a) Presentation of Business Plan - Rhonda Kelly, Executive Director, accompanied by Paul Hopper, Ron McNutt and Amy Smith of CREDA, and Parrsboro reps Rose MacAloney and Ross Smith, presented CREDA's business plan for the coming year which includes regional strategic planning, business development, community development, infrastructure, information technology, human resource development, and communications/marketing. Rhonda expanded on each of these categories noting CREDA's involvement in tourism, community enhancement, infrastructure and marketing in Parrsboro through the Fundy Geological Museum, Parrsboro Sustainable Tourism, Ottawa House Sustainability, Parrsboro Waterfront Development, Mainstreet Initiatives, Broadband and Parrsboro Marketing Strategy.

Ron McNutt and Paul Hopper also presented a summary of the Industry Canada Broadband Economic Impact Study Final Report which provides information on the economic impacts of

broadband access and usage in two small Canadian communities of which Parrsboro was one, and Churchill Manitoba the other. Revenue impacts of Broadband for Parrsboro were \$58,000 from Internet sales and reservations by businesses using Broadband and \$37,100 from cost savings from reduced travel, reduced postage and new markets. Employment impacts were 0.5 FTE jobs retained in Parrsboro and 140 jobs retained because the presence of Broadband was a significant factor in the largest local employer remaining in the community. The Town's commitment to the project both in cash and moral support was acknowledged with much appreciation. Rhonda also thanked Council for its continued support of CREDA and for appointing good representatives to the Board over the years.

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the CREDA report be accepted.

For Council's information Mayor Robinson noted that the Sustainable Tourism Committee will be a meeting with the consultant on Thursday, December 1st, 6:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall. The consultant has also invited approximately 15 businesses and those involved in the tourism industry.

Being no further discussion the motion was carried.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

(9.1) Order of Nova Scotia - The Clerk noted that nomination documents for the Order of Nova Scotia are on file for those interested and that the closing date is March 17, 2006.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Councillor Lloyd Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.