

COUNCIL

JANUARY 24, 2006

#06-01

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 24th, 2006 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 in attendance and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councillor Lloyd Smith requested the addition of A Volunteer Awards@ as item 7. (a) on the agenda.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

3. RCMP REPORT

Cpl. Phil Oliver presented the following report of activity from December 1, 2005 to today=s date: 1 - 911 Act call; 2 - Assaults; 2 - Break and Enters (1 residence and 1 business); 1 - Careless Use of a Firearm; 1 - False Alarm; 2 - Damage to Property complaints; 1 - Off Highway Vehicle Act complaint; 2 - Motor Vehicle Act complaints; 1 - Sexual Assault complaint; 2 - Traffic Check Point Initiatives; 1 - Motor Vehicle Accident; 2 - Property Act complaints ; 2 - Uttering Threats complaints; and 2 - Written Warnings under the MVA.

In the following discussion Councillor Lloyd Smith noted that while it is good to hear about the complaints that the RCMP are reacting to, it would also be advantageous for the public and the press to hear about what they are doing on a proactive basis such as programs in schools, checkpoint initiatives, drug awareness, etc.

Cpl. Oliver indicated that the format of the report was based on what Council had previously asked for, however, he would have no problem revising the format to include the information that Councillor Smith had

suggested.

Mayor Robinson also noted the opinion that the turn out of approximately 30 people for the public meeting on policing facilitated by the RCMP had been a reasonable number and that the point about the public helping the RCMP to do their job was appropriately emphasized.

Cpl. Oliver agreed that it had been a good meeting and noted that everything that was brought up had been expected. He indicated that it provided a good forum for people to air their concerns to those directly responsible rather than to the Council as an intermediary.

4. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Will Dunphy presented the following report for the period December 1st , 2005 to January 23rd, 2006.

EMERGENCY CALLS:

False Alarms:	0
Fire Alarms:	3
Flue Fires:	3
Vehicle Fire:	1
MVA:	0
Medical First Responder:	1
Structural Fires:	0
Grass/Brush Fire:	0

With the warmer weather we have seen fewer flue fires this year, though I expect them to increase soon. It has been relatively quiet, let's hope it stays that way. Clean your chimneys and furnaces people, save us a trip and save yourself a lot of grief.

The Fire Chief added to his report that he had attended a meeting last Monday to do with new NFPA guidelines for equipment noting that the organization comes out with new standards for safety gear on a yearly basis. He also noted the understanding that EMO Coordinator, Bob Foley, either has or will be approaching the Town to designate the Fire Hall as an emergency shelter and that there are funds available for emergency preparedness for equipment that will be needed such as generators. The Clerk noted the understanding that Mr. Foley had not yet contacted the Town on this. The Chief indicated that he would have Mr. Foley contact Councillor Lloyd Smith to coordinate a meeting to discuss this matter in more detail.

5. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$224,458.81 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of November 29, 2005 (#05-12). 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

JANUARY 2006

(a) New Computers - As a result of problems being experienced with the computers in the Town Office, Aaron Embree, an IT specialist from CREDA was asked to review our computer systems and make recommendations for upgrading the equipment.

After meeting with Aaron and reviewing his report the Clerk was given the authority to proceed with replacing the computers in the Town Office.

(b) PRHS Students= Council - Correspondence from April Allen and Christine Wood, Student Council Faculty Advisors, requested a donation to the Annual Winter Carnival Auction from which proceeds fund school sporting teams and student organizations.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Town donate one hard cover Heritage book and two A Skate Parrsboro@ t-shirts to the auction.

(c) National Flag of Canada Day - A letter from the Department of Canadian Heritage requests the Town=s participation in National Flag of Canada Day on February 15th, 2006 by hosting a flag-raising ceremony and issuing a proclamation. Promotional material will be available including lapel pins, hand flags, posters and booklets.

The Committee recommended that a flag raising ceremony be coordinated with the schools and that National Flag of Canada Day be acknowledged with the following resolution. (Attached).

(d) Municipal Law Symposium - Dalhousie University advised that a Municipal Law Symposium for Elected Officials is scheduled for February 9th and 10th in Halifax.

After a discussion it was agreed that Mayor Robinson would attend this symposium.

(e) Municipal Picture Exhibit - Correspondence from the Municipal Services Division of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations advised of a project to increase the visibility of its municipal partners by establishing in their office a Municipal Picture Exhibit that will encompass an entire wall along a main corridor. All Councils are being requested to submit an 8" x 10" photo exemplifying their municipality.

After a discussion it was agreed that Parrsboro participate in this project. The Mayor indicated that he would approach Conrad Byers for a suitable photo.

(f) **Heritage Books** - There was a discussion regarding surplus Heritage Books resulting in a recommendation to open them up to public sale rather than just being available through the Town Office. The details are to be determined, however, it was agreed that the Town will charge whatever public price is agreed upon.

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

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

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 2006

(a) **Superintendent=s Report** - John Henwood reported the following activity over the past couple of months:

- in shop clean up, making signs and repairs to vehicles and equipment
- 6 loads of hardwood cut, split and piled
- a couple of snow storms required plowing of streets and sidewalks, also sanding and salting as required by weather conditions
- assisted Nova Scotia Power with the snowflake and reindeer lights and installed new lights on Town Hall, Band Shell and Christmas tree. These lights were then taken down and stored after the Christmas season
- cut brush in ditches
- former Swan Creek Road landfill was open for a couple of days for deposit of yard waste
- as weather conditions permitted cold mix was used to repair streets
- water on reservoir cover pumped off during mild spell
- gates at Aboiteau bridge were opened to accommodate heavy rains
- barracades provided to contractor cutting trees for NSP
- Christmas trees deposited at works shed are being taken to former landfill for compost

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lyle Yorke that the Public Works report

be accepted. Motion carried.

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

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 2006

(a) Building Inspector-s Report - Monty Maddison reported the following activity for the months of December 2005 and January 2006.

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New Construction, Alterations & Additions (Residential)	2	\$47,000
Garages & Sheds	2	\$10,500
Development Permit	1	-
Total	5	\$57,500

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

7. (a) VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Councillor Lloyd Smith noted that correspondence had been received from Recreation Nova Scotia regarding the 2006 Volunteer Awards and that he encouraged Council to continue promoting the program and request nominations for the five categories which are: 2006 Representative Volunteer Award; Volunteer Youth Award; Family Volunteer Award; Model Volunteer Community Award; and Building Healthier Futures Corporate Award. He advised that National Volunteer Week will be held April 23rd to 29th and that the Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony will be held in Halifax on April 18th. He indicated that if Council agreed to proceed there would be appropriate advertising seeking nominations and advising that the nomination forms are available at the Town Office with a deadline for submissions being 4:30 p.m. on Monday, March 6th.

Mayor Robinson noted that in the last few years letters seeking nominations have not been sent out to local organizations and he asked if the committee would be considering that option this year.

Councillor Lloyd Smith agreed that this was something that could be looked at this year to encourage people to participate.

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Gleneida Canning that the Town participate in the 2006 Volunteer Awards program. Motion carried.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

(8.1) Dora Fuller - On behalf of the Healthy Parrsboro & Area Committee, Dora Fuller thanked the Mayor and Council for the financial contribution from the Town toward the Seniors Christmas Party. She noted that 176 guests enjoyed entertainment, gifts and a turkey supper and that the event helps to bring seniors together once a year from Cumberland County.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Councillor Lois Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.