

COUNCIL

JUNE 27, 2006

#06-07

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 27th, 2006 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, C.A.O.
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 Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lyle Yorke that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. RCMP REPORT

Cst. Colin Morton presented the following report covering the period May 30, 2006 to June 27, 2006.

Complaints: 1 - Off Highway Vehicle Act; 1 - House Fire; 2 - False Alarms; 1 - Impaired DRI; 1 - Liquor Control Act; 1 - Noise Bylaw; 4 - MV Accident; 1 - Sudden Death; 4 - Mischief; 1 - Found Property; 1 - Disturbing the Peace; 2 - Family Relations; 4 - Trespassing; 5 - Other Criminal Code; 7 - Moving Traffic Violations; 10 - Written Warnings.

Cst. Morton added to his report that a member of the RCMP would be accompanying graduate students to Moncton for Safe Grad activities and that a few bicycle safety courses will be put on for area children. Noise complaints regarding a loud muffler on Queen Street and complaints about speeding vehicles on Western Avenue are being looked into. Cst. Morton also noted that the Parrsboro detachment will not be up to its full complement of officers for a while until the return of Cst. Bergeron and the installation of the new Corporal and that the RCMP will be unable to respond to all requests to lead parades and provide traffic control over the summer festival season. He indicated that groups and individuals are being advised to make alternative arrangements to have these services provided, i.e. Fire Department or EHS, or to modify the events.

4. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. George Jorgensen presented the audited financial statements for the fiscal year April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006.

Mr. Jorgensen first reviewed the General Operating Non-Consolidated Financial Statements noting operating revenue of \$1,699,774 and operating expenditures of \$1,694,092 leaving a net surplus of \$5,682. He reported an accumulated surplus of \$59,458 and operating reserves of \$319,577 noting that it is good to see Council building up reserves to help level off expenditures in the future if anything large comes up. Mr. Jorgensen noted that the Town's Operating Fund Balance Sheet is in good shape with total assets of \$292,143. Mr. Jorgensen noted that taxes receivable started out with a balance of \$15,840, the current years tax levy was \$876,313 and \$885,591 in taxes were collected. He termed the Town's tax collection record A amazing, @praised the Town staff for doing a great job collecting taxes and indicated that many municipalities in Nova Scotia and, indeed, the whole country wished they had the same success at collecting taxes.

Mr. Jorgensen next reviewed the Water Utility Financial Statements. He noted an operating revenue of \$263,473 and operating expenses of \$204,182 for a net operating profit of \$59,291. He also noted a surplus at the end of the year of \$168,781. Mr. Jorgensen advised that the Operating Fund Balance Sheet indicates that the Water Utility is in very good shape financially. He also noted that \$100,000 went toward paying down the long term debt for the water project completed a few years ago with \$50,000 coming from the depreciation fund and \$50,000 from water operating funds leaving a balance of \$100,000 in the capital bank loan. He pointed out that instead of going to the Municipal Finance Board for a debenture which is paid over a number of years, on the advice of the Clerk the Council decided to borrow the money from the bank and pay it off as funds are available which has worked very well. The Clerk noted that the original bank loan was approximately \$650,000 and that the Town was coming out of debt very quickly.

After reviewing the financial statements, Mr. Jorgensen answered questions.

Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith made the observation that if things go as well next year as they did in 2005/06 the Water Utility's long term debt should be paid off.

Mr. Jorgensen indicated that unless something drastic happens the Water Utility should, indeed, be able to pay off the long term debt next year.

Mayor Robinson commented that as Mr. Jorgensen has indicated the Town is ending the year in quite a reasonable position and that it would be worthwhile to note that one of the reasons the Town does wind up in a better position is due to the efforts of the Town staff.

Mr. Jorgensen agreed indicating that if taxes receivable are not collected the Town can get into trouble. He commented that the Town has very good staff, that they are all very conscientious and that the Clerk does an excellent job of administering the Town.

At this point Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Jorgensen for doing a good job for the Town and for presenting the financial statements. He called for a motion to approve the Financial Statements.

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the 2005/2006 Financial Statements

be accepted. Motion carried.

5. FIRE CHIEF= S REPORT

Fire Chief Will Dunphy presented the following report covering the period May 30, 2006

June 27, 2006:

Emergency Calls:

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

The Blood Donor Clinic that the Parrsboro Fire Department hosted went very well with donor numbers up from last year. The Medical First Responder workshop was attended by many emergency workers and a certificate of appreciation was received in recognition of EHS and First Responder support. There were two graduating students who will be receiving bursaries from the Department, Kayla Orr and Ryan Matthews. A fire extinguisher course was requested and given to the employees of the Ship=s Company Theatre. If any other employers or people wish to partake in a course, please contact the Fire Department by phone or speak with one of the fire fighters.

We received one new application to join the Fire Department from Stevely Wood.

Upcoming training will include water rescue and familiarizing ourselves with the locations of equipment.

We are also getting ready for Fire Fighters Field Day which will be held on July 1, starting with a parade at 10 a.m.. Different events will be held throughout the day at the Fire Hall and vendors will be inside selling articles, as well a dance will be held in the evening. And a big thank you needs to go out to the members of the Fireworks Committee and all the people who donated to make the evenings show possible.

6. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$65,749.72 be accepted as presented.

Councillor Lois Smith questioned cheque #77035 to Safe Grad as a donation from the Youth Town Council in the amount of \$610.00. She noted this was a surprise to her and that she would check it out.

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

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of a Special Council meeting held on March 30, 2006 (#06-3A). He noted that this meeting was called to transfer the operating surplus from the year 2005/06 into reserves for the Town's future payments to the Growing Care Campaign of the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre and the new fire truck.

Hearing no errors or omissions the Mayor declared the minutes approved as circulated.

The Mayor asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of a Special Council meeting held on June 20th, 2006 (#06-06). He advised that the purpose of this meeting was to approve the operating budget of \$1,733,636 for the fiscal year April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007, and that the Residential Tax Rate be set at \$2.03 per \$100 of assessment and that the Commercial Tax Rate be set at \$3.67 per \$100 of assessment, and that taxes will be accepted at par until August 9th, 2006 with interest charged and calculated at a rate of 2% per month on all accounts remaining unpaid after August 9th.

Hearing no errors or omissions the Mayor declared the minutes approved as circulated.

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on June 20th, 2006 (#06-05). Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) **Finance** - Report given by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

JUNE 2006

(a) **Cobequid Housing Authority** - Correspondence from Marian F. Tyson, Deputy Minister of Community Services, confirmed the appointment of Mr. Bedford Winters to the Board of the Cobequid Housing Authority as the Town's representative for a second term. Mr. Winter's appointment took effect on June 1st, 2006 and will expire May 31st, 2009.

(b) **Summer Meetings** - The Committee discussed the schedule for meetings over the summer and is recommending that there be no regular Council meetings in July or August. It was further agreed that a special meeting of Council could be called at any time it is deemed necessary to deal with any urgent business.

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

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

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

JUNE 2006

(a) **Building Inspector-s Report** - Following is the activity in the Building Inspector-s Office for the month of May 2006:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New Construction, Alterations & Additions (Residential)	4	\$148,000
Mobile Homes	2	\$65,000
Garages & Sheds (Residential)	1	\$ 4,000
Demolition	1	-
Total	8	\$217,000

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

(c) **Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority** - Report given by Councillor Lyle Yorke.

CUMBERLAND JOINT SERVICES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY REPORT

JUNE 2006

(a) **Leachate/Septage Treatment Facility** - The CJSMA is asking the five municipal units in Cumberland to approve the following resolutions with regard to the new Leachate/Septage Treatment Facility:

(1) Approval to accept the supplemental contract for the Leachate/Septage Treatment Facility before June 30, 2006, and to award the tender to Atlantic Industrial Services for the amount of \$989,165.00 plus HST.

(2) Approval to accept the borrowing resolutions outlined in the supplemental contract for the Leachate/Septage Treatment Facility.

(3) Approval to authorize Tanya MacKenzie to sign on behalf of the Facilitating Municipality for the Liquid Treatment Work portion of the Facility.

The Committee recommends that Council pass the above resolutions.

Moved by Councillor Lyle Yorke, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

On the question, Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith noted that the second motion should include the actual amount of the Town's share of the capital cost of the Leachate/Septage Facility which is equal to 3.55% of the \$989,165.

With regard to the borrowing resolution Mayor Robinson indicated that it is not a debt being brought onto the Town of Parrsboro in the direct sense that the Town would have to pay it back. He explained that the Joint Services Management Authority is not a corporate body in itself and cannot borrow money, therefore, each of the participating units have to actually borrow the money on CJSMA's behalf at a percentage that is calculated. The funds to pay the loan are generated from within the Joint Services Management Authority organization itself.

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

9. 2ND READING OF DEED TRANSFER TAX BYLAW

Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith presented the 2nd reading of the Town of Parrsboro Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw as follows:

1. This By-law is entitled the A Deed Transfer Tax By-law@ .
2. Effective July 5th, 2006, a deed transfer tax applies in the Town of Parrsboro.
3. The rate of the deed transfer tax in the Town of Parrsboro is one percent of the value of the property transferred.
4. [The Registrar of Deeds shall be the agent and collector of the deed transfer tax for the Town of Parrsboro in accordance with the agreement to that effect between the Town of Parrsboro and the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.]

Deputy Mayor Smith moved the acceptance of the Town of Parrsboro Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw. The motion was seconded by Councillor Gleneida Canning.

On the question, the Clerk indicated that there had been no submissions or questions raised from the public prior to tonight's meeting following advertisements in the papers advising that the 2nd reading of the bylaw would be taking place this evening. He noted that assuming the motion to accept the bylaw is passed there will be appropriate advertisements in the papers immediately advising the public that the bylaw has been adopted by Council.

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

10. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that there was no correspondence to present this evening.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Councillor Lois Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.