

COUNCIL

APRIL 24, 2007

#07-04

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 24th, 2007 at 5:00 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 called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed all those in attendance.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith that the agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. **RCMP REPORT**

Cpl. John James submitted the following report for March 2007:

The Parrsboro Office attended some 49 calls for service in March. Please refer to the attached report for the month. The calls for service are higher than last month and will continue to increase as we head into the warmer months. In addition the members of this Office attended a number of community events including a school safety presentation in partnership with the Parrsboro Legion, fingerprinting/identification at the grade school and the Girl Guide/Brownie Cookie Drive Kick Off.

The Parrsboro Office is currently two members down and operating with three Members including the writer. Cst. Bergeron's position has not been filled as yet. My superiors as well as the writer have been following up with RCMP Staffing on this issue. We have been advised that locating a candidate for this vacant position is a high priority. In addition we have

a Member on long term medical leave. My two constables have accepted the added responsibilities, duties and workload that come with staffing shortages and have been doing an excellent job. Police service to this community remains at a high level.

A question was raised at the last Council meeting about drugs in our area and what the RCMP is doing about it. I have to admit I was somewhat caught off guard by the question. I will take this opportunity to answer the question more fully. I attended a very informative Drug Awareness Committee meeting earlier this month. The Committee made up of local volunteers and professionals meets regularly and implements a number of education programs including sponsoring treatment options for local youth. At this last meeting a number of community members were invited to attend and the guests included two Town Councillors. Ret. RCMP Sg.t Bob Foley Chairs the Committee and he outlined the number of education programs and treatment options that have been delivered over the past few years. I cannot express to you how impressed I was by the work of the committee. The problem of drugs has been with us for a very long time and will continue to be with us. Police enforcement is only a small part of the solution. As discussed at the meeting we all play a role in this problem but the most important role has to be played by parents. If we are to make any progress on this problem we will have to try to reduce the demand. The most important role models our youth have will be their parents. Any answer to this problem will have to start there.

In addition to other efforts in this area the writer is organizing a Drug Education day to be held in Parrsboro. Sgt. Peter Keirstead, the RCMP Drug Awareness Coordinator, will be attending as well as James Shedden the Addiction Services Prevention and Community Education Officer. Presentations will be made at the school during classes on May 1. In addition a Community Town Hall meeting will be held that evening at 7:00 p.m. at the museum. Presentations will be made by both James and Peter and then we will open the discussion to members of the community.

My thanks to Principal Pam Hoar and Bob Foley for their assistance in organizing this event. It is easy to point the finger but in reality it is the efforts of people like Pam and Bob who make the difference in our community. They as well as others in this community deserve much credit.

Respectfully,

Cpl. John A. James

Cumberland District - Parrsboro Detachment March 2007 Monthly Activity Report

False Alarms	0
Assaults	2
Break and Enter	1
Mischief	3
Impaired Driving	1
Locate Persons	3

Motor Vehicle Collisions	2
Theft/Possession of Stolen Property	0
Family Relations	5
911 Calls	5
Disturbing the Peace	1
Moving Traffic Violations	5
Resists/Obstruct Justice	0
Trespass Act	2
Other Occurrences	9
Assist General Public	4
Harassing Phone Calls	1
Sudden Death	1
Noise Bylaw	2
Off Highway Vehicle Complaints	2
Total Occurrences for March 2007	49

Cpl. James answered a few brief questions of his report and noted that one of the things that came out of the drug awareness meeting that he had attended is that we have to look at different ways of keeping the message out and that it is a problem that first and foremost has to be dealt with by the parents.

Mayor Robinson thanked Cpl. James for his report.

4. FIRE CHIEF-S REPORT

Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith advised that the Fire Chief was not present due to another commitment, however, he had submitted his monthly report which he read as follows:

Monthly Report: March 27, 2007 to April 24, 2007

Emergency Calls:

False Alarms:	0
Fire Alarms:	2
Flue Fires:	0
Vehicle Fires:	0

MVA:	0
Medical First Responders:	0
Structure Fires:	1
Grass/Brush Fires:	1

Scheduled training for the month of April is updating the first responder course.

5. PROCLAMATION RE: HEPATITIS C AWARENESS MONTH

Mayor Robinson advised that correspondence had been received from Mark McIntosh, Program Coordinator for the Hepatitis Outreach Society in Dartmouth, requesting the support of Council in declaring May 2007 Hepatitis C Awareness Month and May 1st Hepatitis C Awareness Day in the Town of Parrsboro. He noted that it is well known that Hepatitis C very often occurs through blood transfusions, therefore, there are a number of people who are affected including a very good friend of his who contracted the disease during a hospital stay. The letter indicates that there are more than 179 million people affected by the Hepatitis C virus including approximately 300,000 Canadians of which 8,000 are Nova Scotians and infections are on the rise. In respect of that the Mayor proclaimed the following:

PROCLAMATION

Hepatitis C Awareness Month

WHEREAS hepatitis C is a blood infection transmitted by the blood and blood products that can lead to liver failure and other severe health problems; and

WHEREAS hepatitis C is a treatable illness affecting thousands of Nova Scotians; and

WHEREAS early detection, education and awareness can reduce harm to those already infected with hepatitis C and prevent the spread to others at risk;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Douglas Robinson, proclaim May, 2007 as **Hepatitis C Awareness Month** and **May 1st, 2007 as Hepatitis C Awareness Day** and do commend its thoughtful observation to all citizens of our province.

6. RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS

Mayor Robinson advised that April is Volunteer Month and there are no limitations to the number of people that volunteer in Parrsboro and area. He noted that it has said, but not often enough, that it is the volunteers within a community that really make the community work. The Mayor pointed out that most of the organizations in town are operated on a volunteer basis, for example, the Volunteer Fire Department, and that a lot of people spend a lot of time and effort in making sure that our community works well. There is a substantial return for it in terms of self pride and self respect, but on

the other hand the efforts of some can be taken for granted and that is certainly not the intention. Mayor Robinson advised that this evening presentations of Volunteer Certificates would be made to some of those volunteers who make such a difference in our community.

The first volunteer recognized was Keith Odlin who was selected as this year's Volunteer Representative for the Town of Parrsboro and was nominated by Branch 45 of the Royal Canadian Legion. The Mayor noted that Keith was not able to attend this evening due to another commitment and that he sent his regrets.

Cassandra Morris was recognized as Town of Parrsboro's Youth Volunteer for 2007. Mayor Robinson advised that Cassandra was nominated by the Parrsboro Regional High Students Council and by Mary Brodie, and that he personally knows that she puts in a lot of time volunteering. Upon presenting the certificate to Cassandra he described her as a very good role model for her peers who is not afraid to speak out on issues that concern youth.

Frank and Sarah Hartman were recognized as the selected Volunteer Family of the Year and were nominated by the Parrsborough Shore Historical Society. Mayor Robinson noted that the Hartman's were not able to attend due to a family commitment in the United States and sent their regrets.

On behalf of our MLA, Murray Scott, who was not able to attend due to the early hour of the meeting, Mayor Robinson also presented certificates from the Province recognizing the foregoing volunteers.

Mayor Robinson presented Certificates of Appreciation from the Town to the following volunteers who were also nominated:

Ritchie Boyd nominated for representative volunteer by the Parrsboro Lions Club. Upon presenting the certificate Mayor Robinson noted that Ritchie had been King Lion.

Nancy L. Burton nominated for representative volunteer by 689 Handley Page Air Cadet Squadron. Nancy was not able to attend due to another commitment, however, she sent her regrets. Mayor Robinson noted from his personal connection to the Air Cadets he knows that Nancy has contributed a lot to that organization and several other organizations.

Colin Curleigh nominated for representative volunteer by Masonic Lodge #67. Colin sent his regrets that he was not able to attend. Mayor Robinson noted that Colin has also been actively involved with the Ship's Company, the Parrsborough Shore Historical Society and the campaign to revitalize the Band Hall.

John and Midge Lucas nominated for Family Volunteer by the Parrsboro Lions Club. The Lucas's were not able to be present due to another commitment. The Mayor noted that anyone who is acquainted with the Lucas's will know why they were nominated for the award.

Rebecca MacAloney nominated for youth volunteer by the Parrsboro Youth Town Council. Rebecca was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. Mayor Robinson noted that Rebecca is Chair of the Youth Town Council and that the Town Council as a whole was glad of her nomination because the Youth Town Council is an extension of Council and

is unique to Parrsboro. He indicated that the dedication and work of the individuals on the YTC over the years have shown very positive results and it continues to get better every year and this is something that the Town Council is very proud of.

Catherine Meredith nominated for representative volunteer by Healthy Parrsboro and Area. Upon presenting the certificate Mayor Robinson noted that Catherine has been a volunteer for countless years, many of which were before he came to live permanently in Parrsboro.

Cecelia (Midge) Parker nominated for representative volunteer by the Parrsboro Over 60 Club. Upon presenting the certificate to Midge the Mayor noted that she has also been a long time volunteer for the Town of Parrsboro for which the community is very grateful.

Saundra Spence nominated for representative volunteer by Parrsboro Community Radio. The Mayor noted that Saundra had indicated that she may not be able to arrive until 5:30 p.m., therefore, he would hold this presentation over until later in the meeting when she arrived.

Janet Wood nominated for representative volunteer by the Parrsboro Volunteer Fire Department. Upon presenting the award the Mayor noted the amount of volunteerism that has gone into the Ladies Auxiliary and that Janet has been a part of that for a long time.

7. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$104,687.79 be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of the Council meeting held on March 27, 2007 (#07-03).

Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

9. 1ST READING OF SOLID WASTE BYLAW

Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith moved and Councillor Lyle Yorke seconded the first reading of the Town of Parrsboro Solid Waste Bylaw. Motion carried.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 2007

(a) **Cumberland County Exhibition** - Correspondence from the Board of Directors of the Cumberland County Exhibition requests the Town to consider becoming a sponsor of the Exhibition that will run from August 27th through September 1st in Oxford. A sponsorship information package was enclosed for donations ranging from \$5.00 to \$1,000 and over.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that this request be referred to the 2007/2008 budget for further consideration.

(b) **Advertisement in Parrsboro Shore Spirit** - The Committee was advised that the Town has been requested to consider advertising in the Parrsboro Shore Spirit, a monthly newsletter published by the Parrsboro and District Board of Trade.

Following a discussion the Committee recommended purchasing three \$50.00 advertisements per year in the newsletter to publicize Glooscap Park and various Town events/notices.

(c) **Tax Exemptions** - The Clerk advised that a total of 11 applications were received for the \$100 exemption available to tax payers with an income below the amount of \$14,500 and that all applicants fell within the maximum income requirement.

The Committee recommends that all 11 applications for the exemption be approved.

(d) **Flowers** - The Committee discussed the requirements for flowers this year including hanging baskets for the utility poles on the west side of Main Street, the Town Hall and the administration building at Glooscap Park, and flower pots for the metal poles on the east side of Main.

After a discussion the Committee recommended inviting tenders for our flower needs from the three local suppliers.

(e) **Garbage Collection** - The Clerk advised that he was moving forward with amendments to the Solid Waste Bylaw and the preparation of tender documents for municipal garbage collection. He indicated that the tenders should be out by the end of the last week of April.

(f) **County RE: Public Hearing** - As required by the MGA Act the County of Cumberland has notified the Town of Parrsboro as a neighbouring municipality that a public hearing will take place at 1 p.m., Wednesday, April 18th, 2007 at the County building to consider public input on the adoption of amendments to their Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw to update policies and regulations regarding wind turbines.

(g) **County RE: Fire Truck** - Correspondence from the C.A.O. of the Municipality of Cumberland advised that the County Council has selected its members to sit on the joint committee looking at the acquisition of a new fire truck for

the Parrsboro Volunteer Fire Department. A meeting will be arranged at a mutually agreed time in the near future.

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) Protective Services - Report given by Councillor Gleneida Canning:

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 2007

(a) Requests for Surveillance Cameras/Speed Bumps - At the March Council meeting presentations were received from Diane Campbell requesting surveillance cameras on Main Street to deal with vandalism and from Fred McFadden requesting cameras and/or speed bumps on Pier Road to deal with speeding. As Chair of Protective Services, I have had preliminary discussions with Cpl. James regarding these matters and relayed this information back to the Committee.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that there be further investigation into the options available to deal with these issues.

Councillor Canning advised that she would like to make two recommendations further to her report. First, regarding the surveillance cameras she noted that the Committee is still waiting to get prices and that the matter was being put on hold until more information is available. With regard to speeding near the playgrounds, Councillor Canning recommended that playground and speed signs posting a speed limit of 30 km/hr be installed on both sides of the street upon approaching the playground at the school and the playground on Pier Road.

Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Protective Services Committee report with the addition of Councillor Canning's recommendations be accepted.

The Deputy Mayor noted that the playground signs had been previously discussed and that he agreed with them, however, with regard to the 30 km speed signs he questioned whether they were only warning signs or legal 30 km signs.

He was advised that the 30 km speed limit signs are not warning signs, but are the regular, legal speed limit signs.

Deputy Mayor Smith noted that a couple of years ago the signs were changed on the lower end of the Whitehall Road from 70 km to 50 km and that he did not believe that 70 km was a problem in that area. Therefore, he questioned whether 50 km signs were warranted in the areas being recommended for the sake of a few speeders.

Councillor Canning noted the understanding that legally motorists are supposed to reduce their speed to 30 km anyway when approaching a posted playground or school area and that the purpose of the speed limit signs which will be installed on the same post as the playground signs will be to re-enforce that rule.

After further discussion the **motion** was voted on and **carried**.

(c) **Public Works** - Report given by Councillor Lyle Yorke:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 2007

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

- the crew was busy snow plowing and clearing snow from Main Street during the second week of April following two of the worst snow storms of the season

- a water service pipe that was broken off at the shut off on King Street was repaired and a service leak in the middle of the road on Willow Street was temporarily repaired

- quarterly water samples were taken to Halifax for testing and the report indicated that everything checked out OK

- water was pumped off the reservoir cover

- a couple of gates were opened at the Aboiteau bridge to take care of rising water from the snow run off

- work has been ongoing at the Duffy house. The interior has been gutted and material taken to Little Forks that cannot be included with the demolition waste. The siding has also been removed and a small outbuilding torn down. The Superintendent is waiting for a cost estimate from a local contractor to demolish and remove the remainder of the building.

- some repairs to the wheels of the backhoe were completed under warranty

- a light at the cenotaph that had been broken by vandals has been repaired and a new bulb ordered

- Chris and Ronnie completed a confined space entry re-certification course

(b) **Snow Plowing on Beaverdam Road** - A concern was noted from a resident of Beaverdam Road regarding some property damage caused by snow plowing equipment. The Superintendent indicated that unfortunately this time of year damage can occur as there is no frost in the ground to support the weight of the snow plows as they travel along the shoulder of the road. He advised that the works crew would return later in the spring to repair the damage.

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

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

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 2007

(a) **Building Inspector=s Report** - Following is the activity in the Building Inspector=s Office for the month of March 2007:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New Construction, Alterations, Additions (Commercial)	2	\$8,500
Total	2	\$8,500

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

11. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **Lions Club RE: Walk for Guide Dogs** - The Clerk noted correspondence addressed to the Mayor from the Lions Club advising that a Walk for Guide Dogs will take place on Sunday, June 3rd during the period of 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Each year the Lions Foundation of Canada stage an event to raise funds in support of Walk for Guide Dogs. The proposed route will start at the Coop parking lot, down Main Street to Two Island Road to Pier Road and continuing to the Interpretative Site, and following the same route back to the starting point. Most street crossings will take place at approved crosswalks with Lions members manning the route along the way. The RCMP have been approached for authority to hold the walk and it is planned to engage Medical First Responders who will be available in case of medical emergency. The Lions indicated that they hoped that this plan meets with Council=s approval and the Mayor and members of Council were welcomed to join in what they hope will become an annual event in town.

(b) **Murray Scott** - The Mayor noted correspondence from our MLA, Murray Scott, requesting that a meeting be set up in Cumberland South and that he would like some idea from the members of Council of when that would be possible.

After a discussion the Council agreed that May 8th would be a mutually convenient time for them. The Mayor noted that he would inform Mr. Scott.

(c) **Chignecto-Central School Board** - Correspondence from the School Board noted a meeting on May 23rd. Mayor Robinson asked the members of Council to advise him if they would be able to attend so that he could pass along that information to the School Board.

(d) **Nova Scotia Community College** - A letter from the Nova Scotia Community College advised that they are kicking off their Health and Safety Week on Monday, May 7th beginning with a flag raising at 9:00 a.m. The Mayor noted that he will not be able to attend and he had sent his regrets. He indicated that if anyone else wanted to go to represent the Town to let him know.

(e) **Department of Energy Meeting RE: Tidal Power** - For information the Mayor noted the meeting at 6:30 this evening at the Fundy Geological Museum to do with a presentation from the Department of Energy regarding tidal power.

(f) **Clerk RE: Meeting** - The Clerk noted that a meeting scheduled for May 8th with our Planner, Jason MacDonald, to do with the MPS/LUB had been cancelled and will be rescheduled.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.