

# COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

#07-09

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007, 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 called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance, noting especially the presence of Sherman and Eva Schapiro. Mr. Schapiro being the Mayor of Blue Lake, California.

## **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Gleneida Canning that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.**

## **3. RCMP REPORT**

The RCMP report was presented by Cst. Dal Hutchinson on behalf of Cst. Colin Morton. Cst. Hutchinson noted that he had been in Parrsboro for two months following his transfer from Saskatchewan and that he is originally from the Truro area.

### **Police Activity for September 2007**

During the month of September the Parrsboro Office has attended 58 calls for service. In addition there has been an increase in the number of requests for Criminal Record Checks for employers and volunteer organizations.

The Parrsboro Office has experienced a number of changes in staffing over the summer months. Cst. Bill Corkum has taken

the Advocate residence policing position as Cst. Dwayne Penney has been transferred to Newfoundland. As well, Cst. Dal Hutchinson has been transferred to the Parrsboro office to fill the vacancy created by Cst. Guylain Bergeron's retirement. Cpl. John James is currently on leave.

The Parrsboro Office members are involved in a number of youth programs. Cst. Jeff Davidson has become involved in the Parrsboro Beavers and Cst. Dal Hutchinson will be instructing the DARE program this school year.

In addition, all of the detachment members are involved in the planning of the Spookarama community event.

Cst. Hutchinson also submitted a copy of the Monthly Activity Report to Council and responded to their questions and comments.

#### **4. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Councillor Gleneida Canning presented the following report on behalf of Fire Chief Aubrey Fenton.

#### **Monthly Report June 26, 2007 to September 25, 2007**

##### **Emergency Calls:**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| False Alarms:            | 1 |
| Fire Alarms:             | 1 |
| Flue Fires:              | 0 |
| Vehicle Fires:           | 0 |
| MVA:                     | 2 |
| Medical First Responder: | 2 |
| Structure Fires:         | 0 |
| Grass/Brush Fires:       | 0 |
| Water Rescue:            | 1 |

For information Mayor Robinson noted the recent announcement regarding Provincial funding available to fire departments for specific purposes and that the Committee would be following up on that.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET**

**Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$644,222.66 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 June 26, 2007 (#07-08).

Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **SEPTEMBER 2007**

(a) **Tidal Power** - The Committee received a presentation from Tidal Electric Canada regarding a tidal lagoon power system. Members of the Harbour Commission were present for this presentation which was the same presentation that this company had recently given to the local Board of Trade. Mr. John Wheatley gave a power point presentation about another option for supplying tidal power. This one was based on a lagoon type system that would be built in the Bay of Fundy that would generate power with the rise and the fall of the tides. This system is not the same as other types of tidal power that are being investigated which are similar to an underground windmill operation. The company advised that the purpose of this presentation was to keep the Council and the community informed of all the options that are available for tidal power generation and that they would keep Council informed as this project moves forward.

(b) **Service Agreements** - The Mayor advised the Committee that work is proceeding on a number of service agreements with the County of Cumberland. The four towns are developing a joint approach to some of these agreements. Two under consideration at the present time are a fire service agreement which the four towns are involved in, as well as a service agreement on arenas which only affects Amherst, Oxford and Springhill. There will be other programs coming up over time that will see the four towns approaching the County on a joint basis for providing various services.

(c) **Tax Exemption Bylaw** - The Committee was advised that additional information has been received and reviewed regarding the tax exemption that the Ship=s Company Theatre receives by way of bylaw through the Town of Parrsboro. As a result of a review and investigation of the additional information the Committee is recommending that the bylaw be amended to reflect an

88% reduction in assessment for taxing purposes. The Committee is recommending that the first reading of the bylaw amendment be presented at the September 2007 Council meeting.

(d) **Riverside Sewer Replacement** - The Committee was advised that the tenders for the replacement of the Riverside sewer system had closed on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The Town=s engineers have completed a detailed bid comparison of the tenders received and are recommending that the tender be awarded to ACL Construction Limited in the amount

of \$775,222.80 which includes HST.

(e) **Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board** - Council was advised that correspondence had been received from the Utility and Review Board confirming the number of councillors for the Town of Parrsboro to be confirmed at four to be elected at large. The decision and order was dated September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

(f) **UNSM RE: Atlantic Accord** - Correspondence has been received from the UNSM urging municipal councils to send letters to the Prime Minister asking him to reconsider his position on the Atlantic Accord. The 2005 Atlantic Accord agreement with the federal government guarantees that offshore revenues would not be deducted from the province's equalization grants. In the recently passed 2007 federal budget provisions were included that would see a reduction in Nova Scotia's rights to the accord. It is estimated that the Province would lose approximately 1.3 billion dollars over the life of the agreement.

The Committee is recommending that the Council forward a letter to the Prime Minister requesting that he reconsider his position on this matter.

(g) **Blue Lake, California** - The Mayor advised the Committee that he has had discussions with the Mayor of Blue Lake, California, regarding our two communities twinning. This is similar to the arrangement we have with the Village of Greenport, New York where the Handley Page was forced to land after taking off from Parrsboro on October 9, 1919.

The Committee agreed for the Mayor to look further into this matter and make arrangements for the twinning of our two communities.

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

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

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **SEPTEMBER 2007**

(a) **Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent John Henwood advised the Committee that the summer has been busy with regular summer maintenance work. Some of the items that they were involved in were supplying a new water service on Willow Street, catch basins have been raised, replacement of valves along areas of Main Street, site work at Glooscap Park requiring backhoe work as well as gravel, painting of hydrants, cutting of grass and bush cutting, grading roads at First Beach and at the end of Whitehall Road, and general maintenance to equipment.

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

(c) **Protective Services** - Report given by Councillor Gleneida Canning:

## **PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

**SEPTEMBER 2007**

(a) **Police Advisory Committee** - The Committee was advised that there is still a need for a police advisory committee for the Town of Parrsboro.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that an advertisement be placed in the local papers looking for individuals who might be interested in sitting on a police advisory committee.

(b) **Security Cameras** - The Mayor advised the Committee that he had contacted a number of municipalities seeking information regarding the cost and effectiveness of these types of systems. As a result of this information it was felt that the cost of security cameras at the present time is prohibitive.

**Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Protective Services Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.**

Mayor Robinson noted that the police advisory committee is a committee that is formed within the town with two councillors, two citizens at large and one provincial representative. It is an advisory committee that acts as a liaison between the citizens and the police.

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

(d) **Park** - Report given by Councillor Lyle Yorke:

## **GLOOSCAP PARK COMMITTEE REPORT**

**SEPTEMBER 2007**

(a) **Trees** - The Committee was advised that there are a number of trees located in the campsites that have been killed by some kind of worm or beetle and the Park Superintendent was requesting permission to hire some temporary help to assist him in cutting these trees down with Public Works assisting by removing the trees during the fall. The Clerk advised the Committee that he had been over to the Park and there are a number of these trees that should be removed for safety reasons.

The Committee is recommending that the Park Superintendent be authorized to get some part time help to assist with removing these trees.

(b) **Overhead Wires** - The Committee was advised that the Park Superintendent has concerns regarding some of the overhead wires and that the connectors associated with them are not in good condition.

After a discussion the Committee agreed that they would meet with the Park Superintendent to review the issue to see if this is the responsibility of Nova Scotia Power or a responsibility of the Town. If it is the Town's responsibility then arrangements would be made to have repair work undertaken.

(c) **Flush Toilets** - The Park Superintendent advised the Committee that there was still a need for flush toilets in the Park and that he is receiving complaints from a number of campers that pit privies are not satisfactory. This issue had been looked at years ago and at that time it was considered unfeasible. However, the Committee is requesting that staff look into this again to see if there are new technologies to make flush toilets a possibility for the Park.

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

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

## **PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **SEPTEMBER 2007**

(a) **Building Inspector's Report** - Following is a summary of activity in the Building Inspector's Office for the months of June, July and August 2007:

|   | <b><u>No. of Permits</u></b> | <b><u>Value</u></b> |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|
| New Construction, Alterations, Additions<br>(Residential) | 5                            | \$134,450           |
| Demolition  | 3                            | -                   |
| Development   | 2                            | -                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>10</b>                    | <b>\$134,450</b>    |

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

## **8. 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF AMENDMENT TO TAX EXEMPTION BYLAW RE: SHIP-S COMPANY THEATRE**

**Councillor Lois Smith moved, and Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith seconded the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Amendment to the Tax Exemption Bylaw RE: the Ship= s Company Theatre. Motion carried.**

**9. RESOLUTION RE: SISTER COMMUNITIES**

Mayor Robinson read the following resolution:

**A Resolution of the Council of the Town of Parrsboro declaring Blue Lake, California and Parrsboro, Nova Scotia, as Sister Communities.**

**WHEREAS** Sister Community relationships between communities throughout the world promote better understandings between differing peoples and cultures; and

**WHEREAS** Blue Lake, California and Parrsboro, Nova Scotia share a common background, both being located in regions where forest-based industries once were dominant and also situated on now extinct rail lines whose primary purpose was to transport natural resources; and

**WHEREAS** both communities are comparably sized (populations of 1,135 for Blue Lake and 1,401 for Parrsboro) with both exhibiting a large number of historic buildings; and

**WHEREAS** both communities currently have strong cultural presences with artists residing therein as well as each having a centre for live theatre; Blue Lake with the Dell= Arte School of Physical Theatre and Parrsboro with the Ship= s Company Theatre; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Blue Lake has historic roots in the Canadian Maritimes including Nova Scotia as evidenced by the traditional and well-attended A Blue Nose@ picnics which were annually held in the Blue Lake area almost a century ago;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Town of Parrsboro does hereby declare the establishment of a Sister Community relationship with Blue Lake, California; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and the Council of the Town of Parrsboro invite the City of Blue Lake to become Parrsboro= s Sister Community in California.

**Moved by Councillor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the foregoing resolution be adopted by the Town Council. Motion carried.**

On behalf of the City of Blue Lake, California, Mayor Sherman Shapiro thanked the Council for passing the resolution which he will be presenting to his Council upon his return home.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to present to Council.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Lloyd Smith the meeting adjourned.

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