

COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 24, 2009

#09-02

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 24th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Doug Robinson presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor David Harrison
Councillor David Howe
Councillor Dawn Reid
Councillor Lois Smith
A.D. Brown, C.A.O.
Dylan Heide, Municipal Intern
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 Councillor Dawn Reid, seconded by Councillor David Howe that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

No report.

4. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET

Moved by Councillor Dawn Reid, seconded by Deputy Mayor David Harrison that the General Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$202,190.49 be approved as circulated.

Deputy Mayor Harrison requested an explanation of cheque #1443 and cheque #1460.

The C.A.O. answered the Deputy Mayor's questions to his satisfaction.

Being no further questions or discussion the motion was voted on and carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of January 27, 2009 (#09-01).

Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as circulated.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Finance - Report given by Deputy Mayor David Harrison:

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 2009

(a) Cumberland County Transportation Services - Margo Glennie, Manager/Coordinator of Cumberland County Transportation Services, met with the Committee to introduce the new transportation service provided to all residents facing barriers to transportation in Cumberland County and the advertising campaign which is part of CCTS' sustainability plan. Ms. Glennie asked the Town of Parrsboro to participate in the advertising campaign by becoming a bronze member at a cost of \$1,500.

After a discussion it was recommended that the request for sponsorship be referred to the 2009/2010 budget for consideration.

(b) Holiday in February - The C.A.O. noted that some provinces have passed legislation declaring the third Monday in February a holiday called "Family Day" and he suggested that the Town Council take the lead in Nova Scotia by declaring the third Monday in February a holiday in Parrsboro and that the Mayor write a letter to the Premier encouraging the Province of Nova Scotia to also recognize "Family Day" through legislation.

After a discussion the Committee agreed with the C.A.O.'s proposal to declare the third Monday a civic holiday in Parrsboro and to write a letter to the Premier. Where the declaration would be too late for the holiday to fall on the appropriate day this year it was agreed that the Town staff would have the holiday on Monday, February 23rd.

(c) Management Without Borders - A report compiled by Sarah Dickson, Shawna Peckham and Alison Young, three Masters students from Dalhousie University as part of their Management Without Borders course was presented to the Committee. The MWB group worked with Mayor Robinson, Gleneida Canning, Michael Levy, Dylan Heide and Bernie Murphy who, with the exception of Gleneida, recently attended a presentation of the report in Halifax. Although the main focus of the report entitled "In Pursuit of Sustainable Tourism" is tourism, it also compliments the goals and overall vision outlined in the Town of Parrsboro Strategic Plan. Mayor Robinson advised that the local group was very happy with the report and would recommend that it be accepted by Town Council and presented to the public at a later date.

After a discussion the Committee agreed with the Mayor's recommendation and referred the details of the public meeting to the Tourism Committee to work out.

(d) Parrsboro Minor Hockey - The Committee was advised that the Parrsboro Minor Hockey Association will be hosting Hockey Nova Scotia Peewee Provincials at the Lions Arena on March 27th, 28th and 29th and that they are looking for sponsors for each game at a cost of \$250.00.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Town of Parrsboro sponsor a game at a cost of 250.00.

(e) Salary Scale Adjustment - The C.A.O. informed the Committee that approval was needed to

adjust the salary scales for Town employees by 3% which is equal to the cost of living increase between January and December 2008.

The Committee recommends approval of the salary adjustment.

Moved by Deputy Mayor David Harrison, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Finance Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

(b) Recreation - Report given by Councillor Dawn Reid:

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 2009

(a) Physical Activity Survey - The Recreation Department is in the process of developing a physical activity strategy for the Town of Parrsboro. Jim Campbell, Fundy Regional Representative for Health Promotion and Protection, has assisted the Recreation Director to draft a Physical Activity Survey requesting public opinion about current recreation opportunities and what they would like to see in the future.

After reviewing the draft survey the Committee approved it for circulation to the public through a mail drop. Completed surveys can be dropped off at the Town Hall, Ken's Grocery, Wright's Pharmasave and the Co-op. The Recreation Committee encourages everyone to take part in the survey.

Moved by Councillor Dawn Reid, seconded by Councillor Lois Smith that the Recreation Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

(c) Planning, Development and Housing - Report given by Councillor Lois Smith:

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 2009

(a) **Building Inspector's Report** - Following is the activity in the Building Inspector's Office for the month of January 2009:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New Construction, Alterations, Additions (Residential)	1	\$25,000
Demolition	1	-
Total	2	\$25,000

Moved by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor Dawn Reid that the Planning, Development and Housing Committee report be accepted. Motion carried.

(d) **Library** - Report given by Councillor Dawn Reid:

LIBRARY BOARD REPORT

FEBRUARY 2009

(a) **Family Literacy Day** - All Cumberland Regional libraries took part in the Family Literacy Day World Record attempt organized by ABC Canada Literacy Foundation for the most children reading with an adult in multiple locations. There were 91 participants in Cumberland and 1,375 in libraries throughout Nova Scotia. February 6th was the deadline to get numbers in for verification and as of February 3rd there were 50,035 participants throughout the country. It is hoped that when final numbers are tallied the US record of 78,791 will be broken.

(b) **Services and Programs** - In December 2008, the Cumberland Regional Library circulated 7,920 books, an increase of almost 8% over December 2007. December also saw an increase in

the number of childrens' programs offered over the same period last year. There were 30 programs throughout the County with 292 participants. Last year patrons made use of free library computers for just over 23,000 hours.

(c) **Presentation** - In March, Chief Librarian Beth Clinton and Youth Services Librarian Matthew MacDonald, will be giving a brief presentation to the Springhill Rotary Club about the library and its services and the World Record attempt. Any community organization wishing one of our librarians to speak about the services and programs offered is encouraged to contact the Cumberland Regional Library at 667-2135.

Moved by Councillor Dawn Reid, seconded by Deputy Mayor David Harrison that the Library Board report be accepted.

Councillor David Howe recommended a letter to the Cumberland Regional Library recognizing their efforts with respect to Family Literacy Day and expressing Council's appreciation for what they have done to encourage reading in children.

The mover and seconded of the motion agreed that Councillor Howe's recommendation be added to the report.

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

7. **TIDAL POWER UPDATE**

Mayor Robinson advised that the last meeting with regard to the tidal power pilot project was extremely successful. He indicated that although the general area of where the line was going to come ashore had been known, there was a little more specificity about where the devices are going. Nova Scotia Power has indicated that they will be putting their rig in the water in the fall of 2009, although the power line coming ashore will not be installed until 2010. The Mayor

indicated there are two meetings coming up in May for renewable energy dealing with wind and tidal power which he will be attending. The Mayor expressed the opinion that there are good prospects for Parrsboro, it is not going to be a big boom item, but it will bring some activity and a lot of recognition. He noted as a point of interest that in conversation with the Mayor of Campbell River, B.C., he referred to his community as the West Coast centre of tidal power and Parrsboro as the East Coast centre of tidal power.

The C.A.O. commented that the last meeting was very positive in tone and it was the first meeting that he had attended where there had actually been a commitment to come to Parrsboro.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Relay for Life - The C.A.O. read a letter addressed to the Mayor and Council from Julie MacMillan, Corporate Fundraising Chair inviting the Town of Parrsboro regarding the Canadian Cancer Society 2009 Relay for Life.

(b) CREDA - Correspondence from Gerald Read, Chair of the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association Board requested core funding for the 2009/10 fiscal year from the Town of Parrsboro in the amount of \$3,750 based on the funding formula for our participation which is up from \$3,500 last year and confirmation that the Town of Parrsboro wishes to continue participating in the cost shared Development Officer program at a cost of \$10,000 which is the same as last year.

After a discussion there was a motion by Councillor Lois Smith, seconded by Councillor David Howe that the Town Council approve core funding for CREDA for fiscal 2009/10 in the amount of \$3,750 and \$10,000 toward the Town's participation in the cost shared Development Officer position. Motion carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Councillor Lois Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.