

COUNCIL

APRIL 26, 2011

#11-05

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 26th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Lois Smith presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Dawn McCully
Councillor David Harrison
Councillor David Howe
Councillor Lisa Ward
J. Raymond Hickey, C.A.O.
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Lisa Ward, seconded by Deputy Mayor Dawn McCully that the Agenda be approved as presented. **Motion carried.**

3. **RCMP REPORT**

No report.

4. **PRESENTATION: PARRSBORO CITIZENS BAND**

David Towns, accompanied by Vice-Chair Conrad Byers, presented the Committee with a project, plan and activities summary with particular emphasis on structural, cosmetic, safety, energy and production improvements to the Band Hall, a new approach to the operation of the association, activities that will be taking place at the band hall and the intent to develop a strategic plan to set goals for future structural, program and fundraising activities. Mr. Towns noted that although the association continues to focus on the "Save the Hall" plan, their approach has become more community driven with greater importance on increasing use of the facility locally and in the County as well as enhancing the music program by encouraging and assisting students to take up an instrument and continue on through high school. Mr. Towns also took the opportunity to recognize the outstanding contributions of volunteers, fund raisers and financial benefactors without whom the hall would not have progressed to its present state.

After the presentation Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Towns and on behalf of Council and the Citizens of Parrsboro congratulated the Band Association on what they have accomplished to revitalize the band hall and keep cultural events going. She also commended the Band Association for its renewed interest in nurturing young players.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of March 22, 2011 (#11-04). Hearing none she declared the minutes approved as presented.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(a) **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

APRIL 2011

Report given by Deputy Mayor McCully

(a) **Earth Day & Green Carts** – The idea of hosting Earth Day celebrations again this year was presented by the Deputy Mayor with a suggested date of May 21st. After a discussion the Committee recommended that Deputy Mayor McCully be given the authority to proceed and that the distribution of green carts which the Town has acquired through the MAP program be coordinated with this event. The Committee also agreed with a recommendation that the Town purchase a barbeque that could be used for such events.

(b) **Spring AMA** – The Committee was advised that the spring conference of the Association of Municipal Administrators will be held in Amherst this year and the municipal units in Cumberland are being asked for program funding support with the Town of Parrsboro's portion set at \$500.00.

After a discussion the Committee recommended approval of this request.

(c) **Backyard Fires** – The C.A.O. noted that our Planner is continuing to work on a bylaw to regulate backyard recreational fires and that he was bringing the matter up again as another complaint had been received and he wanted assurance from the Committee that they remain committed to pursuing the bylaw.

The Committee advised that they do, indeed, wish to continue in this direction.

(d) **FCM and UNSM** – The Committee talked about attending the upcoming Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference being held in Halifax in June and the spring and fall conferences of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities. After a discussion the Committee agreed that it is not necessary for the Council to attend the FCM conference, however, it would be worthwhile for the C.A.O. to attend. The Committee also shared

the opinion that the fall conference of the UNSM is more valuable than the spring conference and recommended that the Council look at setting funds aside in the 2011/2012 budget for all members and the C.A.O. to attend the fall conference.

(e) **Tax Exemptions** – A number of applications for the 2011 tax exemption were presented to the Committee and those qualifying were recommended for the approval of Council.

(f) **ER Coverage** – For the Committee’s information Councillor Howe expressed his satisfaction with the recent announcement with regard to ER coverage in Parrsboro stating that it is a reasonable compromise.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McCully, seconded by Councillor Ward that the Finance Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted. Motion carried.

(b) CUMBERLAND JOINT SERVICES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY REPORT

APRIL 2011

Report given by Councillor Ward

Board Composition Review – The Committee was advised that there have been discussions at CAPSO about how the role and structure of the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority Board might be modified to improve the flow of operations and before the matter is pursued further each unit is being asked to indicate whether or not they would be open to looking at other options.

After a discussion the Committee agreed that they would be open to exploring other options.

Moved by Councillor Ward, seconded by Deputy Mayor McCully that the CJSMA report and recommendations contained therein be accepted. Motion carried.

(c) PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 2011

Report given by Councillor Harrison

Building Inspector’s Report - Following is a summary of activity in the Building

Inspector’s Office for the month of March 2011:

<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Permit Fee</u>
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New Construction, Alterations and Additions (Residential)	1	\$189,000	\$104.84
Garages and Sheds	1	\$ 3,700	\$ 10.76
Demolition	1	N/A	\$ 20.00
Total	3	\$192,700	\$135.60

Moved by Councillor Harrison, seconded by Councillor Ward that the Planning, Development and Housing Committee report be accepted. Motion carried.

(d) CUMBERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARIES REPORT

APRIL 2011

Report given by Deputy Mayor McCully

March Break – All of our branches were busy during March Break and by the end of the month over 629 children and teens had attended programs in the libraries. We hosted everything from Storytimes to Fun with Science to a Teens Afterhours Party to a Wii Afternoon.

Facebook – The library is on Facebook. We’ve posted pictures from some of our recent programs, articles and videos from the local newspapers and sent out reminders about upcoming events. To join us on Facebook all you need to do is “Like” us. A link to our Facebook page can be found on the library’s website. (www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca)

New Logo = New Library Cards – All of the Cumberland Public Libraries will be getting new library cards featuring our new logo. Not to worry, you old card will still work.

Statistics – Almost 10,000 items were signed out by Cumberland Public Libraries in February including books, magazines, DVD’s, audiobooks and more.

Staff Picks Online – Our staff are avid readers and want to share some of their favourites with you. Take a peek at our online Staff Picks in the Read, Watch, Listen section of our website (www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca) Don’t forget to check back for updates to the list.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McCully, seconded by Councillor Ward that the Library Board report be accepted. Motion carried.

7. **SPRING CLEAN-UP**

Deputy Mayor McCully reported that plans are moving forward for the Earth Day clean up taking place on May 21st. She would like to purchase approximately 80 t-shirts for the event and is waiting for confirmation from CREDA that they will be able to help out with some funding. Letters will also be going out to organizations and service groups requesting their participation and businesses will be contacted for their support. Councillor Ward also noted that CJSMA has committed to coming down for the event.

Regarding the Town's spring clean-up the C.A.O. reported on his discussions with the Superintendent of Public Works about possibly making changes to the spring clean up schedule and that John had recommended against it for logistical reasons. Therefore, it is recommended that the clean-up be held after the long weekend in May as usual. The Council agreed.

8. **CLASSICS BY THE BAY PROPOSAL**

Councillor Howe noted that the Classics By-the-Bay Festival is scheduled for the last weekend in June and realizing that the Town's budget has not yet been decided, the organization would like to have an indication of the Council's intention with regard to their request for \$1,000 in funding so that they can plan their advertising.

After a discussion there was a motion by Councillor Ward, seconded by Deputy Mayor McCully that Classics By-the-Bay receive a grant in the amount of \$1,000 toward their festival contingent upon the Council being able to afford it . Motion carried.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Invitation to Reception** – Mayor Smith noted an invitation from Mayor Small of Amherst to the Council to attend a retirement reception in honour of Gerald A. Randall who served 22 years as town crier taking place at 12:30 p.m. on April 29th at the Amherst Town Hall. Mayor Smith noted that she would be unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

(b) **Parrsboro Citizens Band** – The Mayor also noted an invitation to the Council and staff to help celebrate the Parrsboro Citizens Band's 101 years in operation on May 29th at 2:00 p.m.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor McCully, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

SUMMARY OF APPROVED EXPENDITURES:

Spring AMA – The Committee was advised that the spring conference of the Association of Municipal Administrators will be held in Amherst this year and the municipal units in Cumberland are being asked for program funding support with the Town of Parrsboro’s portion set at \$500.00.
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