

# COUNCIL

APRIL 24, 2012

#12-05

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Lois Smith presiding.

**PRESENT:** Councillor David Harrison  
Councillor Dawn McCully  
J. Raymond Hickey, C.A.O.  
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

**REGRETS:** Councillor David Howe  
Councillor Lisa Ward

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 Harrison, seconded by Councillor McCully that the Agenda be approved as presented.

**Motion carried.**

3. **PRESENTATION OF BARRY WOOD MEMORIAL OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

On behalf of the Town of Parrsboro, Mayor Smith congratulated the Parrsboro Warriors Senior Girls Soccer Team, parents, coaches and everyone involved in achieving a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the 2011/2012 NSSAF Division 4 Provincial Championship. The Mayor introduced Barry's father, Owen Wood who was in attendance and thanked him for accepting the invitation to come. Mayor Smith indicated that the Barry Wood Memorial Outstanding Achievement Award is given only to extraordinary athletes and that Barry himself had been an extraordinary boxer and human being who tragically lost his life in a car accident at the young age of 18. She noted that everyone had Barry in their hearts this evening as this very special award is presented. The Mayor also acknowledged with gratitude the organization of tonight's presentation by Recreation Director, Tissy Bolivar. Coach Charlene Smith thanked the Town for this recognition noting that they appreciate and understand the significance of the award. At this point the names of the team members were read aloud and those present came

forward to receive their certificates and pins. Following are the names of the team members and coaches:

Brianna Smith	Ava Winters	Kim MacMillan
Khristine Bowden	Shelby Leopold	Karlee Cormier
Sarah Colpitts	Victoria McCrindle	Destiny Hoeg
Emily Mills	Ronja Benkowitz	Kiera Fullerton
Kirsten Willigar	Maddison Currie	Phoenix Bard-Cavers
Jessica Johnson	Brooke Walton	Mickayla Sears
Sarah-Maude Boudreau- Leblond	Jasmen White	

Coaches: Charlene Smith  
Sam McCrindle  
Lori Kyle

#### **4. RCMP REPORT**

Cpl. Janet LeBlanc advised there had been over 53 occurrences since the last report which she summarized as follows:

- 14 Check Points resulting in 15 written warnings, one road side test, 10 speeding tickets and 7 other SOT's under MVA
- 11 checks on people under house arrest
- 5 seizures of marijuana
- Code Blue exercises at Advocate and Parrsboro schools, D.A.R.E program up and running at both schools, police dog taken to elementary school and weekly patrols are ongoing
- Cst. Brown has taken tactical training and Cpl. LeBlanc has taken taser and IR training
- Cst. Roswell has been transferred to Digby. His replacement has been named and will take over as soon as Cst. Roswell leaves.
- Calls include assault, impaired driving, loud music, hit and run, damage to property, public intoxication, speeding vehicles, missing person, and stolen property
- Bicycle checks for helmets for both adults and youth are starting up again with the potential for fines for repeat offenders

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

Fire Chief Randy Mosher presented the following report:

##### **Fires/Protective Services:**

March 28: Fire alarm at Mountain View Manor Phase 5, Smith Ave. Faulty sensor?

- April 1: Blueberry/woods fire Lakelands. Owner had insufficient people/water for “controlled burn”. **Bill to DNR.**
- April 1: Small brush fire Pier Road (concurrent with above) Demonstrates the need for 2 pumpers.
- April 7: Grass fire, Hwy 2 @ Harrison Settlement. Suspicious origin. Easily extinguished.
- April 7: Tractor fire, Canaan. RCMP on scene, DOE contacted – fluids near brook. Did some cleanup.
- April 10: Grass/woods @ end of Lamb’s Hill. Could have easily gotten out-of-hand. DNR assisted. **Bill to DNR.**
- April 11: Frying pan fire/smoke alarm Templar St. Removed frying pan. No issues.
- April 11: Grass fire 0.5 km off pavement West Bay Road. Suspicious/intentional?
- April 12: Medical on Spring Street. Ambulance had to come from Economy. Need MFR training.
- April 14: Blueberry/woods fire Newville Lake Road. 6 hrs. Mutual aid from Port Greville and Southampton, excavator required to assist. **Large bill to DNR.**
- April 14: Concurrently – second smaller fire. **Bill to DNR**
- April 15: Diligent River – truck and 2 FF sent in Mutual Aid to DNR. **Bill to DNR**

### **Training Completed:**

5 members continue taking “Level 1” modules.  
 Two nights of Pump Operations/Nozzle proficiency and Fire streams/Hose testing.  
 Site tour and escape plan for Maple Inn.

### **Membership:**

Current active members based on alarm response/training attendance: 12  
 Roster currently lists 18 active firefighters, plus 1 auxiliary (of max. 22 plus 3 aux.)

### **Meetings/Functions:**

- March 28: Spoke to Board of Trade Annual Meeting regards Fire Inspections, Fire Extinguishers, Fire Department and equipment in general, my personal fire training.
- March 29: Friends of Firefighters held initial election of officers. Committees established.
- March 31: Professional floor refinishers inspected Fire Hall floor. Quote \$1,200 to bring floor up to standard.
- April 2: Tour of Fire Hall – Councillors Howe and Ward, CAO Hickey. Issues/deficiencies/maintenance discussed.

- April 4: Attended annual meeting with DNR in Southampton regards forest fires. Captain Andrews and FF Field also attending. (Note: DNR reimburses costs (only) to local fire departments IF deemed a “woods fire”)
- April 13: Attended Hanna Farms at their request re: pesticide storage awareness/signed a form for DOE.
- April 15: Springhill – Secretary of Cumberland County Firefighters Association.
- April 24: Attended 1<sup>st</sup> day of 2 day course on EMO Command Center (follows 2 day course held in February)

**Fire Hall Maintenance/Operation:**

Still no response from Leavitt Fire & Safety regarding service contract for extinguishers in Town Shed, Town Hall, Fire Hall.

Still no response from Humphrey’s Alarm Service regarding updates to (un)authorized users of the Fire Hall.

E-mailed CAO March 28<sup>th</sup> for assistance with above.

**Planning:**

Second Request: Need better co-ordination with Amherst Fire Inspectors. Merchants pose questions of Fire Chief after inspectors give them list of deficiencies. I do not get copied.

Second Request: Need a formal piece of identification (business card?) stating that I am, in fact, Town of Parrsboro Fire Chief.

**Trucks:**

Truck #1 (1987): Leaking axle seal. Waiting 2 weeks for parts/Harrison’s Garage

Truck #3 (2003): Pump broken on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Public works has removed pump, will send away for repairs. Truck is 2003, but pump is 1990’s, plumbing is from 1967 truck.

After giving his report the Fire Chief noted the understanding that a new truck is not in the offing in the foreseeable future and asked for time at the next Committee-of-the-Whole to present some information regarding fire department’s obligations in terms of keeping insurance rates down.

C.A.O. Hickey also noted that arrangements have been made through Efficiency Nova Scotia to replace the lights at the Town Hall and Fire Hall for which they will pay 80% of the cost. He also noted that he would look into getting some form of identification for the Fire Chief and also Public Works.

Councillor Harrison asked if there is any way for a fire department that responds to a fire that gets out of hand to recover money directly from blueberry farmers who do not have the firefighting capacity required by their permit.

Chief Mosher indicated that as a rookie fire chief he does not yet know the protocol for this, however, from his research so far it does not appear that it is possible. He noted that he would be having further discussions with DNR for clarification.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of March 27, 2012 (#12-04). Hearing none she declared the minutes approved as presented.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 2012**

**Report given by Mayor Smith**

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(a) **Commemorating Queen's Diamond Jubilee** – The Committee agreed that it would be nice to do something to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and recommended that one of the Mayor's teas at the Ottawa House in August be dedicated to celebrating this milestone.

(b) **Newsletter** – The Mayor noted that the next newsletter will be coming out in early to mid-May and asked the Committee to forward anything they would like included to the Secretary.

(c) **UNSM Spring Conference** – Any member of the Council wishing to attend the Annual UNSM Spring Conference taking place in Truro from May 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> was asked to inform the C.A.O. so that they can be registered.

(d) **Wooden Garbage Bins** – A general discussion took place regarding requirements for garbage bins resulting in a recommendation to put existing wooden bins out and investigate adding other compartments for recyclables and compost with suitable lids. In the meantime the C.A.O. will also act on a previous recommendation to contact the company that provides the metal garbage receptacles to see if they can be switched back to the black finish and if more receptacles are available.

(e) **Scott Property Soil Testing** – Following up on the report presented at the last Council meeting the C.A.O. asked for direction regarding the re-testing of soil at the Scott Property.

After a discussion the Committee agreed that it would not be practical to look at testing the soil until there is a plan to develop the property.

(f) **LED Lighting** – The C.A.O. reported on his discussions with Nova Scotia Power and the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities regarding switching to LED street lighting.

After a discussion the Committee recommended continuing in the direction of purchasing and maintaining our own LED street lights and paying NSP for the electricity.

(g) **Welcome Cards** – The Committee furthered discussions on this resulting in a recommendation to have specialized cards printed with a welcome greeting and contact information and that our local real estate agents be asked for their cooperation in distributing the cards to new homeowners on the Town’s behalf.

**Moved by Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Harrison that the Finance Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.**

**Motion carried.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 2012**

### **Report given by Mayor Smith**

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(a) **Dumping of Snow** – Deputy Mayor Ward reminded the Committee of Councillor McCully’s concerns about the Town Works Department dumping snow over the banks on Lower Main Street and Pier Road and she noted being approached by a resident with the idea of the snow being dumped on the former Scott property to create a snow hill that could be used for recreational activities such as snowboarding.

After a discussion the Committee felt this could be a viable option that warranted further investigation by staff.

(b) **Annual Spring Clean-Up** – The Committee recommended having a spring clean-up again this year and that it be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> with the former Swan Creek Road landfill open to accept leaf and yard waste on Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. The details of the clean-up will be advertised and included in the Solid Waste newsletter that will be coming out in the near future.

**Moved by Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor McCully that the Public Works Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.**

**Motion carried.**

## **RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 2012**

### **Report given by Councillor McCully**

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(a) **Recreation and Physical Activity Strategy** – Recreation Director, Tissy Bolivar, presented the Town of Parrsboro Recreation and Physical Activity Strategy which she has been working on as part of the Provincial requirement for her position. The goal of the strategy is to implement a plan to promote physical activity and educate the public about the benefits of being active and the resources that are available to them. Tissy noted that a foundation of physical activity is walking and that a top priority is the development of walking opportunities which are being looked into by a very active Trails Committee. Tissy advised that a Community Survey that was conducted prior to her taking on the position of Recreation Director is appended to the strategy and that she would like to conduct her own survey perhaps in the fall of 2012 to get more updated information.

The Committee agreed to review the strategy in detail prior to the next regular council meeting where it would be presented for their approval.

(b) **Recreation Programs/Events** – The public is reminded that information on upcoming programs and events through the Recreation Department is available online on the Town's web site at [www.town.parrsboro.ns.ca](http://www.town.parrsboro.ns.ca) or by calling the Recreation Director at 254-2036.

**Moved by Councillor McCully, seconded by Councillor Harrison that the Recreation Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.**

**Motion carried.**

## **PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 2012**

### **Report given by Mayor Smith**

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(a) **Report** – Councillors Ward and Howe, C.A.O. Hickey and Fire Chief Randy Mosher met recently to discuss various matters to do with the Fire Department and the following report was submitted:

1. Replacement of windows has already been agreed and budgeted for.
2. We identified the following as high priorities:
  - a. improved security system for the shed and main building. Ray will ask Randy to get quotes.
  - b. Vent the exhaust fans from the toilets through the roof.
  - c. New outside front doors and remove the interior front doors and threshold.
  - d. Ceiling mounted air compressor and electrical outlet in the truck bay.
  - e. Exhaust fan in the truck bay.
  - f. Redo the toilets.
3. The generator needs to be housed in a shed. Ray and Jim Hanlon are applying for federal money where this is part of our EMO preparedness.

4. Public Works will apply cement to the “step” in the path outside the front door.
5. Public Works will paint the kitchen after which Ray will ask the Health Inspector what else needs to be done for us to get a food license.
6. The cleaners will be asked to wax the floor.  
  
Ray will check how much is left from last year’s allocation from reserves for maintenance.
7. We could delay buying a “new” truck until next year.
8. We suggested increasing the equipment budget from \$6,000 to \$8,000; maintenance from \$4,500 to \$6,000; and training from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

The Committee recommended accepting the report and to look at the above noted maintenance items and the request for increases in the above-noted budgets in more detail during 2012/13 budget deliberations.

**(b) Police Advisory** – Deputy Mayor Ward noted checking into a concern expressed at the last Committee-of-the-Whole regarding on call duty and advised that a constable that is on-call is permitted to be within a 40 km radius of the town. She also reported that between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012 there were 407 calls responded to in Parrsboro.

Noting that the report indicates that some items have been deferred to the budget, Mayor Smith advised that the Council is currently in the budget process and will be meeting to further the process in the next few weeks.

For clarification regarding a new fire truck, the Fire Chief commented that about a year elapses from the time the tender is closed until the unit is delivered and typically 12 – 16 weeks into the process the manufacturer would ask that the chassis (cab and frame) be paid for. That would be in the range of \$90,000, split 50/50 with the County, with the balance due on delivery. Therefore, the purchase of a truck could be spread out over two fiscal years.

Mayor Smith thanked the Chief for this information and indicated the Council would take it under advisement.

**Moved by Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Harrison that the Protective Services Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.**

**Motion carried.**

**PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 2012**

**Report given by Councillor Harrison**

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(a) **Building Inspector's Report** - Following is the activity in the Building Inspector's Office for the months of February and March 2012:

	<b><u>No of Permits</u></b>	<b><u>Value</u></b>	<b><u>Fee</u></b>
New Construction, Alterations and Additions (Residential)	1	\$16,000	\$33.80
New Construction, Alterations and Additions (Commercial)	1	\$50,000	\$55.00
Demolition	1	N/A	\$20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$66,000</b>	<b>\$108.80</b>

(b) **Unsightly Premises** – The C.A.O. updated the Committee on the status of active unsightly premises files and was given direction to proceed to the next step for each individual case under the Town's Dangerous or Unsightly Premises Policy.

**Moved by Councillor Harrison, seconded by Councillor McCully that the Planning, Development and Housing Committee report be accepted.**

**Motion carried.**

**LIBRARY REPORT**

**APRIL 2012**

**Report given by Councillor McCully**

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(a) **Cumberland Public Libraries Report April 2012** –

**Community Access Program (CAP) Funding**

The Cumberland Public Libraries rely on Federal funding from Industry Canada to help us provide free computers and wireless access. Industry Canada has announced the cancellation of CAP funding. Without Federal money it will not be possible for us to keep up with technological changes and provide many of the instructional computer sessions. Please visit our website for more information and contact you MP, Scott Armstrong with any concerns.

**Did you know....**

That Cumberland Public Libraries has all kinds of fantastic television shows on DVD? Check out The Walking Dead, The Waltons, Supernatural, M.A.S.H, Downton Abbey, Game of Thrones and many more. See what we have at: [www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca](http://www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca)

### **Open House**

The renovations at the Four Fathers Memorial Library are finally complete. Celebrate with us on April 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. See our beautiful new paint, carpet, and circulation desk and enjoy some refreshments.

### **Statistics**

During this year's March Break (March 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>) the Cumberland Public Libraries offered 19 programs, everything from making snow globes to Star Wars finger puppets to paper airplane races, with 268 children attending throughout the County.

- (b) **Presentation by Chief Librarian** – The Chief Librarian, Beth Clinton met with Council to provide an overview of what the libraries do and how they work. Some of the topics covered were funding, responsibilities of the municipalities, staffing, programs and on-line services. The Chief Librarian also reviewed circulation figures noting that the Parrsboro branch is very active with usage increasing about 14% since 2007.

**Moved by Councillor McCully, seconded by Councillor Harrison that the Library Board Report be accepted.**

**Motion carried.**

## **TOURISM COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 2012**

### **Report given by Councillor McCully**

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(a) **Internet at Glooscap Park** – The C.A.O. reported that Seaside can provide internet service to the Park and there are three options:

- It could be installed at the administration office with the potential for a wireless signal in the parking lot with the purchase of a router.
- There could be a business connection to send internet throughout the campground.
- It could possibly be installed at the Recreation Hall and the Town has some surplus computer equipment that could be used.

After a discussion the C.A.O. was asked to get additional information and cost estimates for the Committee to look at.

(b) **Playground Equipment** – Deputy Mayor Ward requested the Glooscap Park Committee to consider purchasing another piece of playground equipment for the Park this year and the Chair indicated that they would look at it.

**Moved by Councillor McCully, seconded by Councillor Harrison that the Tourism Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.**

**Motion carried.**

**8. APPOINTMENT TO CENTRAL NOVA TOURIST ASSOCIATION**

Mayor Smith advised that the Town has to submit a name by May 24<sup>th</sup> and that the individual can be a citizen. She asked that Council think about it between now and the next Committee-of-the-Whole.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

On behalf of the Town, Mayor Smith advised that she wished to acknowledge and congratulate the Midget Girls Predators hockey team for winning the Provincial championship and also the group that organized the parade through town and reception at the Fire Hall for their homecoming.

Mayor Smith also extended congratulations to Jasmen White and Haley Harrison for being winners in the Nova Scotia Recycling Contest. Jasmen was Provincial winner for her photographs on how to recycle and Haley won for her drawing for a button. The Mayor noted the understanding that both girls won a backpack full of prizes and that the High School received \$500 and the Elementary School \$250 as a result of their winning the contest.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Councillor McCully the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Mayor

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C.A.O.