

COUNCIL

MARCH 26, 2013

#13-04

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 26th, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Lois Smith presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Lisa Ward
Councillor Robert Fancy
Councillor David Harrison
Councillor Ron Shaw
J. Raymond Hickey, CAO
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 Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Shaw that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

3. **PRESENTATION: FORCE**

Doug Keefe, FORCE Executive Director, accompanied by Matt Lumley, Communications Director updated Council on progress made in 2012 at the West Bay tidal energy site and reviewed plans for 2013.

Work accomplished in 2012:

Marine Operations: Cable Lay Prep - planning and onsite rehearsals of subsea cable lay, design and fabrication of subsea cable ends and selection of subsea cable instrumentation.

Research: Enhanced Site Data – completion of new current data for berth holders, high-flow observation platform and environmental baseline monitoring.

Construction: Completion of FORCE substation – completion of underground cable ducts, installation of all electrical substation equipment, completion of overland transmission line and successful activation of all onshore electrical infrastructure.

Personnel: competition and selection of new postings – independent board of directors, marine operations director, visitor centre staff and office administrator.

Engagement: 3,700 visitors in 2012

Plans for 2013 Operations:

Cable lay – sheltered rehearsal, FORCE site rehearsal. Deployment – expected summer of 2013.

Sensor Platform Trials – sheltered harbor trials, Minas Passage Trials – expected summer 2013.

Marine Trials – RFP now open. Object: retire operational risk to extent possible.

Alstom – Alstom completed purchase of Tidal Generation Limited (TGL) from Rolls Royce in January 2013. 1 MW turbine deployed in January 2013 with a test period of 18 months.

Atlantis – Atlantis FORCE consortium (Atlantis/Lockheed Martin/Irving Shipbuilding) received \$5M in February 2013. Intended to support re-engineering for FORCE, with new features for: anchoring, self-stalling blades in high currents and horizontal alignment.

Other variables – The province is seeking proposals for a fourth developer (berth “D”). Open to single device, or array of devices, up to five megawatts. FIT process underway, expected price setting by September 2013. Need for Provincial legislation; time unclear.

In his presentation Mr. Keefe explained that current speeds higher than originally thought were responsible for the failure of the OpenHydro test turbine deployed in 2009 and also prevented a scheduled laying of cable last year. He noted that they have a plan to overcome these difficulties, however, and are now receiving more accurate data from advanced acoustic Doppler current profilers (ADCP) at the site. This information will be invaluable to the three berth holders that are now designing turbines and the fourth that is expected to be awarded in the fall. Mr. Keefe advised that the plan is to lay one cable in 2013 and observe it over the winter before laying the remaining three cables next year. The next turbine is not expected to be installed until 2015 at the earliest. Mr. Lumley added that FORCE is posting an expression of interest to compile a list of small licensed commercial vessels in the region interested in providing auxiliary support to transport people to the site, as well as for sensor platform deployment and cable lay rehearsals and deployment.

Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Keefe and Mr. Lumley for their presentation and opened the floor to questions.

Bruce Graham asked when FORCE anticipates having commercial turbines generating power.

Mr. Keefe stated that even on a conservative estimate he would predict that by 2016 there would be two single router turbines and one three router turbine producing electricity and selling it to the grid.

The CAO noted that the County of Cumberland and the Town of Parrsboro had looked at doing larger wind turbines on a COMFIT basis and were told by Nova

Scotia Power they could not proceed with it in the Parrsboro substation area because about 6 megawatts were dedicated to FORCE in terms that the power has to go into the distribution grid rather than the transmission grid. He asked if it is still the intention that the power generated by the turbines would be going into the distribution grid instead of the transmission grid.

Mr. Keefe confirmed that FORCE has blocked out 5 megawatts of power that they think they are going to deliver, however, the power generated by the turbines will be going into the transmission system because it is upgradable.

The CAO noted that it had been a year since this had been discussed with NSP and perhaps he should be contacting them again to clarify the matter.

4. **RCMP REPORT**

No report.

5. **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Mosher requested a meeting with the CAO and Protective Services Committee to go over some important issues including the Purchasing Co-op.

It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged as soon as possible.

6. **PRESENTATION: COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM**

David Howe of the Communities in Bloom Committee, presented the following things for the Council to think about:

- a cash float of \$500 for flags, prizes, posters and appreciation awards for volunteers
- regular cleaning of sidewalks, the boardwalk and garbage bins
- tree inventory
- bylaws
- flowers for Main Street and Gavin Park
- something in the traffic triangle at intersection of Main and Eastern Ave.
- birthday celebrations for the Town
- "No Littering" signs
- appointing someone from the Town to liaise with CIB Committee
- community involvement

CIB Committee member Donna Hanna reported that on April 15th the Scouts and Cubs are doing a litter pick-up at First Beach and sometime in April the Guides and Brownies will be doing a beach sweep of all Partridge Island beaches. On Earth Day, April 19th a major clean-up of Main Street is planned with the involvement of businesses and their staff. The Annual Spring Clean-up for all of

Parrsboro and BBQ will be held on May 11th. All clean-ups are registered with Clean Nova Scotia who will be providing garbage bags, posters, etc.

7. **CJSMA BUDGET**

Moved by Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Fancy that the Town Council approve the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority's operating budget for fiscal 2013/14.

Motion carried.

8. **UNSIGHTLY PREMISES – 122 QUEEN STREET**

CAO Hickey reported that a burned out barn at 122 Queen Street is considered dangerous and that he is recommending that Town Council issue a directive to the owner to address the problem within 30 days or be issued a demolition order.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Fancy that Town Council issue a directive to the owner(s) of property considered to be dangerous at 122 Queen Street to address the problem within 30 days or be issued a demolition order.

Motion carried.

9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of February 26, 2013 (#13-02) and the minutes of a Special meeting held on March 5th, 2013.

Hearing none the minutes were declared approved as circulated.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(a) **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

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Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

(a) **Forest Management** – The CAO reported on his meeting with Craig Tupper from Athol Forestry Cooperative Ltd. who updated him on plans for the three forested properties they are managing for the town which are the old Swan Creek Road landfill site, the new reservoir site and the old reservoir site.

In the discussion the Committee supported the direction that Athol Forestry is taking and identified a fourth town owned property near Glooscap Park that would also benefit from

their management. The CAO and Councillor Harrison will meet with Mr. Tupper in the near future to have this property added to the list and to discuss certification options.

(b) Parrsboro Creative Proposal – Councillor Fancy presented a detailed proposal submitted by Parrsboro Creative to help transform Parrsboro into a town centered on artistic creation and activity.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Parrsboro Creative team be invited to the next Economic Development Committee to discuss their proposal.

(c) Glooscap Park - Councillor Harrison provided an update from the last Park meeting noting that work is progressing on five new sites which they hope to have ready for the opening. Rates have been set for the 2013 season as follows: Seasonal with 20 amp service - \$1,000; seasonal with 30 amp service - \$1,200; tents \$25/night; trailers \$30/night. Opening and closing dates are May 17th and September 30th. The Committee is also looking into a holding tank for the reservoir, electrical upgrades to the older sections and revamping park signage. Deputy Mayor Ward added that the Committee is looking into some sporting equipment that will cost approximately \$1,000 including volleyball, washer toss and another piece of playground equipment. The CAO will confirm whether this is in the current budget. Longer term projects are also being explored including septic, a new multi-purpose recreation building and replacement of older utility poles.

(d) Garbage – Deputy Mayor Ward noted that with the warmer summer weather coming there are concerns about the effect it will have on residential compost storage. She recommended that our local collectors be asked to adjust their schedule to include compost pick-up on a weekly basis during this time period.

The Committee agreed with this recommendation and asked the CAO to make the necessary contacts.

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

Motion carried.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Smith noted having received requests from several organizations for financial assistance and that she will refer them to the budget.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Ward the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor

CAO