

COUNCIL

JANUARY 28, 2014

#14-01

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 28th, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Lois Smith presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Lisa Ward
Councillor Robert Fancy
Councillor Ron Shaw
J. Raymond Hickey, CAO
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

REGRETS: Councillor David Harrison

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of November 26, 2013 (#13-13).

Hearing no errors or omissions the Mayor declared the minutes approved as presented.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DECEMBER 2013/JANUARY 2014

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

(a) Sewer Project - As a follow-up to their presentation regarding pollution abatement Hanna Doyle and Courtney Gilbert met with the Committee and were informed that the

Mayor and CAO had recently met with MP Scott Armstrong to advise that the Town would be applying for funding through the Build Canada Fund for Phase II of the sewer project and that it was agreed by both parties that Phase III, a sewage treatment plant is the #1 priority for the town. Depending on funding the Council hopes to do Phase II and Phase III at the same time in conjunction with the replacement of the Aboiteau bridge and we have a commitment from our MLA, Jamie Baillie to do what he can on our behalf to speed up the bridge replacement which is currently on the Province's 3- 5 year plan.

A discussion ensued regarding the establishment of a committee to look at all aspects of the sewer project ending in a recommendation that the committee come under the Planning Committee with appropriate representation from municipal and provincial staff and local citizenry.

(b) 125th Birthday Celebrations – Deputy Mayor Ward requested a budget of \$6,000 for the 125th Birthday Celebrations so that the Committee can move ahead with plans for the event

After a discussion the Committee recommended approving \$6,000 with funds from the General Operating Reserves.

(c) Fireworks – The Committee was advised that the organizers of the annual fireworks display have decided to withdraw and that attempts to interest another group or organization to take it over have been unsuccessful.

After a discussion it was agreed to advertise for expressions of interest from the public in forming a Canada Day Committee, that the County of Cumberland be contacted with a request for funding, and that the Town apply for a provincial grant.

(d) Band Shelter – The Deputy Mayor advised that the 125th Birthday Celebration Committee is recommending that a contractor's estimate be obtained for the replacement of the Band Shelter.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the CAO proceed to get an estimate.

(e) Procurement Officer/King Street – The CAO reported that the Town of Amherst has agreed to share the services of its procurement officer with the Town of Parrsboro on an hourly wage and travel expenses basis. He added that the King Street water line project would be the first project for the procurement officer to work on for us.

(f) Communities in Bloom – David Howe met with the Committee regarding the future of the Communities in Bloom program in Parrsboro, specifically whether the Council is interested in entering the competition on a Provincial or National level next year. In his presentation Dr. Howe noted a concern that while the Town attained a good rating in the competition last year, it had not received the exposure from CIB that it had been promised and he recommended that this be brought to their attention as well as TIANS.

In the discussion the Committee praised the efforts of all those involved in the Communities in Bloom program last year, however, taking into consideration the tremendous commitment required of a small group of volunteers it was recommended that the Town not enter the CIB competition this coming year.

(g) **Carolyn Henwood RE: Pergola** – Carolyn Henwood met with the committee with an idea for building a pergola for Gavin Park that could be used as a backdrop for wedding pictures and other occasions. She expressed the hope that the majority of the cost of the project can be covered through donations or fund raising.

After a discussion the Committee supported the proposal and asked her to return upon determining the cost of materials. It was also recommended that the CAO approach the property owners for their consent.

(h) **Bylaw Review** – The Committee began the process of reviewing the Town’s bylaws for the purpose of eliminating bylaws that are no longer relevant or updating those that should be maintained.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the following bylaws be rescinded:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Passed by Council</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1	August 1890	September 15, 1890	General
2	1891		Re: Pound & Pound Keeper
3	July 20, 1892	October 24, 1892	Re: Dogs
4	November 12, 1896	November 24, 1896	General
5	December 6, 1897	December 11, 1897	Re: Auctioneer
6	December 18, 1897	February, 1898	Re: Water Works
7	1898	March 16, 1898	Amendment
8	April 19, 1898	April 28, 1898	Re: Bicycles
9 (a)	December 13, 1898	January 4, 1898	Re: Bowling Alley
9 (b)	December 13, 1898	January 4, 1898	Re: Polling Divisions
10	1901	April 8, 1901	Re: Commencing Business
11	March 7, 1904	April 6, 1904	Re: Poll Tax
12	March 12, 1917	March 17, 1917	Re: Voting at Town Meeting
13	April 9, 1917	May 3, 1917	Re: Poll Taxes

(i) **Unightly Premises** – The CAO updated the Committee regarding an ongoing unsightly premises file noting that owner has plans to repair the dangerous buildings this spring.

In the discussion the Committee recommended that the property owner’s plans be accepted with conditions and provided the work is completed within a prescribed time frame.

(j) **Strategic Planning** – The CAO circulated the Town of Parrsboro Strategic Plan 2014 which is a document outlining the strategic vision of the Town Council for the

community for 2014 through 2017 and beyond. Once this document is finalized it will be available to the public.

(k) Walking Trails – Trail development on the former Scott property was discussed in general resulting in a recommendation that the CAO obtain cost estimates for the Committee to consider at the next Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

(l) Sewer – Draft Terms of Reference Document – The Deputy Mayor noted that as a first step in the process of requesting proposals for pre-design work to look at options for sewage treatment a Draft Terms of Reference has been provided for review to see if there are any changes needed. The CAO indicated that he would review the document and bring it back to Council for approval.

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

Motion carried.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

DECEMBER 2013/JANUARY 2014

Report given by Mayor Smith

(a) Building Inspector's Report - Following are the permits issued during the months of October and November 2013:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New construction, alterations and additions (Residential)	2	\$11,000
Garages/Sheds	2	\$17,500
Mini/Mobile Homes	1	\$91,000
Demolition	2	N/A
Total	7	\$119,500

(b) Community Services RE: Rep on CHA – Correspondence from Joanne Bernard, Minister of Community Services advised that the term of Mr. Bedford Winters, the Town's representative on the Board of the Cobequid Housing Authority, expired on October 20th, 2013 and requested Council's recommendation for the reappointment or replacement for the vacancy.

After a discussion the Committee recommended the reappointment of Mr. Winters provided he is willing to continue as our rep. Mayor Smith indicated that she would contact Mr. Winters and reported at the January meeting that he is willing to serve another term on the Housing Authority.

Moved by Mayor Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Planning, Development and Housing Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

DECEMBER 2013/JANUARY 2014

Report given by Councillor Fancy

(a) Update – The CAO updated the Committee on a meeting with Projects Facilitator, Taylor Redmond to go over some priorities for the immediate future including:

- Wedding Show – Taylor will be hosting a booth at the upcoming Wedding Show in Halifax to promote Parrsboro as a wedding destination and local businesses that provide wedding services.
- Promotional Card – Promoting an artwork project for the coming summer season
- Waste Bins – For Main Street conforming to the artistic theme.
- Web Site – Taylor will be working with Kip on ideas for a redesigned web site which will be developed by Les Coleman of the AMA.

(b) Nursing/Retirement Home – It was brought to the Committee's attention that there is interest, both private and institutional in building a nursing/retirement home in Parrsboro. As this type of facility is a priority in the Council's strategic plan it was agreed to set up an Economic Development Committee meeting to discuss it in more detail.

Moved by Councillor Fancy, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Economic Development Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

PROTECITVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

DECEMBER 2013/JANUARY 2014

Report given by Councillor Fancy

(a) **Defibrillator for Fire Hall** – Councillor Fancy noted that the defibrillator in the back of the fire truck will be made available if needed and that he will check into the price of a new one for the hall.

Moved by Councillor Fancy, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Protective Services Committee Report be accepted.

Motion carried.

POLICE ADVISORY REPORT

JANUARY 2014

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

The Cumberland District RCMP, Parrsboro office has six employees namely: Cpl. Janet LeBlanc, Cst. John Roswell, Cst. Terry Brown, Cst. Greg Wiley, Cst. Tim Stocker and District Assistant, Heather Winters. The jurisdiction that is covered by the Parrsboro Detachment covers Sand River up to Parrsboro, Parrsboro to Southampton and Parrsboro to Lynn Mountain Road via Highway 2 in Lower Five Islands.

Crime Stats for Parrsboro District Zone covering the period April 1, 2013 to September 8, 2013:

Zone 11 (town) – 207 total calls for service
Zone 8 (rural) – 33 total calls for service
Zone 10 (rural) – 145 total calls for service

Total for all Zones: 385 calls for service.

Cumberland District RCMP Community Policing

Community Policing Officer, Cst. Travise Dow – travise.dow@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Recent Initiatives:

1. **WITS** – Anti-Bullying Program aimed at youth, Kindergarten to Grade 6.
 - The WITS Primary Program teaches children in Kindergarten to Grade 3 to make safe and positive choices when faced with peer conflict. The WITS acronym – **W**alk away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it out, and **S**eek help – provides a common language that children and the adults in their environments can use to talk about and respond to peer victimization.
 - **WITS LEADS** is a more grown-up version of WITS designed for students in Grades 4 to 6. The LEADS Program teaches five problem –solving strategies

to help children deal with conflict and keep safe: **Look and listen, Explore points of view, Act, Did it work? and Seek help.**

- **Schools with WITS as of December 2013:**

- Cumberland North Academy
- Oxford Regional Educational Centre
- Wentworth Elementary School
- River Hebert Elementary School

- **Schools to receive WITS in 2014:**

- Springhill Elementary Schools:
 - Junction Road
 - West End
 - Advocate

2. Police and Senior Safety Academy

- A five to six week Program with one meeting per week. Topic list includes: Internet Safety, Identity Theft and Fraud Protection; Wills; Powers of Attorney and Safe Banking; Police Investigation; Active Living, Stress and Wellness to name but four of the many topics. Recent locations have been Tidnish, Brookdale and Oxford with more areas planned for 2014 including River Hebert, Parrsboro and Pugwash.

3. D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teach children from Kindergarten through 12th Grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives. We have four DARE officers in Cumberland County.

- Cst. Dow is currently running two DARE classes, Oxford and River Hebert grade 5/6.
- 2014 will see two more in the county by Cst. Dow.

4. Race Against Drugs Event – This event partners with the Amherst Lions Club and area schools to promote healthy choices and provide drug safety talks to children.

5. Youth Advisory Groups – The purpose of these groups is to engage Jr.-Sr. high students through the county in discussions pertaining to issues affecting youth and develop strategies to address these issues, all while enhancing youth-police relations.

6. Cumberland Minor Football (Established 2010) – Wolfpack Football is the minor football program for Cumberland County. With the help of Cst. Dow, the Wolfpack strives to teach life skills through the sport. Engaged in numerous off-field activities, Wolfpack Football connects with Emergency Service personnel by

engaging youth through healthy choice discussions and supports families as the children grow.

More Community Policing Officer Involvement:

1. SAFE Plan Program; School Action for Emergency
2. Auxiliary RCMP Officer Program
3. Cyber Safety Presentations
4. Mothers Against Drunk Driving
5. Cumberland Crime Stoppers
6. ASSIST – For youth involved with a variety of agencies because of behavioral and emotional issues. The youth, family members and representatives from the agencies involved meet to problem solve and create a plan which will address the many needs of the youth by providing support to the individual and their family through the collaborative efforts of the agencies involved.
7. ASPAC – Amherst Schools Plus Advisory Committee – Schools Plus is a comprehensive and collaborative interagency approach to educating and providing service to the whole child and family with the school as the centre of service. County schools within this group are Cumberland North Academy and Northport Consolidated Elementary.
8. Inter-Agency Family Violence
9. Cumberland Kids – Address issues pertaining to children and youth through all developmental stages. The primary focus is to share information, provide education and collaborate around goals and objectives collectively set to provide better services and outcomes to this population group.
10. Cumberland Kids Managers Committee
11. ATV/Snowmobile Patrols
12. Spookarama’s
13. Bike Rodeos – River Hebert, Parrsboro, Pugwash, Oxford and Amherst areas.
14. Numerous Healthy Choice Discussions – Grades 7 to 12. This topic covers areas of risk for youth as they grow. Risk and Consequences is discussed through friendship, anti-bullying, drugs, alcohol and peer pressure situations. The discussion is meant to have input from the audience and goes over well with the students.
15. Various other School Presentations requiring a police officer.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Fancy that the Police Advisory Committee Report be accepted.

Motion carried.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Parrsboro and Area Food Bank – Mayor Smith noted correspondence from the Parrsboro and Area Food Bank thanking the Town for the donation of \$300.00. The Mayor noted that this is the second year in a row that a donation has been made to the Food Bank in lieu of having a New Years levee at Town Hall.

(b) **Congratulations to Frank Hartman** – Mayor Smith noted that on her behalf and that of Town Council she would like to congratulate Frank Hartman who will begin his term as District Governor of the Lions Club in Nova Scotia. As District Governor Mr. Hartman will be leading 69 clubs as well as 5 or 6 Leo Clubs. The Mayor indicated that Mr. Hartman is a great volunteer for the town and that he is wished all the best in his new position.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Shaw and carried the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Mayor

CAO

SUMMARY OF APPROVED EXPENDITURES:

125th Birthday Celebrations – Deputy Mayor Ward requested a budget of \$6,000 for the 125th Birthday Celebrations so that the Committee can move ahead with plans for the event

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