

COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 24, 2015

#15-12

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 24th, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Lois Smith presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Lisa Ward
Councillor David Harrison
Councillor Norman Rafuse
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 with the addition of Recreation as item 5. (f).

Motion carried.

3. **MOTION TO APPROVE FIRE CHIEF**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Rafuse that the Town Council approve the re-appointment of Randy Mosher as Fire Chief.

Motion carried.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of October 27th, 2015 (#15-10A). Deputy Mayor Ward noted a clerical error on page 2 which was noted by the Secretary for correction.

Hearing no further errors or omissions the minutes were declared approved as amended.

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of a Special Council meeting held on October 30th, 2015 (#15-11).

Hearing none the minutes were declared approved as presented.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2015

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

Presentations – David Howe and Frank Hartman met with the Committee to introduce the Parrsboro Alternative Currency plan with the mandate of making a variety of volunteer services available to those in need who may not be able to afford them. Mayor Smith was presented with the first consignment of the currency and the Committee approved a request to use the Town Hall on a weekly basis to distribute the currency. A public meeting is scheduled for December 10th at 7:00 p.m. at the Lions Den for those who would like more information about the program.

Nancy Curleigh, accompanied by Harvey Lev and Judith Bauer, updated the Committee regarding the efforts of a citizens group to sponsor the relocation of a refugee family to Parrsboro. Mrs. Curleigh noted that the group is currently in the early stages of fund raising and is working with government departments and agencies to make it a reality. She encouraged the Town and individual citizens to contribute to the cause in whatever way they can.

Tyler Fulton – DYM Concert – The Committee was advised that Tyler Fulton had approached the CAO seeking the Town’s support to hold a concert on a different weekend than the Don Yorke Memorial Ball Tournament.

After a discussion the Committee recommended requesting that Mr. Fulton submit a proposal with an estimate of what it would cost to hold such an event.

Upper Main Street Sewer – The CAO advised that the plans for the extension of the sewer line to Upper Main Street are still being developed and that at this stage with winter fast approaching it would be advisable to hold off proceeding with the project until spring.

After a discussion the Committee agreed with this recommendation.

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

On a point of clarification regarding the item to do with the DYM concert, the CAO noted that Mr. Fulton is proposing that the DYM Ball Tournament and concert be held on the same weekend, however, a different weekend than the ball tournament is typically held.

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

(b) PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2015

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

MacKenzie Park Plowing – As a result of a request for snow plowing from a property owner with a permanent residence in MacKenzie Park, the Committee has been investigating the feasibility of providing the service to an area that is primarily for seasonal occupation.

After a discussion it was recommended that snow plowing service be provided to the residence on a trial basis and then re-assessed.

Boardwalk – It was brought to the Committee’s attention that the Aboiteau boardwalk is in rough shape and should be assessed for repairs that will maintain the structure until the bridge is replaced down the road. It was also noted that Granby is not in a position to manufacture the remaining gates that need to be replaced due to other commitments.

After a discussion it was agreed that Councillor Rafuse inspect the boardwalk and report back with his recommendations. It was also recommended that the replacement of the gates be put on hold until there is information on exactly what the plans are for the causeway and bridge.

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

Deputy Mayor Ward added for clarification regarding MacKenzie Park plowing that as this is not a main road it will be attended to when Public Works has the time available.

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

(c) PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2015

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

Ratification of Fire Chief – Councillor Ward noted that Randy Mosher was re-elected Fire Chief at the fireman’s annual general meeting and that as it is a requirement of Council to ratify his appointment, she would recommend that it be done so at the next Council meeting.

Fire Hall PA System – The Committee was informed that a quote in the amount of approximately \$2,200 had been obtained to upgrade the PA system at the Fire Hall.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that this equipment be purchased.

Bunker Gear – The necessity to purchase a bunker suit for a new member of the fire department was brought to the Committee’s attention. It was noted that this equipment will cost approximately \$3,000 and although there is no money in the current budget, the funds could come from the general operating reserve. The purchase of the suit would also be cost shared with the County as per the Fire Services Agreement.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the bunker suit be purchased.

October Report

Calls – Total 3:

- 1- Alarm-SCCCC-minor smoke condition
- 1- Alarm-Granby-faulty sprinkler valve
- 1- MFR: Lift Assist to Paramedics

Special Efforts:

- 1) The “new” 1997 truck was brought home from Moncton. Equipment transferred from old 1987 truck. New truck was lettered and pinstriped. Radios were installed. All features of the truck were tested and a short list of minor repairs was referred back to the dealer.
- 2) Fire Prevention Week visits were made to both the Elementary School and Pre-school.
- 3) An Open House was held on Sunday, October 11th. The public was invited to view the “new” truck and the “new” rescue boat.
- 4) A Co-op student was accepted from the High School. This student will attend up to 100 hours of fire training activities, including the County BFF-1 program (no “live fire” training).

Training:

October 3: 7 firefighters (FF’s), performed a “live burn” training on a dilapidated house in Diligent River. The structure was completely burned to the ground. FF’s from our mutual aid partners, FPW, Advocate and Southampton assisted. House owner had allowed us to train extensively in and on the structure.

October 8: 6 FF’s took the remaining modules for MFR recertification.

October 15: 9 FF's trained on the "new" 1997 truck, 2 FF's trained in basic PPE.

October 22: 19 FF's attended monthly meeting, 18 FF's attended the AGM and elections which followed.

October 29: "Free" or Social night. 10 FF's enjoyed Dave's deep fried turkey. New RCMP Corporal was invited and attended to meet the FF's and see the equipment.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Rafuse that the Protective Services Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

(d) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2015

Report given by Councillor Rafuse

Economic Development - A meeting was held recently to establish an Economic Development Committee with citizen representation. The new committee currently consists of myself as Chair, with members Tom McLaren, Thomas McLaren, Wendell Gallagher and David Beattie. The Committee is also open to anyone else who may want to get involved.

FarmWorks Loans –The Economic Development Committee met recently with representatives from the FarmWorks Investment Co-op Limited which lends money to qualified food-related for-profit businesses in order to increase the economic, health, social, environmental, and other benefits that result from producing food in Nova Scotia. The Committee would encourage anyone in the food production and distribution business to contact FarmWorks for more information on how they may benefit from the program. There will be a link from the Town of Parrsboro's Economic Development and Tourism page to their website.

Moved by Councillor Rafuse, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Economic Development Committee report be accepted.

Councillor Rafuse noted that with regard to bringing other people on the Economic Development Committee, he would like to get the word out that anyone interested can contact him within a certain time frame so that it can be arranged to have them attend an EDC meeting.

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

(e) PROMOTION AND IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2015

Report given by Councillor Shaw

Amendment to Bylaws – As a result of a suggestion from the Board of Trade that the Town's bylaws need to be more flexible as it relates to the establishment of small home based businesses, the Committee is in the process of reviewing the Land Use Bylaw with the idea of making changes to the wording of the document that will address this issue. The Committee's recommendations will be forwarded to the CAO and Council and then sent to our Development Planner in Amherst to be incorporated into our document for final approval.

Moved by Councillor Shaw, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Promotion and Immigration Committee report be accepted.

Motion carried.

(f) RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 2015

Report given by Councillor Harrison

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1. **Fitness Centre**
 - a. Hours: Monday-Friday from 7:00pm-9:00pm.
 - b. The school purchased a large mirror for the weight room.
 - c. We are looking into funding to purchase a rowing machine.

 2. **Current Programming**
 - a. Walking Club: Numbers are strong, about 8-12 a day.
 - b. Co-ed Sports: Volleyball and basketball have had strong numbers.
 - c. Ball Hockey: We have had a couple of missed sessions due to Remembrance Day and the book fair, but we will make them up at the end. We have 3 more sessions.
 - d. Kids in the Kitchen: Just wrapped up a 4 week program. We had nine 4-7 year olds registered. It was great – they all seemed to love it!
 - e. Family Christmas Party – Scheduled for Monday, December 7th at 6:00pm at the Fire Hall. We play games, make crafts, sing carols, and read stories.
 - f. Youth Dance Classes – Scheduled to start in January, we will run an 8 week program in partnership with the YMCA.

 3. **Regional Initiatives**
 - a. Fundy Connect: We have hired the Data Collection Coordinator and they have started, working out of the Town of Truro office.

We will be coordinating with them when they are in Parrsboro to collect data.

4. Other

- a. Tennis Courts: Black and MacDonald will be here this week (Thursday and Friday) to do work installing the lights. They had a delay receiving their materials, but are now ready to go. We are looking at having a savings on the light installation which I would like to use to buy a fiberglass practice board for the courts.
- b. Adapted Equipment: The Municipality of Cumberland will be invoicing us for \$1000 to support the purchase of additional equipment, including a hippocampe.
- c. We will be putting a float in the Christmas parade again this year.
- d. My last day of work will be Friday, January 29th.

Moved by Councillor Harrison, seconded by Councillor Shaw that the Recreation Committee report be accepted.

Councillor Harrison commented that the Council should at some point have a conversation about how they are going to fill the Recreation Director's position.

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **Invitation to Hicks LeMoine Office Opening** – Mayor Smith noted an invitation to the Council to the official opening of the Hicks LeMoine law office at 151 Main Street on Tuesday, December 1st from 4:00-6:00pm.

(b) **Winter Parking Regulations** – For information Mayor Smith reviewed winter parking regulations for the Town of Parrsboro as submitted by our Traffic Authority, Cpl. Chris MacDonald. These regulations will be advertised in the Citizen/Record and are available on the Town's website.

(c) **Sarah Dawson – Cape Sharp Tidal** – Mayor Smith read the contents of an email advising that Cape Sharp Tidal has made the decision to defer deployment of their two turbines at the FORCE test centre until spring 2016. Ms. Dawson noted that the project delay pushes their operational plans up against some unpredictable weather, therefore, it was decided that the next safest window of opportunity for deployment of both turbines is next spring. This decision was made last week and this week they have had an opportunity to inform media and those who have been following their progress. Ms. Dawson assured the Council that they would be kept updated and informed as things progress.

(d) **Library Report** – Deputy Mayor Ward noted that the Library report is missing from the agenda and that she did not have the information with her, therefore, there would be a double report next time.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Ward, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Mayor

CAO

SUMMARY OF APPROVED EXPENDITURES:

Fire Hall PA System – The Committee was informed that a quote in the amount of approximately \$2,200 had been obtained to upgrade the PA system at the Fire Hall.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that this equipment be purchased.....4

Bunker Gear – The necessity to purchase a bunker suit for a new member of the fire department was brought to the Committee’s attention. It was noted that this equipment will cost approximately \$3,000 and although there is no money in the current budget, the funds could come from the general operating reserve. The purchase of the suit would also be cost shared with the County as per the Fire Services Agreement.

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