

COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 24, 2015

#15-01

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 24th, 2015 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
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

REGRETS: J. Raymond Hickey, CAO

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. On behalf of Council she thanked the Public Works Department for doing an exceptional job keeping the streets and sidewalks clear and accessible during the winter and also acknowledged with appreciation the patience and cooperation of the citizens of Parrsboro.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Harrison that the Agenda be approved with the addition of a motion under the Finance Committee and an Energy Authority update as item (k) under Committee Reports.

Motion carried.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of November 25th, 2014 (#14-10).

Hearing none the minutes were approved as presented.

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(a) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2015

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

Parrsboro Creative – Michael Fuller gave an update on the group's initiatives and a recent meeting with Tony Ince, Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage. He noted that funding is available for the Parrsboro Cultural Community Campus project provided Parrsboro Creative raised one quarter of the total funding required and that the Town of Parrsboro and the County of Cumberland are being asked to contribute \$2,000 each to the project.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Town of Parrsboro contribute \$2,000 to this initiative.

United Way Sign – The United Way asked for permission to display a sign on Town property promoting their fund raising campaign.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that this request be approved.

David Howe & Helen Graham RE: Taxes – A presentation was received from David Howe and Helen Graham regarding their concerns about the current system of taxation in the Town of Parrsboro.

The Committee noted that they appreciated hearing the comments and concerns of taxpayers in the town and having the opportunity to have a discussion with them.

Committee Assignments – There was a discussion regarding the re-assignment of committees to even the work load with the following results: Copy attached.

Well #3 – An engineers report was presented with recommendations on how to deal with problems that have been experienced with well #3.

After reviewing the report, the Committee recommended option #3 to alter the pumping system at an estimated cost of \$15,000 which should extend the life of the well by another 10 years.

Bylaw Officer's Report – A second dog attack reported by a dog owner of Spring Street. Photo evidence taken of dog victim. Second fine issued, along with instructions to take precautions as prescribed in the Dog Bylaw including insurance. Owner has 14 days to comply.

TNR – Elizabeth MacAulay and Heather MacDougall representing the Trap, Neuter and Return group met with the Committee to request consideration of a monetary contribution from the Town for their 2015 operations. The group also requested that the Town consider adopting a pet abandonment bylaw.

In the discussion the Committee commended the group for providing a necessary service in the town and indicated that their request for funding would be referred to the 2014/15 budget.

Cumberland Joint Services – The Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority is requesting agreement from participating units to proceed with their strategic plan. Our representative on the CJSMA board is recommending that the Town of Parrsboro approve this request.

After a discussion the Committee agreed with this recommendation.

COMMITTEE DUTIES JANUARY 2015

FINANCE

Chair: Councillor Ward
Members: Full Council

PUBLIC WORKS

Chair: Councillor Ward
Members: Councillor Shaw

GLOOSCAP PARK

Chair: Councillor Fancy
Members: Councillor Harrison

PROMOTION AND IMMIGRATION

Chair: Councillor Shaw
Members: Councillor Ward

TOURISM

Chair: Councillor Shaw
Members: Councillor Fancy

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION

Chair: Councillor Ward
Members: Councillor Shaw

CUMBERLAND ENERGY AUTHORITY

Members: Mayor Smith
Councillor Harrison

CUMBERLAND JOINT SERVICES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY REP

1. Councillor Fancy

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair: Councillor Fancy
Members: Full Council

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Chair: Councillor Fancy

PERSONNEL

Chair: Councillor Ward
Members: Mayor Smith

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND HERITAGE

Chair: Councillor Harrison
Members: Mayor Smith

RECREATION

Chair: Councillor Harrison

POLICE ADVISORY

Members: Councillor Harrison
Mayor Smith

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

Chair: Councillor Harrison
Members: Mayor Smith

NORTHERN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT REP

1. Councillor Fancy

2. Councillor Ward

2. Councillor Ward

CUMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY REP

YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Councillor Ward

Mayor Smith

PARRSBORO AND AREA HARBOUR

COMMISSION REP

Mayor Smith

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

Motion carried.

Motion RE: Contracting Services of Financial Consultant

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Fancy that the Town of Parrsboro engage the services of Mr. Bruce Purchase as a financial consultant to the Town according to the terms and conditions of the proposed employment agreement.

Motion carried.

(b) PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2015

Report given by Councillor Harrison

Development Agreement – The Committee received a request from a developer for a Development Agreement for Chambers Boulevard for which a report was submitted by Planner, Andrew Fisher.

After reviewing the report with the Planner, the Committee recommended agreement in principle to move forward with First Reading of a draft agreement.

Building Inspectors Report – Building Inspector Brian Wood submitted the following report of activity during the months of November and December 2014:

	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value</u>
New construction, alterations and additions (Residential)	2	\$8,500
Storage Sheds/Garages	2	\$7,500

Traffic Island Sculpture – Taylor recommended that there be some sort of sculpture for the traffic island with a “wow” factor and estimated that it will cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Funding options are being explored.

Festival Grounds – Taylor noted a request from an individual to use the Festival Grounds (former Scott Property) as a venue for a wedding in August.

After a discussion the Committee indicated that they have no objection to the property being used for this purpose provided all insurance requirements are satisfied.

Taylor also noted that an idea for a flowered entrance to the festival grounds is being worked on and recommended that the potential for walking trails be explored.

Town Gardener – The Committee noted that they were very pleased with the outcome of hiring Donna Hanna last year to plant gardens and keep flowers and shrubs watered, and recommended bringing her back on again this year.

After a discussion this recommendation was approved.

Moved by Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Fancy that the Tourism Committee Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

(d) POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 2015

Report given by Councillor Harrison

RCMP Report –

Cleared by charge occurrences from April 1, 2014 to December 1, 2014:

Assault	26
Assault on Other Peace Officer	1
Assault on Police Officer	1
Assault with Weapon Causing Bodily Harm	6
Impaired by Drug	3
Impaired Operation	33

Sexual Assault	3
Possession of Drugs (various)	16

Traffic Collision Information:

Traffic Collision – Non Fatal Injury	33
Traffic Collision – Reportable	75

Police Advisory Committee – Colin Curleigh will be stepping down from the committee and it is recommended a town thank you card signed by all members of Council be sent to Mr. Curleigh in recognition of his seven years service.

Moved by Councillor Harrison, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Police Advisory Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

Mayor Smith added her comments regarding Mr. Curleigh’s departure from the Police Advisory Committee noting that he was very conscientious and should be commended for the excellent job he did in the position of Chair of the committee.

(e) PROMOTION AND IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 2015

Report given by Councillor Shaw

Asset Map – The Committee has identified an asset map as their priority and recommends that Roland McCaffery be contacted for his advice on how to accomplish this goal and where there may be sources of funding if it is necessary to hire someone to do it.

Saltscape Exhibition – Taylor Redmond presented a proposal to have four booths at Saltscapes and requested that the Town sponsor one of them at a cost of \$850.00.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that this expenditure be approved.

Scrum Room –Special Projects Coordinator, Taylor Redmond, is requesting that an office in the Town Hall she is currently using, be transformed into a scrum room where projects can be scrutinized from beginning to end. This will require some remodeling and purchase of office supplies.

After a discussion the Committee approved this request.

Music Festival – Following up on the success of last year’s music festival the 125th Birthday Celebrations Committee would like to see another concert take place this summer with a similar budget, however, with a new committee to organize the event. Therefore, the Committee would recommend a call for expressions of interest in the paper to see if any group would come forward to take on this task.

After a discussion the Committee agreed with this recommendation.

Moved by Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Fancy that the Promotion and Immigration Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

(f) GLOOSCAP PARK COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 2015

Report given by Councillor Harrison

Following is a report from a meeting that took place on December 9th:

- Follow up on Recreation Building to get a preliminary sketch.
- Ray will be contacting CBCL regarding options for a septic system.
- Armor rock work, etc. to do at the beach.
- Some signs have been made and are ready for installation, others are on order.
- Quotes for some electrical upgrades are being obtained.
- Installation of new water tank and associated work has been completed.
- A new volleyball court is in the planning stages.
- Rates are being reviewed.
- Campers are planning to establish a committee amongst themselves to organize activities.

Moved by Councillor Harrison, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Glooscap Park Committee report be accepted.

Motion carried.

(g) RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2015

Report given by Councillor Harrison

Tennis Court – Lights will be put up once the poles have been installed.

Fitness Centre – Current membership is 17. Funding has been received through the Community Use of Schools Grant for another recumbent bike, a set of free weights and a weight storage rack.

Volunteer Awards – The selection process for our Provincial representative is underway. Local volunteer awards are also being promoted again this year. Deadline for nominations is Friday, March 20th, 2015.

iCAN Program – Provincial funding received to start a free after school program for grades 7-12. Kim Harrison has been hired as the coordinator of this program which will offer an 8 week yoga program for the winter and an 8 week cycling program in the spring.

Current Programming – Current programs include Kids in the Kitchen, Winter Explorers, Dance Classes, Youth on the Move, Walking Club, Co-ed Sports, Winter Welcome, Craft Craze, Scrapbooking, Snowshoe Treks, and Ski Trips to Wentworth.

Regional Initiatives –

Learn 2 Lead Workshop Series – a series of professional workshops for coaches, leaders, volunteers, etc. who will work with and lead youth.

Youth on the Move – free after school program for girls in grades 4-6 promoting physical activity.

Outdoor Play – working with a group to promote, encourage and develop outdoor play in our area.

Fundy Connect – An online database of all recreation, physical activity and leisure resources, programs and information for our region.

Equipment Lending – Just a reminder that all of our equipment including snowshoes and cross country skis are available for loan.

New Initiatives Being Explored –

Seniors Games – working with the Municipality of Cumberland between Tidnish and Parrsboro to offer a local seniors games.

Training Opportunities – more training opportunities for Parrsboro for coaches, officials, leaders, etc., to enhance the Learn 2 Lead series.

Youth Leadership Program – a leadership program for youth ages 12-15 to develop their leadership skills.

Trails – investigate the most feasible way to enhance our current trails.

Walkability Grant – A Walkability Grant is being applied for through the Heart and Stroke Foundation for benches, garbage cans, and fencing for the Partridge Island Trail.
Don Yorke Memorial Ball Field – Quotes from local businesses are being invited for work to the DYM infield including the installation of more drywells to help with drainage. Funding for this project is being looked into.

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

Motion carried.

(h) PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 2015

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

Following is a summary report of the meetings of the Public Works Committee in December 2014 and January 2015:

- A new Public Works sign was discussed and has been ordered.
- Stickers with the Town logo for the remainder of the trucks are required.
- Discussion regarding storm drains on Church and Chapel in regard to the water issues. This is being considered a priority.
- Discussion regarding elimination of old water line on Mill Street.
- Superintendent recommended looking at all existing water lines to make sure they are up to standard before adding new.
- Superintendent recommended running water lines to two vacant lots on Templar and Farrell.
- All equipment is now registered.
- Discussion in regard to campers, water regulations and bylaws.
- Yellow markings for hydrants were discussed.
- The curb in front of the Cenotaph was discussed.
- The request for a single yellow line on Layton Street was discussed, however, it is not looking beneficial.
- The Committee is in the preliminary stages of exploring options for marking parking spots on Main Street that will add an emphasis to where parking is prohibited rather than where parking is permitted.
- The Public Works Superintendent is going to look into the cost of purchasing equipment with a boom to determine whether it would be more cost effective than renting.
- New cautionary signs for the Aboiteau have been ordered and flags placed near the bridge for those skating on the Aboiteau.
- The Works Crew have been busy with winter snow removal operations over the past couple of months and the Committee would like to acknowledge the

excellent job they have been doing to keep our streets and sidewalks clear and accessible.

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

Motion carried.

(i) PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 2015

Report given by Councillor Fancy

Fire Department Budget – The Fire Chief has requested an update on the fire department’s budget to determine how much of the budget has been spent and what is left. The CAO noted that this information would be available once the audit has been completed.

Radios – It was brought to the Committee’s attention that a new radio for the Department’s communication system is required and that the Fire Chief has advised that a unit is available at a good price if we act quickly.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the radio be purchased.

Bunker Gear – The Fire Chief is also recommending that the Town budget for the purchase of new bunker gear to replace older units and for new members who have joined up.

Annual Dinner – The Fire Department recently held their annual dinner at which John Henwood received his 40 year pin. The Committee would like to congratulate John on this achievement and thank him for 40 years of dedicated service to the Fire Department.

Moved by Councillor Fancy, seconded by Councillor Harrison that the Protective Services Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

(j) CUMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD REPORT

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2015

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

Parrsboro Library Stats for November –

108 open hours

6 programs with 37 attending

56 information questions

67 hours of WiFi use

199 hours of computer use

550 items circulated

126 holds placed

Library Building –

The library building was reviewed by Occupational Health and Safety and a report of their findings submitted to the CAO.

Ants have become a seasonal problem at the Library. Appropriate measures are being requested to combat the problem.

Three tenders were received from local contractors for the replacement of the ramp. The Committee recommended accepting the lowest tender for this work.

Coming Soon –

March Break is fast approaching and planning well underway. Last year the Cumberland Public Libraries had 325 kids attend programs that week. March Break 2015 is March 16-20 and all libraries in the Cumberland system will have programs for kids in grades primary to six. Call your local library or check our website for more information.

Did you know? –

The NNELS (National Network for Equitable Library Service) Library is an online service that provides library patrons with perceptual disabilities as defined in the Canadian Copyright Act access to alternative format materials. Featured are DRM-free resources, which can be used on computers, consumer devices (iOS, Android, other MP3 players), DAISY readers (Victor Readers, etc.) and in some cases can be circulated on CD's. The NNELS Library includes more than 10,000 items, largely in eAudio and eBraille. Access to the NNELS Library is now available from all Nova Scotia Public Libraries.

Statistics –

In December, Cumberland Public Libraries signed out over 8,000 items. This includes books, movies, TV shows, magazines and more. Also in December, the 7 libraries held 35 programs county-wide for children and adults, with 725 people in attendance, almost double last year's attendance.

Find out what's going on –

Check out the library's webpage (www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca) to see our Calendar of Events and get information on upcoming programs.

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter (@CumberlandPL) to get information on upcoming events, find out about new books and movies, and see pictures of our programs.

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

Motion carried.

(k) ENERGY AUTHORITY REPORT

FEBRUARY 2015

Councillor Harrison noted that the Energy Authority had met earlier in the day and reported that representatives from the University in Cape Breton were there to discuss moving forward with the geothermal initiative in Springhill. The Authority also met with a representative from Marine Renewables Canada who is interested in helping the Authority develop asset mapping on a larger scale. Councillor Harrison indicated that the Energy Authority in general was quite excited about the meeting hosted by the Tidal Readiness Committee in January and since then there was a meeting in February attended by ACOA and other government agencies regarding feasibility studies and other initiatives.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Minister of Health – Mayor Smith noted correspondence from the Honourable Leo Glavine, Provincial Minister of Health in response to her letter expressing Town Council's concern for the future of emergency services in Parrsboro and other small communities throughout the Province. Mr. Glavine noted that recently the Department of Health and Wellness commissioned an evaluation of collaborative emergency centers to better understand the benefits and opportunities of this model of health care delivery. He indicated that as he and his department begin to explore the recommendations brought forward through this evaluation, they are committed to continuing with this collaborative and inclusive process. As part of this commitment, Mr. Glavine will be visiting health care facilities throughout the winter and into the spring to hear first hand the impact of the CEC's in smaller communities. Mr. Glavine thanked Mayor Smith for taking the

time to write on behalf of the citizens of Parrsboro and for sharing her concerns as it offers insight as to how the health care system can be improved for Nova Scotians.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Ward the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

CAO

Mayor