

REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

April 9, 2014

Unapproved Minutes

DATE: April 9, 2014
TIME: 7:33 p.m. – 8:55 p.m.
PLACE: Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Clow; Councillors Diane Griffin; Steve MacDonald; Randy Cooper; Steve Ogden; Robert Hughes, CAO; Joanne Weir, Assistant Recreation Director; Kim O'Connell, Director of Finance and Technology; Vahid Ghomoshchi, Director of Planning, Development and Heritage; Jeremy Crosby, Director of Infrastructure and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Councillor Emile Gallant

CHAIR: Mayor David Dunphy

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Dunphy called the Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Clow and seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin that the agenda be approved as circulated. Motion Carried.

3. MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Diane Griffin and seconded by Councillor Steve Ogden that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2014, be approved with one correction – under item #15 Safety Services under Fire Report – remove the last paragraph as it was carried over in error from a previous meeting. Motion Carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Councillor Ogden asked about the new design from the province for the traffic safety meeting and Robert replied that he did contact Steve Yeo who advised him that the drawings are not done yet, but that they will get to them over the next couple of weeks. It was noted that six weeks ago we were told we would have them in two weeks. Councillor Ogden stated that it is very important that we get those designs as a lot of things depend on the design of that intersection and Robert agreed.

5. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Nil

6. **CARI REPORT**

No Report

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Included in the package is a list of all correspondence sent and received since the last Council meeting.

8. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Dunphy gave an overview of his report noting that since the last Council meeting he attended the following events:

- Along with fellow mayors and the Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities (FPEIM) met with Minister Sheridan and Deputy Minister David Arsenault to discuss revenue sharing agreement between the province and the municipalities.
- Along with Councillor Cooper, Robert Hughes, Kim O'Connell and Kim Dudley met to review the 2014 budget process and presentation of the budget, to find ways to improve our process and engagement with our residents.
- Attended the *International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination* that was held on March 21 and hosted by the Town. Bruce Rainnie did a great job as moderator. Also, a great job was done by our new community engagement coordinator Kim Dudley. Kim planned and implemented this successful and well attended event.
- Attended the Planning and Heritage Committee meeting where the proposed official plan was discussed.
- Met with mayors and Chief Administrative Officers of other PEI communities to discuss the revenue sharing discussion with the province.
- Attended various meetings throughout the month to discuss town issues.

Mayor Dunphy noted that the Racial Discrimination Discussion Panel that was held on March 21 was recorded by Eastlink and will be broadcast in a few weeks. He added that he will let everyone know once that actual date has been set.

Councillor Cooper stated that the East Coast Music Awards (ECMA) is a terrific event not only for Stratford, but for the Island as a whole. Eastlink, who is part of our community, did a great job organizing the event, and it certainly seemed to be a great success. He noted that Mayor Dunphy is to be congratulated as part of the Eastlink team for organizing such an amazing event. Mayor Dunphy thanked Councillor Cooper and noted that he will pass along the congratulations to the rest of the Eastlink team. Mayor Dunphy noted that on April 2 Stratford's very own *Ripped Paper Band* won their event. It was good exposure for the band and a good event to start off the ECMA's.

9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Report included in the package for Council to review. Robert gave a brief overview of his report.

Traffic Safety Marketing Strategy

There is a meeting scheduled on April 15 with a group of stakeholders, including people from Health, our local Active Transportation Committee, Bicycle PEI, committee members, staff, seniors and schools. This meeting is to review the information that the Department of Highways provided on the speed surveys they did last summer. A recommendation will then be made to Safety Services and Council on what the speed limits should be, and which streets should be locals and which streets should be collectors. The classification criteria will determine whether they get a sidewalk or not, or a sidewalk and a bike lane.

We will also have a presentation from Insight Marketing who is doing the social marketing strategy, and receive feedback from the stakeholders on the concepts they have come up with for the campaign. The Safety Services Committee will then review the information. It was noted that the Infrastructure Committee will also look at this information to help them determine their sidewalk priority listing.

Waterfront and Gateway Landscape Design

The RFP for this project has been issued and will close on April 11, 2014 at 12 noon. Robert noted that he has received calls from six or seven consultants showing an interest in the project.

10. INFRASTRUCTURE

a) No Report

Councillor Cooper stated that the regular monthly meeting was cancelled twice due to snow storms. However, things are moving along well and we are anticipating the arrival of the Blue Frog System for the lagoon. Jeremy added that we are looking at the end of May for the actual installation of the Blue Frog.

Councillor Cooper stated that we have had quite a winter and we need to “throw our hats off” to Jeremy and his staff for keeping things accessible for everyone following each storm.

11. RECREATION, CULTURE AND EVENTS

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald gave an overview of the report.

Federal and provincial grant applications were pursued in March. Applications from agencies such as Human Resources Development Canada, PEI Employment

Development Agency, and the Provincial Canada Day Committee have been received and are being prepared for submission before their respective deadline dates.

The 2014 Kaleidoscope Festival Committee continues to meet on a regular basis and the schedule for events should be finalized by the middle of April. The event will take place from May 16 to 19.

The recreation department will once again offer a full summer day camp program. This program will be extended to 10 weeks this year due to strong interest shown by the 2013 participants. The camp is available to youth between the ages of 8 to 12 with a maximum number of 25 youth per week.

Registration dates for minor baseball took place on Saturday, April 5 and will take place again on Saturday, April 26 at the Stratford Town Centre. Registration for the Stratford Soccer Club was held Saturday, April 5.

Minor basketball completed their 2013/14 season with the hosting of the 10th Annual Stratford Jamboree. Teams participating are from the following associations: Kensington, Cornwall, Charlottetown, and Stratford.

Stratford was host to the 55+ Winter Games during the week of March 3-8, 2014. Events were held in various locations in the Stratford and greater surrounding areas. There were a total of 64 events and 448 participants. The closing banquet/reception (turkey dinner) was held at the Stratford Town Centre on Friday March 7, 2014 with 140 in attendance.

Youth Can-Do hosted a *March Break Week Camp* for youth in grades 4 and up. The camp was held Monday, March 17 to Friday, March 21 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. each afternoon.

A list of events held in the month of March at Stratford Town Centre is included in the agenda package.

Councillor MacDonald took a moment to recognize Stratford's Drew MacIntyre who has been named the Toronto Marlies winner of the IOA American Speciality AHL and Man of the Year Award 2013 – 2014 for his outstanding contribution to the Toronto community.

Councillor MacDonald also recognized the work that Christy Konschuh (Conch) for the work she is doing with the youth. He noted that there was an excellent article in the Guardian recently about Youth-Can-Do and all the great things they are doing.

Councillor Ogden stated that he would also like to congratulate Dave Mitchell, his committee, and Town staff for all the work they did on the 55+ winter Games; it was a great success.

12. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

a) No Report

Councillor Cooper noted that there was a meeting in early March and the next meeting will be held on April 22.

b) Financial Statements

Included in the package. Councillor Cooper stated that we did receive a copy of the draft financial statements for 2013 from the auditors, and the next step will be to set up a meeting with the auditors to review the statements and close out 2013.

c) Resolution FT007-2014 – Pat and the Elephant Donation Request

Moved by Councillor Randy Cooper

Seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin

WHEREAS a request for financial assistance was received from Pat and the Elephant; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford has historically supported Pat and the Elephant, who provides a much needed service to residents of the Town; and

WHEREAS the Finance and Technology Committee has recommended that a \$5,000 grant be provided to Pat and the Elephant.

BE IT RESOLVED that \$5,000 be donated to Pat and the Elephant.

Discussion: It was noted that this resolution bears the recommendation of the Finance and Technology Committee and the Infrastructure Committee.

Question: **CARRIED**

d) Resolution FT008-2014 – Speed Skate PEI Grant

Moved by Councillor Randy Cooper

Seconded by Councillor Steve MacDonald

WHEREAS a request for financial assistance was received from Speed Skate PEI to help towards the capital purchase of safety mats; and

WHEREAS the required upgraded safety mats will cost the group \$40,000, Speed Skate PEI has raised \$5000 towards the purchase and would like the Town of Stratford to contribute \$5,000 towards the purchase. Approximately 25% of the registered participants of Speed Skate PEI are from Stratford; and

WHEREAS the Finance and Technology Committee has recommended that a \$5,000 grant be provided to Speed Skate PEI.

BE IT RESOLVED that \$5,000 be donated to Speed Skate PEI.

Discussion: It was noted that this resolution bears the recommendation of the Finance and Technology Committee and the Infrastructure Committee.

Councillor Cooper stated that we have requested that the mats stay in the Greater Charlottetown Area. He also noted that there may be an opportunity to do some sponsorship/signage.

Councillor Griffin stated that this is similar to the contribution we made a few years ago for equipment. It is not an on-going donation.

Councillor Ogden stated that he fully supports this resolution and has actually donated to it from his discretionary fund.

Question: **CARRIED**

e) Resolution FT009-2014 – QEH Equipment Drive Donation

Moved by Councillor Randy Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Steve Ogden

WHEREAS a donation request has been received from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Foundation; and

WHEREAS the Town gave a donation of \$5,000 last year, as residents of the Town form a significant component of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital population.

BE IT RESOLVED that \$5,000 be donated to the QEH Foundation Equipment Drive.

Discussion: This resolution does not bear the recommendation of the Finance and Technology Committee, but does bear the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Question:
CARRIED

13. PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review. Deputy Mayor Clow noted that the committee met on Monday, April 7 and the meeting was to discuss the official plan.

There will be another meeting on April 17 to continue that official plan discussion and then a public meeting will be scheduled.

b) Permit Summary

Included in the package for Council to review.

It was noted that presently, we are down significantly, mainly in single family dwellings.

c) Resolution PH006-2014 – Jacalyn Ferguson – Child Care Facility – Public Meeting

Moved by Councillor Gary Clow

Seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin

WHEREAS In July 2012 Council granted approval to Jacalyn Ferguson's application to open a Child Care Facility at her own property located at 26 Wren Drive, subject to restricting the capacity of the proposed child care facility up to 15 children including the applicant's own children, at any time of operating the business; and

WHEREAS a request has been received from Jacalyn Ferguson to increase the maximum capacity of her child care facility from 15 to 26 children.

BE IT RESOLVED that Council shall hold a public meeting on **April 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.** in order to allow the applicant to present her proposal to the public and to obtain their input regarding the proposed alteration.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Planning, Development and Heritage Committee and the Committee of the Whole.

Question: **CARRIED**

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

a) Resolution CW003-2014 Provincial Infrastructure Fund Project Approval

Moved by Councillor Randy Cooper

Seconded by Councillor Steve Ogden

WHEREAS the Province has established the Provincial Infrastructure Fund (PIF) to help offset the impact of the imposition of the HST on municipalities; and

WHEREAS the \$150,000 that was allocated to the Town of Stratford for 2013/14 was not spent; and

WHEREAS a further \$150,000 that was allocated to the Town of Stratford for 2014/15; and

WHEREAS Council has signaled its' intent, in the 2014 capital budget, to replace the existing RCMP office with a new facility to improve policing for residents. Our RCMP officers must travel to the Queens Detachment at the Maypoint Plaza to carry out many of their functions which impacts response time and time available for patrol. In addition, the existing office cannot safely accommodate civilian support staff and residents therefore have to also travel back and forth to the Queens Detachment at the Maypoint Plaza to complete criminal record checks or other interactions with the RCMP.

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2013/14 Provincial Infrastructure Fund (PIF) allocation of \$150,000 and the 2014/15 PIF allocation of \$150,000 be allocated to the RCMP office replacement.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole. Deputy Mayor Clow asked if we are giving the RCMP \$150,000 to do record checks in Maypoint, and Councillor Cooper stated that the \$300,000 is in the budget this year and we are going to explore our options with the RCMP, with the fire company, and with EMS (ambulance service).

Councillor Ogden added that Deputy Mayor Clow was involved in the budget discussions and asked if he recalled that we talked about the capital costs of the RCMP office and the fact that we could spend \$300,000 this year, but if we didn't spend it, it would be carried over to the following year for the construction of a new office that would hopefully include the fire department and the EMS. Deputy Mayor Clow replied that he did recall those discussions. Councillor Ogden also noted that we will be looking at the needs of each of the groups. There will be a need to acquire land and that is an issue that will be discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mayor Dunphy stated that we are allocating grant money for this project to arrive at a long term solution, but at this point in time we don't know exactly what the money will be spent on. Robert stated that this resolution is a requirement of the provincial infrastructure fund. We have to let them know what we are 'earmarking' that money for.

Question: **CARRIED**

b) Resolution CW004-2014 – Existing NDCC Reallocation of Funds

Moved by Councillor Randy Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gary Clow

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford has an estimated \$1,400,000 in funding from the existing (2010-2015) New Deal for Cities and Communities program that we have not yet spent. Of the estimated surplus, there is \$112,000 in unallocated funding due to a change in the amount due to the 2011 census and an accumulation of interest. The remaining \$1,288,000 was not yet spent because of slower than anticipated development of the core area and less development of sidewalks/bike lanes, which depend on a partnership with Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to infill the ditches.

BE IT RESOLVED that the \$112,000 in unallocated funding be allocated to the existing approved projects of sidewalks/bike lanes and/or trails in 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the remaining \$1,288,000 in unspent funding be allocated to two Utility projects that were approved in the 2014 capital budget as follows:

- \$960,000 towards an interim upgrade of the sewer treatment plant at an estimated cost of \$1,500,000.
- \$328,000 towards the extension of municipal sewer on the Bellevue Road and a portion of the Georgetown Road at an estimated cost of \$510,000.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole.
Robert noted that again that this is a technical requirement.

Question: **CARRIED**

c) **Resolution CW006-2014 – Election Bylaw Amendment, Bylaw #31A, A Bylaw to Amend the Election Bylaw, Bylaw #31 – Second Reading**

Moved by Councillor Steve Ogden
Seconded by Councillor Gary Clow

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer has requested some amendments to the Stratford Election Bylaw as follows:

- that the advance poll be closed early on Halloween, as one of the polls falls on Halloween this year.
- that there be a change to determination day to ensure that it occurs before the swearing in ceremony.
- that the Chief Electoral Officer be authorized to allow additional persons to be present in the polling station during the counting of the ballots.

AND WHEREAS Council reviewed and agreed with the proposed amendments.

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached Bylaw, Bylaw 31A, a Bylaw to amend the Stratford Election Bylaw (Bylaw 31) be hereby read and approved a second time.

Discussion: Nil

Question: **CARRIED**

d) **Resolution CW007-2014 – Election Bylaw Amendment, Bylaw #31A, A Bylaw to Amend the Election Bylaw, Bylaw #31 – Adoption**

Moved by Councillor Steve Ogden

Seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin

WHEREAS Bylaw #31 A, a Bylaw to amend the Election Bylaw (Bylaw #31) was read and approved a first time on March 12, 2014; and

WHEREAS Bylaw #31A, a Bylaw to Amend the Election Bylaw (Bylaw #31) was read and approved a second time on April 9, 2014.

B IT RESOLVED that Bylaw #31A, a Bylaw to amend the Election Bylaw (Bylaw #31) be hereby adopted and that the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to affix their signatures and the corporate seal of the Town thereto and to formally declare the said Bylaw Amendment passed.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Accountability and Engagement Committee and the Committee of the Whole.

Question: **CARRIED**

e) **Resolution CW008-2014 – Committee Member Appointment**

Moved by Councillor Randy Cooper

Seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin

WHEREAS Council has established Special Committees and sub-committees to those Special Committees in Bylaw #33, the Stratford Committee Bylaw, to advise and assist Council in its deliberations; and

WHEREAS the Bylaw provides for the appointment of residents by Council to provide public input to Council in its deliberations; and

WHEREAS the Finance and Technology Committee has been short one member for quite some time.

BE IT RESOLVED that Paulette Solomon be appointed as a member of the Finance and Technology Committee for the remainder of the term of Council which is November 30, 2014.

Discussion: It was noted that this resolution bears the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole.

Question: **CARRIED**

15. SAFETY SERVICES

a) No Report

Councillor Ogden noted that the regular monthly meeting was cancelled due to the storm. The next meeting will be held on April 16.

b) Street Light Report

No report.

c) RCMP Report

The RCMP Report for March 2014 was included in the package for Council to review. It was noted that traffic collisions are up, but that is most likely due to the bad weather.

d) Humane Society Report

The Humane Society Report for March 2014 was included in the package for Council to review.

e) Transit Report

The Transit Report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ogden stated that the numbers are again staying up with 93 riders again in March.

There was some further discussion on the transit system and Councillor Ogden noted that he hopes to eventually see the whole town serviced.

Robert noted that Trius sends us a report after a storm day. After the first storm day we had 67 riders, and the next two storm days it was 10 and 22 respectively. However, the numbers may actually go up on the days following the storm.

Councillor Ogden noted that Mike Cassidy drove some commuters home at the height of the storm to make sure they got home safe.

f) Fire Company

Nothing to report.

16. SUSTAINABILITY

a) No Report

Mayor Dunphy noted that the last meeting was held March 6. He noted that in the past month a committee member of ours, Dr. David McKenna passed away on March 19, and on that day we lost a very valued member of our community. He was very involved in the Stratford and Area Watershed Group, and was one of the founding directors. He gave

tirelessly of his time to that organization. He was also a past member of our Safety Services Committee. David served as chair of the QEH Foundation Equipment fund Drive and was a member of the UPEI Board of Governors. David McKenna was a former MLA for the Town of Stratford – Keppoch/Kinlock from 2003 to 2007.

He became a member of the Sustainability Committee because he had passion and a commitment to the environment, and because he also had a good business background. Mayor Dunphy noted that he also sat on the Property and Finance Committee of Assumption Parish with David for five years. His contributions to the community have been enormous; we have lost a great resident and a great community person. The Town is deeply saddened by his loss and the Council of the Town of Stratford offers condolences to David's wife Ann and their children Monica, Emily and Bridgette.

17. ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT

a) Report

Councillor Griffin noted that a meeting was held last Thursday and the committee spent a great deal of time looking at the responses from residents on social media. There are a number of people using the website and communicating back and forth with the Town, and we are very pleased with how things are going.

Councillor Griffin stated that we had a tremendous response to our resident survey, and it was the biggest response we have received since we started the survey three years ago. We are very pleased that our citizens are so engaged and Councillor Griffin noted that she looks forward to the presentation of the results of the survey. Mayor Dunphy agreed and he also looks forward to the presentation and releasing the results to the general public.

18. HUMAN RESOURCES

a) Nil

19. PROCLAMATIONS

a) Nil

20. OTHER COMMITTEES

a) Stratford Seniors Complex

Report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald noted that everything is going well and there will be a meeting with the gardener to review the list of requirements that must be followed. He also noted that the committee reviewed the audit report.

21. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Resolution OT001-2014 EI Changes

Moved by Councillor Gary Clow

Seconded by Councillor Randy Cooper

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island was left intact as one Region when Economic Regions were first created through the Employment Insurance Act and Regulations; and

WHEREAS the population of the entire Province of PEI is less than many Economic Regions created throughout the Country; and

WHEREAS the geographic area of the entire Province of PEI is smaller than the area of the majority of the Economic Regions created throughout the Country.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford publicly states its opposition to the recent changes to the EI program for the greater Charlottetown area.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a letter be written to the Hon. Jason Kenney, Federal Minister of Employment and Social Development, asking him to reverse the recent announced changes to the EI program Economic Regions in PEI and to work with all jurisdictions in PEI to create long term meaningful employment.

Discussion: Councillor Griffin stated that she will be voting against the resolution. She noted that it comes back to perception of urban/rural divide and this is why we stayed away from this issue in the Federation of PEI Municipalities. It had been tendered as a possible resolution for our annual meeting. Miltonvale Park has since withdrawn the resolution once the issue was discussed more fully. Councillor Griffin stated that she is staying with that track of thought and she will vote against the motion.

Question: **CARRIED** (1 Against – Councillor Diane Griffin)

22. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Mayor David Dunphy

Robert Hughes, CAO