

REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

April 10, 2013

Approved Minutes

DATE: April 10, 2013
TIME: 7:30 p.m. – 9:37 p.m.
PLACE: Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Clow; Councillors Emile Gallant; 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: Nil

CHAIR: Mayor David Dunphy

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Dunphy called the Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the following change – the utility financial statements under Infrastructure to be moved to item #10 - Finance and Technology.

3. MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Emile Gallant and seconded by Councillor Stevie MacDonald that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2013, be approved as circulated.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil

5. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

a) Presentation of the 2013 Resident Survey Results

Mayor Dunphy welcomed Dawn Binns from Insight Marketing to the meeting and stated that she will be giving a presentation on the results of the 2013 resident survey.

Using Power Point, Ms. Binns stated that she will walk through a number of the results noting that this is the second year for the survey, so we will be able to see some of the changes as well as any new information. The design of the survey is based on the Sustainable Stratford Results Matter and its various pillars and we use many methods to get residents to participate. We invite them on-line, we use regular mail, and social media ensuring that every resident of Stratford has an opportunity to find out about the survey and

to respond. It was noted that the survey was put out slightly earlier than last year; it ran from January 15 to February 26, 2013. Based on the 2011 census, Stratford has 3,290 households and there were 638 responses and that is significant. The survey was 'weighted' according to age and dwelling. It was noted that there was a shift this year with the method used to do the surveys. Last year there were more people who submitted a paper copy, but this year about half were done on-line. Based on that, the statistical accuracy is 3.9% 19 times out of 20 and that is a strong representation, so you can feel confident when you look at this information.

Because we had the 2011 census data, we were able to weight the results based on age and dwelling type, and it also allows for a better comparison of 2012 and 2013.

The first area was environmental responsibility and the first question we asked last year and again this year was *how important is it for the Town to use its resources to support and protect the environment?* Again this year residents feel it is very important or somewhat important (95%) and this is consistent with last year's responses.

We also asked people about their environmental activities and actions. We asked *if in the past 12 months did you or anyone in your household do the following* and in 2013 38% of people indicated that they used a pesticide or herbicide on their lawns or garden, and this was a 22% increase from last year. We haven't had an opportunity to investigate why, and Ms. Binns stated that this is something that the Town will want to know. Another one that went down from 2012 (13%) was planting trees or shrubs on your property, but this may just be an anomaly and one to watch next year. Plant trees with the watershed group went up by 31% which is impressive. When we investigated a little farther we found that the watershed group did a tree distribution program and a very large number of residents participated in the program. Another 30% of residents indicated that they helped clean up a pond or waterway in Stratford. Picking up garbage did not have a significant change from last year.

About 93% of residents said they heard about, know some details, or followed closely and sought more information about a number of the Town's initiatives. We saw strong knowledge of the Trans Canada Trail development, wellfield development, and official plan development and communications hasn't really started on these items, so it will be a great benchmark for next year.

The next section was asking residents how satisfied they are with the government of the Town and overall most residents are satisfied or very satisfied (79%) and this is consistent with last year. The don't know/no response sits between 11% and 25%, so people may feel that they don't have enough information so they are not answering.

We asked residents about health and safety and started off by asking them about active transportation in three different ways. The first was how do you get to school and work, and the majority of residents are not walking or jogging. We also asked them how far away is your work/school and for the majority of residents it is more than 9 kilometers away. When

we asked if they walked, jogged or biked to run errands the numbers start to go up, but the majority of people are still not using active transportation modes to run errands. What people are using those modes for is fitness and fun (53%). So although they are not using it as a mode of transportation for things that they need to do they are using it for fun and to be active.

We asked residents about their barriers to active transportation and the top three were safety on the Hillsborough Bridge (46%); speed of the traffic (33%); and lack of sidewalks, trails, and bike lanes (39%).

We asked residents about their overall health and residents feel their general health is good, very good or excellent (94%) and that response is very comparable to last year. We asked how is your health from a year ago and 69% said it was the same; somewhat or much better (24%) and somewhat or much worse (7%). Overall residents are feeling healthy and that their health is the same or getting better.

We asked residents about their moderate to vigorous activity and we found that 38% are in the 1 – 2 ½ hours per week and that is hitting the recommended threshold for health benefits, and the 2 ½ hour per week response was 38% which is past the recommended threshold and this is similar to last year's response

We asked how the crime rates are in their commercial and residential areas. The majority of residents feel their neighbourhoods are about the same or lower crime rates than other parts of the Island, so they are feeling fairly safe in the community.

We asked how residents if they feel the RCMP is meeting the Town's needs, and overall (80%) report that they have a lot or a great deal of confidence in the RCMP which is a strong endorsement. Where the number is low is where people have selected the don't know/no answer and that is not uncommon on surveys.

We asked about resource efficiency in a number of areas and we didn't see a significant change over last year in these areas. Where we did see a change was under the question *does your home use the following water saving devices* and the use of rain barrels was definitely up. We also see a number of residents using a low volume toilet (47%), and it was the same thing for low flow shower heads.

Ms. Binns stated that as the initiatives of the Town are rolled out, it is nice to have these numbers for comparison and the rain barrel initiative is a great example.

Every year we add a few new questions depending on what is of interest to the Town, and right now the Town is investigating the area of water metering. We included a number of statements of about water metering and asked residents how they felt about them to help understand their perceptions, and 68% of residents agreed or strongly agreed that water

metering would allow the Town to fairly allocate the cost of water among its users. Residents (58%) felt that water metering is an important element for planning and infrastructure; 68% felt it was important to setup a water conservation program and residents (71%) felt it would allow the Town to monitor the effectiveness of that program. We also asked residents how they think water metering could affect their rate and (41%) felt that it would increase their bill; (26%) disagree and (34%) replied that they didn't know.

The last thing we asked about was how important is arts and culture in the Town, and we followed with a variety of options for them to choose from. We asked how important is it for the Town to use resources to support arts and culture in the Town and there was very strong support (81%) felt it was very important for the Town to use resources in this manner. We followed by providing a variety of options of what could be provided in the Town and what we found was sporadic spots of interest, but the one that had the largest support was a larger library. We saw (31%) of residents indicating that they would use it regularly or very often and an additional (30%) said they would use it occasionally.

Ms. Binns stated that this is the conclusion of her presentation and Mayor Dunphy thanked her and asked if anyone had any questions. He noted that it is a great initiative of the Town to engage residents to gauge their support for certain activities. Mayor Dunphy stated that an interesting point was residents value the library, and recently Council made a decision to increase the space for the library, so it is good to have the support of the residents.

6. CARI REPORT

Included in the package for Council to review.

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 a verbal report noting that since the last Council meeting he attended the following events:

- met with the auditors to review the 2012 audited statements.
- attended the Wood Carvers Associations 'Open House' at the Cotton Centre.
- attended a citizens forum at the Cotton Centre regarding "Is Stratford an age-friendly Community?" It was organized by Doug Deacon and Tanya Craig and hosted by the Town and consisted of approximately 25 seniors discussing this "age-friendly" question. Great discussion!
- attended the re-launch of our rain barrel program. We wanted to get people thinking about rain barrels again now that spring is here. Thank you to staff members for their help in making this re-launch a success.
- attended the Committee of the Whole meeting.

- attended the Sustainability Committee.
- attended a presentation by Dawn Binns of Insight Marketing on the results of the 2013 resident survey
- met with Steve McQuaid of the Community Foundation of PEI and had a discussion on “Smart and Caring Communities.”
- interview with Martin Poirier of CTV News for Live at 5 about the rain barrel program in Stratford.

9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Included in the package for Council to review. Robert gave an update on his report noting that we continue to work on the engagement strategy. He noted staff has had some training on the engagement guide and we have just awarded a contract for social media training. Work continues on the web site content, and the internal communications team is currently working to make the information clear and concise for the site.

Robert stated that he was asked to make a presentation at Holland College. There was a workshop on ‘Sharing your Passion for Healthy Equity Building our Collective Understanding’ and it was organized by the Summer Institute in partnership with PEI/NB Public Health Association and National Collaborating Centre for Health Determinance. The Town was asked to participate because of what we are trying to do with our ‘big picture’ focus to try and determine what we can do to help people become healthier, and be treated equally through our diversity and inclusion and thorough our Results Matter initiatives. There was very good feedback from the people who attended. There were a number of different presenters speaking about how they are trying to improve the health of their constituents.

Robert noted that when the auditors came to do the audit they found the Town’s books in very good shape, and he would like to say thank you and congratulations to the accounting staff.

10. INFRASTRUCTURE

a) No Report

Councillor Gallant noted that the committee did not meet in March. The next meeting will be held on April 16, 2013.

Mayor Dunphy noted that the federal budget was released in the last month and asked if there were any changes in the funding, and Councillor Gallant replied that he understands that there will not be any funding before 2014. He added that we are still waiting for an answer on two applications that we have in and we hope to have an answer soon. Jeremy added that there were some questions and environmental work they wanted done and we responded to their questions and did the environmental work that was requested. and he is hopeful we will have an answer this month.

Councillor Gallant noted that he was happy to see the resident survey results on the water metering. He added that we should have some data on our trial metering project by the fall, and we will see what kind of an impact metering has made.

Councillor Ogden asked if there were any readings taken yet on our metering pilot project and Councillor Gallant replied that there was one reading of all 50 meters.

11. RECREATION, CULTURE AND EVENTS

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald gave a brief overview of the report noting that all recreational programs operating out of the Stratford Town Centre continue to operate at full speed, while most of our program activities operating at Glen Stewart School ended on March 15.

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 a strong interest in 2012. Camp is available to youth between the ages of 8 – 12, with a maximum number of 25 children per week.

Councillor MacDonald noted that the minor basketball completed their 2012/13 season with the hosting of the Ninth Annual Stratford Jamboree, with teams participating from Kensington, Cornwall, Charlottetown and Stratford.

Registration for ball and soccer was held on Saturday, April 6, 2013. Registration for soccer will take place again on Thursday, April 11, and for ball on Saturday, April 27 at the Town Centre.

Councillor MacDonald noted that on March 9 and 10, the Youth-Can-Do Drama Program staged Shakespeare's "A Midsummers Night's Dream." The drama program will get underway again in the fall.

It was noted that the dog park will be closed to the public from mid April to the second week in May for seeding and fertilizing.

Mayor Dunphy took a moment to acknowledge Stratford resident Ashley Hollis who is a Ringette player and participated at the National Ringette Championships last week in Fredericton, New Brunswick. They also held a skills competition at the event and Ashley won the skating competition for all of Canada. Congratulations Ashley!

Mayor Dunphy noted that the Youth-Can-Do dance was cancelled this past Friday out of respect for the passing of Callum MacLean and he applauds that decision.

Councillor Ogden stated that he would like to congratulate the AAA Team from Pownal, on their win at the Atlantic Championships a couple of weeks ago. He noted that many team members are residents from Stratford.

12. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

a) No Report

It was noted that the committee did not meet in March. The next meeting of the Finance and Technology Committee will be held on April 16, 2013.

b) Financial Statements

Included in the package.

c) Audited Financial Statements

Councillor Cooper stated that we received a clean bill of health from the auditors. We budget for a modest surplus and generally we come in with a healthy surplus and he is happy to report things are in good shape after 2012. This year's debt reduction will be 9% which surpasses our 4% target.

For anyone in the audience who many not be aware, Mayor Dunphy stated that a number of years ago the Town established a policy to help address the issue of debt in the Town. It was an aggressive target at the time because things we a little tighter, but we did establish a debt reduction target of 4% of our total revenue for the Town to reduce our debt every year. He noted that we exceeded that every year for the past nine years, with the exception of one year. Mayor Dunphy stated that it is a credit to the past councils, the current council and the staff. He noted that we are still able to deliver services and he added that we will be expanding the library this year.

Councillor Cooper stated that we are producing these numbers, and we continue to be cut every year by the province when it comes to the provincial subsidy. He noted that we are only getting a portion back of the Stratford dollars that are collected on our behalf by the province. We had a claw back of about 5% last year (about \$40,000) and we are short, accumulative of almost a million dollars since this change took place, but we continue to do well with what we have.

Mayor Dunphy thanked the staff for going through the process with the auditors and in keeping the Town on target.

13. PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review.

b) Permit Summary

Included in the package for Council to review. Deputy Mayor Clow noted that we are down from last year, but we feel we are gradually catching up to last year.

c) **Resolution PH001-2013 – Marshall MacPherson – 3 Unit Townhouse (Conditional Use) – Barkley Avenue**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Clow

Seconded by Councillor Steve Ogden

WHEREAS an application has been received from Marshall MacPherson Ltd. to construct a 3 unit townhouse on parcel number 328518 (approx. 16,725 sq.ft.) located at 2, 4, & 6 Barkley Avenue on the corner of the Stratford Road; and
(See Attachments)

WHEREAS the property is located within a Two-family Residential Zone (R2) and currently contains an old single family dwelling that is in very poor condition. The developer is proposing to demolish the existing dwelling and build a new 3 unit townhouse building. This property is fully serviced with municipal sewer and water and all 3 driveways will be located on Barkley Avenue; and

WHEREAS section 10.2 of Development Bylaw states that Townhouse or Row House Dwellings having up to 6 units are considered to be Conditional Use, subject to such terms and conditions as shall be imposed by Council; and

WHEREAS the proposed development exceeds the minimum lot size and meets all other Development Bylaw requirements.

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be granted to an application from Marshall MacPherson Ltd. to construct a 3 unit townhouse (as a conditional use) on parcel number 328518 (approx. 16,725 sq.ft.) located at 2, 4 & 6 Barkley Avenue on the corner of the Stratford Road.

Discussion: It was noted that this resolution bears the recommendation of the Planning, Development and Heritage Committee.

Vahid explained the request with the aid of the overhead projector. For clarification Councillor Gallant noted that this request does not require a rezoning or a public meeting and Vahid replied that is correct. He displayed the location on Barkley Avenue on a Google map. Vahid noted that this request meets all the requirements.

Mayor Dunphy asked how this compares to the project on Kinlock Road and Vahid replied that Kinlock Road was a subdivision and this is an

approved lot and he is not subdividing the lot. Councillor Gallant asked if the three units will be rented or sold and Deputy Mayor Clow replied that they will be sold.

Question: **CARRIED**

d) Resolution PH002-2013 – MacDonald Quality Housing Ltd. (SD001-13) 79 Lot Subdivision – Clearview Estates Phase II

Moved by Deputy Mayor Clow

Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS an application has been received from MacDonald Quality Housing Ltd. to subdivide parcel number 289637 (71.61 acres±), located within the Single Family Residential Large Zone (R1-L) into 79 lots for single family residential development; and *(See Attachments)*

WHEREAS the lots within this subdivision will be serviced with Municipal sewer that is already available in the area, and Municipal water which will be extended from the Town's new well field across the TransCanada Highway; and

WHEREAS the total area of proposed parkland and open spaces is 15.9 acres (22 percent of the entire land) consists of 13.78 acres encompassing the wetland adjacent to the TCH and 2.12 acres located in the south part of the entire subdivision which functions as a green buffer between the proposed and existing divisions of Clearview Estate; and

WHEREAS after visiting the proposed site the planning committee members and staff is of the opinion that a large portion of the proposed natural green spaces adjacent to the wetland is useable and accessible to public and can be considered as parkland dedication. Accordingly, the total useable area of the proposed open space will be more than 10 percent of the proposed developable land area which exceeds the bylaw requirements; and

WHEREAS the Level of Service analysis for this subdivision has been completed in detail by the DOTIR and approval has been given subject to the entrance being upgraded to a boulevard; and

WHEREAS in the original proposal, 3 lots were located adjacent to the wetland area. This area was recently planted with hundreds of trees and the Stratford Area Watershed Improvement Group identified the area as very valuable to the environment and should not be developed. After discussing this issue with the developer it was agreed to remove these 3 lots from the plan, instead, the Town allows the developer to create 3 new lots within the entire subdivision which requires lot area variances to a number of lots. As a result, the revised plan requires minor variances not exceeding 10 percent on the

Minimum Lot Area requirements of Lots# 38 to 48, 52 to 62 and 25 to 37. These lots are proposed to have a minimum area of 1840 square meters (instead of 2044 square meters) while maintaining 30 meter minimum frontages.

BE IT RESOLVED that preliminary approval be granted to an application received from MacDonald Quality Housing Ltd. to subdivide parcel number 289637 located within the Single Family Residential Large Zone (R1-L) into 79 lots for single family residential development subject to the following conditions:

1. Conformance with the Preliminary Plan showing Lots 1 to 79 for MacDonald Quality Housing Limited prepared by ISE Ltd., Drawing No. 13060, dated April 9, 2013.
2. Phase 1 of this development shall include the improvements required to the access onto then TCH as well as construction of the extension of Brookside Drive.
3. A stormwater management plan shall be designed by a licensed engineer using Low Impact Design Guidelines approved by both DOTIR and the Town of Stratford.
4. A parkland dedication of 15.9 acres as shown on the concept plan shall be deeded to the Town of Stratford as parkland dedication.
5. The concept design meets all the provincial government requirements and is approved by the Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry.
6. The sewer and water systems shall be designed in accordance with the Stratford Utility Corporation Servicing Standards and a Utility Agreement shall be executed between the Developer and the Stratford Utility Corporation. The developer shall also pay a one-time non-reoccurring payment of \$1500 per lot for the supply of water to the subdivision.
7. The developer makes an agreement with Canada Post and meets Canada Post's requirements and regulations.
8. All other relative provisions of the Town of Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw are met.
9. Preliminary approval shall be valid for a period of 3 years.

Discussion: It was noted that this resolution bears the recommendation of the Planning, Development and Heritage Committee.

Vahid gave an overview of the request noting that this is phase II of Clearview Estates. He stated that the piece of land includes a pond and a

small wetland surrounding the pond. The rest of the land has been farmed for several years. Vahid noted that the developer is proposing to develop 71 lots. He noted that the original plan showed three lots approaching the wetland and the pond (Vahid indicated the area on the overhead). We consulted with the watershed management group and they are very concerned concern that the lots would have a negative impact on the wetland are opposed these three lots.

From a legislative prospective, we didn't have any bylaw requirements other than the Department of Environment's buffer zone. The Department of Environment will not be able to provide the actual boundary of the buffer zone until late spring. We negotiated with the developer and if the Town gives minor variances in three rows of houses in the middle of the subdivision – less than 10% of the minimum lot coverage area for the R1L zone area, and the developer will be able to create three lots in the middle of the subdivision, and remove the three lots from the wetland area. Vahid stated that from a planning prospective this is a good compromise and planning board also accepted this variance.

Vahid stated that there was a site visit and there are at least five to six acres that is useable for parkland. There was a lengthy discussion on the parkland dedication and Councillor Cooper felt that that we could use the wetland and pond as part of our dedication, but Mayor Dunphy stated that our bylaw states it has to be at least 10% of usable land. He also noted that there should be a clause added to the resolution to state that the parkland dedication has to be at least 15% of useable land because we don't have all the information. Councillor Gallant asked if we had a definition of what constitutes useable land and Councillor Griffin replied that there are two ways of looking at it. One is land that is available for development either for lots or parks with playground equipment, and the other is wetland is usable for wildlife and for people who may want to go bird watching or fishing – so it is tricky when it comes to useable. Councillor Griffin added that the way we as a Town have been looking at it is that the wetlands are not useable in terms of development or intensive activity. She noted that the Department of Environment does have a wetland atlas and she is surprised that they can't delineate this parkland, but it may be because it is relatively small compared to other wetlands that are on their atlas.

Robert stated that one thing that would enter into the discussion about 'useable' is that there is buffer zone required around that land and when Vahid was talking about what is useable he was excluding the buffer zone, so you could argue that the land around the wetland is the buffer zone for development protection. He also noted that there are a number of variances

required to the lot sizes in order to save that wetland and not put the three lots there, and technically they should be read into the resolution so everything is clear to Council what they are approving, and also to protect the developer in the future if it is approved – it can't be questioned. Robert noted that there is a table in the planning board report, and if the mover and seconder agree, it can be read into the record and added into the resolution. However, Vahid noted that the table in the report needs to be updated. And

Deputy Mayor Clow asked if it should be deferred until next month and asked the developer who was in attendance and he replied that it would, and added that they are meeting all the requirements.

A motion was moved, seconded and carried to defer this item to allow Vahid the time required to collect the variance information.

Vahid returned with the required information and a motion was moved, seconded and carried to put Resolution PH002-2013 – MacDonald Quality Housing Limited. (SD001-13) 79 Lot Subdivision – Clearview Estates Phase II back on the table and the variances were read into the record.

Lot#	Area	Variance Percentage
25	1840	9.98%
26	1840	9.98%
27	1841	9.93%
28	1841	9.93%
29	1841	9.93%
30	1840	9.98%
31	1841	9.93%
32	1840	9.98%
32	1840	9.98%
34	1840	9.98%
35	1840	9.98%
36	1840	9.98%
37	1840	9.98%
38	1840	9.98%
39	1840	9.98%
40	1840	9.98%
41	1840	9.98%
42	1872	8.41%
43	1872	8.41%
44	1840	9.98%
45	1840	9.98%

46	1840	9.98%
47	1840	9.98%
48	1840	9.98%
52	1840	9.98%
53	1840	9.98%
54	1840	9.98%
55	1840	9.98%
56	1840	9.98%
57	1872	8.41%
58	1872	8.41%
59	1840	9.98%
60	1840	9.98%
61	1840	9.98%
62	1840	9.98%

It was also noted that condition # 4 will now read as follows: A parkland dedication of 15.9 acres as shown on the concept plan shall be deeded to the Town of Stratford as parkland dedication; *the usable portion shall be at least 10% of the subdivision area.*

Deputy Mayor Clow noted that planning board also discussed the planning board also discussed the safety factor of the new development. The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) advised that putting a boulevard at the main entrance will help to address and it has been approved by the fire marshall. Deputy Mayor Clow added that the developer will be putting a boulevard in at the main entrance of Clearview Estates.

Question on Amended Resolution: **CARRIED**

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Nil

15. SAFETY SERVICES

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ogden gave a brief overview of the report noting that the committee met on March 19. He noted that Stratford Youth-Can-Do representative Tanya Craig gave a presentation on Youth-Can-Do and some of the challenges that they are facing. One of the main concerns was that the number of members is low. Councillor Ogden noted that we will be revisiting this issue to see what further action can be taken to try and get the numbers up.

Constable Corbett attended the meeting and gave an update on the break-in of cars. He noted that the RCMP is trying to be proactive and remind residents to lock their cars. It

is an awareness issue and we are also going to try and let residents know that this is taking place and to lock their car doors. Councillor Ogden noted that there was also some discussion on the RCMP policing facility. Robert added that they did contact Jeremy and a meeting has been set for April 12 to present some options.

There was discussion on policing in the schools and the DARE Program and we received some correspondence that the DARE Program was a positive thing. The two officers who are trained to give the program are currently on leave and we did not have a program for the 2012-13 school year. There was some discussion on what the RCMP can do such as walk-about at the local elementary schools. The RCMP is also kept busy with traffic at the school zones, especially in the mornings.

Councillor Ogden stated that we had a presentation on generic designs for round-a-bouts and other traffic calming ideas that might be useable in different parts of the Town where speeding is a problem.

b) Street Light Report

No Report

c) RCMP Report

Councillor Ogden gave a brief overview of the RCMP Report that was included in the package. Deputy Mayor Clow stated that he is disappointed that the RCMP officer is not in the school.

Mayor Dunphy stated that we had a very good discussion at the Committee of the Whole and unfortunately Deputy Mayor Clow was away at the time, but we had a good discussion and we are working together and will continue our dialogue. Mayor Dunphy stated that he feels that having an officer in the school is a separate issue. Councillor Cooper agreed noting that after the discussions at the Committee of the Whole meeting he feels they are recognizing more what we are looking for in the Town, and we are headed in the right direction.

d) Humane Society Report

No Report

e) Transit Report

Included in the package. The numbers are remaining in the low eighties. Robert noted that he met with the transit company and they are putting some effort into their mapping and we advised them that we wanted to see more marketing. He noted that on Saturday there was a re-launch of the rain barrel program and they were here to bring more awareness of the transit system. Robert also noted that they have been doing some marketing specific to neighbourhoods that we weren't aware of and they seem to be doing more marketing.

f) Fire Company

Mayor Dunphy noted that he would like to have an orientation meeting with our two new board members. Councillor Ogden stated that the committee met on April 8, and he feels that they are making progress on some of the issues previously addressed. It was also noted that the new fire truck will be delivered by the middle of the month and should be operational by the end of the month.

16. SUSTAINABILITY

a) Report

Report included in the package for Council to review. Mayor Dunphy noted that the committee met on March 28 and Keith O'Neill, first vice-president of the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce was invited to attend the meeting. We invited Mr. O'Neill to the meeting to get his perspective on what the Town is or isn't doing, and we received very good feedback from Mr. O'Neill who advised the committee that the Chamber is very happy with the ways things are progressing in the Town. He did make a good suggestion and that was to nominate some of the Stratford businesses for Chamber President's Excellence in Business Awards, and our sustainable economic development coordinator Doug Deacon is working on that. It was noted that the Town will be hosting the Chamber Mixer in May.

The committee also discussed the Community Economic Business Development (CDBD) Program in some depth. It is a provincial government program that will give investors a 35% tax credit if they invest in a local company through this program. Mayor Dunphy stated that the committee is continuing the dialogue on this issue.

March 21 was the international day for the Elimination of Racism and Racial Discrimination and the Diversity and Inclusion Committee held an event to mark the day. Wade MacLaughlan was the keynote speaker and more than 80 people attended the event. Councillor Griffin added that Profession MacLaughlan gave an excellent presentation and the event was well worth the effort that was put into it. She noted that the Guardian was quoted Mr. MacLaughlan as saying "the rest of Prince Edward Island should follow the Town of Stratford's lead" and that was quite an endorsement for the Town.

Mayor Dunphy noted that Buy Local Panel continues to meet and are about half way through their six scheduled meetings. Robert stated that the next meeting will be to refine some of the ideas that they have on 'buy local.' Two weeks after that there will be an open house to present those ideas to the public and ask for their feedback. The report will then be finalized. We are also plan to have some sessions with the Chamber of Commerce Stratford Committee and get their feedback.

Councillor Gallant asked if there was any movement on the waterfront and Mayor Dunphy replied that there is nothing new to report at this time.

17. ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT

- a) Report included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Griffin noted that the committee met on March 28. The committee did a review of the Town's social media strategy. There was also some discussion on the guidelines for the use of the Town's corporate identify which is our logo and crest, and when that has been completed it will be brought to Council for approval.

As noted earlier the website is being revamped. It is behind schedule, but when it is complete it will have been worth the wait.

Councillor Griffin noted that one of the committee members had to resign, as other commitments were not allowing her to attend meetings, so we will be bringing back a new nominee for Council to approval.

18. HUMAN RESOURCES

- a) Nil

19. PROCLAMATIONS

- a) Nil

20. OTHER COMMITTEES

- a) **Stratford Seniors Complex**

Councillor MacDonald noted that there is nothing to report at this time, as everything is going well at the complex.

21. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9: 37 p.m.

Mayor David Dunphy

Robert Hughes, CAO