REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
April 9, 2008
Approved Minutes

DATE: April 9, 2008
TIME: 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
PLACE: Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

PRESENT: Councillors Sandy McMillan; Gary Clow; Emile Gallant; Patrick Ross; Diane Griffin; Robert Hughes, CAO; Kim O'Connell, Manager of Finance and Administration; Jeremy Crosby, Manager Public Works and Utility; Ron Fisher, Recreation Director; Vahid Ghomoshchi, Director of Planning and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald

CHAIR: Mayor Kevin Jenkins

1. CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Kevin Jenkins called the April 9, 2008, Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
It was moved by Councillor Patrick Ross and seconded by Councillor Gary Clow that the agenda be approved with the following additions: Under #20 Other Business - Annual Meeting Date and Public Meeting Date for the Core Area Plan.

Discussion: None
Question: **CARRIED**

3. MINUTES
It was moved by Councillor Diane Griffin and seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2008, be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None
Question: **CARRIED**

4. PRESENTATIONS
Nil

5. CARI REPORT
Included in the meeting package for Council to review. Ron Fisher noted that negotiations are still ongoing for the space vacated by Eli Sports.

6. CORRESPONDENCE
Included in the meeting package for Council to review is a list of all correspondence received since the last Council meeting.

Mayor Jenkins asked if a reply was sent to the Stewart's and Kel-Mac regarding their Utility issues, and Councillor Ross replied that a reply has been sent to Kel-Mac, and a letter will be going out to the Stewart's in the very near future.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Included in the package for Council to review.

8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Included in the meeting package for Council to review. Robert stated that he is still working on trying to get a report on the financial review from the auditors, but has not yet received it. He also noted that we have retained the services of Gary Schneider to prepare a long term plan for the development of the Robert L. Cotton Park.

Mayor Jenkins reported at a previous meeting that a resident, Don Scott, was interested in helping out with the tree planting program. He asked if Mr. Scott has been contacted and Jeremy replied that he has not, but he will be contacting him.

9. PUBLIC WORKS

a) Report

Vice Chair Gary Clow noted that there was no meeting held since the last Council meeting. However, there is a report in the package on what staff has been working on over the past month. Jeremy briefly reviewed the report noting that we have put out a tender for the new front mount tractor. He noted that we have started to clean up some of the visible debris that has accumulated around Town properties over the winter. He also stated that once the ground becomes firmer, we will be able to start cleaning up the trees and branches that came down over the winter.

Councillor McMillan stated that she has heard from residents about the excess of sand that the trucks used over the winter. She noted that she did call our MLA, as well as the Department of Highways, and wondered if something more formal could be done. Jeremy replied that he could speak with Malcolm MacKenzie or prepare a letter, but he believes what has happened this year is that they ran out of salt and due to the freezing rain sand was frequently used. Councillor Gallant added that we should be careful, because he would rather there be too much sand than not enough. Robert stated that the Department of Highways follows a set of guidelines and we could request a copy.

Councillor Ross asked about repairs and Jeremy replied that we do a tour of the Town and make notes of the areas requiring repairs and then forward the list to the Department of Transportation and Public Works. He added that now that the snow is melting, we will be soon be starting our tour. Councillor Ross asked if we have a certain allotment for the Town and Jeremy replied that there is a set budget for repairs for the Town.

10. STRATFORD UTILITY CORPORATION

a) <u>Report</u>

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ross gave a brief overview of the report noting that the interviews for the new permanent utility technician position were held last week and we do have a candidate who we will be approaching with an offer. We believe we have a strong candidate who will work well with the utility.

Councillor Ross stated that we are now in the process of arranging power backup for the Pondside Wellfield.

It was noted that people are starting to approach the utility with requests to install geothermal wells. Councillor Ross stated that we are currently doing some research on this issue, but we do not have all our information gathered yet. When the research has been concluded, the Utility Board will bring their recommendations to Council.

Jeremy noted that we had a tender out for a utility truck, but unfortunately they all came in considerably over budget, so we are going to redo the tender.

Kim noted that the April quarterly bills have been sent out and staff is busy finalizing all the year-end paperwork for the New Deal Infrastructure Funding, as well as the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Funding (MRIF).

11. <u>RECREATION REPORT</u>

a) <u>Report</u>

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Clow briefly reviewed his report noting that staff has been kept busy with summer registrations. Check lists are being compiled for maintenance on the parks to ready them for the coming year.

Councillor Clow stated that Michael Morris attended the last Recreation Commission meeting. Michael won both gold and silver medals at the Special Olympics held recently in Quebec, and the committee was pleased to present Michael with a plaque and a Stratford shirt to acknowledge his accomplishments.

Councillor Clow noted that he attended the announcement for the indoor soccer complex, which was a terrific announcement for the Town.

Councillor Ross asked about the after school programs and wondered if there is anyway they can be expanded to run throughout the year. Ron Fisher replied that we block off certain times with Glen Stewart School, as it is a shared facility, but he will put the request in.

b) <u>Resolution RC002-2008 - Recreation Supervisors Pay Plan</u>

Moved by Councillor Gary Clow
Seconded by Councillor Patrick Clow

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford received a request from present Recreation Centre Supervisors for an increase in wages; and

WHEREAS the Town is pleased with the level of commitment and professionalism shown by the Recreation Centre Supervisors; and

WHEREAS the Stratford Recreation Commission has recommended that a four (4) year step pay plan be implemented where the hourly wages will increase by $.50 per hour for each year of service until the fourth year.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford adopt the four (4) year step pay plan for the Recreation Centre Supervisors as indicated above effective June 1, 2008.

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

Councillor Gallant asked what the cost is for this increase and Ron replied that it will be about $1,400 for this year, as it doesn't take affect until June 1, 2008.

Question: **CARRIED**

12. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

a) Report

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Gallant stated that the committee did discuss what to do with the surplus and decided to stay with the same format as last year.

b) Resolution FA005-2008 Records Management Policy

Moved by Councillor Emile Gallant
Seconded by Councillor Diane Gallant

WHEREAS it is desirable to have a records management policy to ensure that information:

- is received or created, stored and retrieved efficiently;
- is destroyed or preserved in accordance with its' administrative or historical value to the Town;
- meets current and future needs, and is capable of supporting change; and

- is easily accessible to those who make use of the records.

AND WHEREAS a records management and retention schedule was developed by a staff committee following the models used in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick municipalities.

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached Records Management Policy, Policy #2008-FA-01 be hereby approved.

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

Councillor Gallant thanked staff for a job well done.

Question: **CARRIED**

13. PLANNING & HERITAGE

a) Report

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor McMillan drew attention to a new building that is being proposed by Andrews of Stratford. The building would be developed at the same high standard as their existing facility and will include a fitness room, swimming pool, as well as apartments for seniors.

Mayor Jenkins noted that the owners have sent a letter requesting a meeting and Councillor McMillan replied that they would like to explore some sustainability options in their design.

Councillor McMillan noted that the core area plan is now at the point where we will hold a public meeting and we have scheduled it for April 16 at 7:00 p.m. It was noted that we can also hold a special Council meeting on April 23 at 7:00 p.m. for first reading of the core area plan, if we are satisfied with the comments received at the public meeting on April 16.

Councillor McMillan noted that we had an excellent Power Point Presentation by the Director of Planning on wind energy, and following the presentation the committee had a good discussion on the issue. We now want to find out what issues or concerns other communities have encountered. Committee members also discussed the idea of creating a focus group to discuss wind energy before going to a public meeting.

Councillor McMillan stated that the Heritage Committee did a written submission for the IRIS group which completes the committee's input for the heritage study initiative. Mayor Jenkins stated that it was an excellent submission.

b) March 2008 Permit Summary

Included in package for Council to review.

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

a) Resolution CW002-2008 FCM International Partnership Program

Moved by Councillor Diane Griffin
Seconded by Councillor Patrick Ross

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) runs an International Partnership Program which is a technical exchange between Canadian municipalities and overseas counterparts in Africa, Asia and Latin America; and

WHEREAS the direct costs of the program are paid for by the Canadian International Development Agency; and

WHEREAS the municipal contribution to the program is the provision of elected officials and staff to participate in two to three technical exchanges per year; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford is interested in participating in the FCM International Partnership Program to help advance peace and prosperity in the world and to provide an exceptional development opportunity for elected officials and staff.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford participate in the FCM International Partnership Program and that staff work with the FCM to identify suitable technical exchanges for the Town to participate in.

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

b) Resolution CW004-2008 - 2009 Canada Summer Games Request for Sponsorship

Moved by Councillor Gary Clow
Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS a request for sponsorship in the amount of $70,000 has been received from the Friends of the Games Division of the 2009 Canada Summer Games; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford will be serving as a venue for a baseball event; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford cannot afford the requested amount and has already committed funding to upgrade the baseball facility to Canada Games

Standards, but would still like to show support for the Games.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford give a total donation of $10,000 spread over two years - ($5,000 in 2008 and $5,000 in 2009).

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

Question: **CARRIED**

15. SAFETY SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT

a) No Report

The Safety Services Committee did not hold a meeting since the last Council meeting.

b) Street Lights

No report

c) Humane Society Report

The Humane Society report for the month of March was included in the meeting package for Council to review.

d) RCMP Report

The RCMP report for the month of March was included in the meeting package for Council to review. Councillor Griffin noted that one of the Stratford officers has been transferred to Newfoundland, and Staff Sgt. Neil Smith is in the process of finding a suitable replacement. Once a replacement has been found, we will be notified.

There is also a community policing report from our community policing officer Cst. Greg Goodwin. Cst. Goodwin has visited Glen Stewart School six times this past month and the majority of the visits were concerning the final preparations for the DARE program. He is also liaising with the Eastern School Board regarding a parking lot safety design for Glen Stewart School, as well as doing some traffic related enforcement.

Councillor Clow stated that the RCMP had previously included the names of the Stratford officers in their report and asked if they could be included again. He added that he believes a posting for officers should be at least two to three years.

Councillor Gallant noted that we are getting close to *burning season* and he would like to know what our position is on open burning and Robert replied that this is now covered in our Nuisance Bylaw. The Nuisance Bylaw prohibits open burning and the RCMP has agreed to enforce the bylaw. He added that we should also encourage residents to call the RCMP directly. Councillor Clow suggested that we have an officer attend a Safety Services meeting, to have a discussion on burning issues.

e) **<u>Cross Roads Rural Community Fire Company</u>**
No Report.

f) **<u>Resolution SS002-2008 FCM/ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program</u>**

Moved by Councillor Diane Griffin
Seconded by Councillor Patrick Ross

WHEREAS the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concludes in its 2007 *Fourth Assessment Report* that "there is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities"; and

WHEREAS the IPCC concludes that human influences on the climate have likely contributed to a rise in the sea level during the latter half of the 20th century, changed wind and temperature patterns, and likely increased the risk of heat waves, the area of land affected by drought since the 1970's, and the frequency of heavy precipitation; and

WHEREAS the *ICC Special Report on Emission Scenarios* (SRES, 2000) projects an increase in global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 25 to 90 per cent between 2000 and 2030; and

WHEREAS the ICC observes that warming resulting from human influences could lead to some abrupt or irreversible impacts, depending on the rate and magnitude of climate change; and

WHEREAS the ICC anticipates the following impacts from climate change over the next century for North America:

- Decreased snow pack, more winter flooding, and reduced summer flows resulting from warming in western mountains, exacerbating competition for over-allocated water resources;
- Increased aggregate yields of rain-fed agriculture by five to 20 per cent, but with important
- variability among regions; and major challenges for crops that are grown close to their highest suitable temperature or that depend on highly used water resources;
- Increased number, intensity and duration of heat waves for cities that currently experience them, creating potential for adverse health impacts; and
- Increased stress on coastal communities and habitats as a result of the interaction of climate change impacts and development and pollution;

AND WHEREAS GHGs (e.g. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide), released from burning coal, oil and natural gas and from cutting trees and clearing land for agriculture and development, are the primary cause of climate change; and

WHEREAS the *World Mayors and Municipal Leaders Declaration on Climate Change 2005* asserts the need for joint authority and global action on climate change; and

WHEREAS municipal investments in building retrofits, community energy systems, water conservation, renewable energy technologies, waste reduction, landfill gas capture, fleet management, public transit and other sustainable measures reduce operating costs, help maintain community services, protect public health and contribute to sustainable community development while cutting GHG emissions contributing to climate change; and

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability have established the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program to provide a forum for municipal governments to share their knowledge and experience with other municipal governments on how to reduce GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS over 155 municipal governments across Canada representing more than 65 per cent of the population has already committed to reducing corporate and community GHG emissions through the PCP program; and

WHEREAS PCP participants commit to working toward reducing GHG emissions in municipal operations by a suggested target of 20 per cent below 2000 levels, and a suggested target of six per cent below 2000 levels in the community within 10 years of joining the PCP program;

WHEREAS the PCP program is based on a five-milestone framework that involves completing a GHG inventory and forecast, setting a GHG reduction target and vision, developing a local action plan, implementing the plan, and monitoring progress and reporting results;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford communicate to FCM its participation in the PCP program and its commitment to achieve the milestones set in the PCP five-milestone framework;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford appoint the following:

a) Corporate staff person: Sustainable Economic Development Coordinator
b) Elected official: Councillor Diane Griffin

to oversee implementation of the PCP milestones and be the points of contact for the PCP program within the municipality.

Discussion: It was noted that this resolution bears the recommendation of the Safety Services and Environment Committee and the Committee of the Whole.

Question: **CARRIED**

16. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

a) Mayor Jenkins stated that the last meeting was held on Monday, April 7 and there is no written report. He noted that the ad for the position of the Sustainable Economic Development Officer was in the newspaper recently and interviews will be held on Saturday, April 12.

17 HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE

a) No Report

18. OTHER COMMITTEES

a) Stratford Seniors Complex

A complete written report was included in the meeting package for Council to review.

19. PROCLAMATION

Nil

Mayor Jenkins took a moment to wish Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald a speedy recovery following his surgery today and hopefully we will see him at our next Council meeting.

20. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Date of AGM Meeting and Special Council Meeting for the Core Area Plan

It was noted that the AGM meeting should be held in April. After some discussion it was agreed that the following meetings will be held on April 23: Committee of the Whole will be held at 5:30 p.m.; Special Council Meeting (Amendment to the Official Plan, and First Reading of Amendment to the Zoning and Development Control Bylaw to Implement the Core Area Plan) will be held at 7:00 p.m. and the AGM will follow at 7:30 p.m.

21. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the monthly Council meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Kevin Jenkins, Mayor **Robert Hughes, CAO**