

REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

July 9, 2008

Approved Minutes

DATE: July 9, 2008
TIME: 4:30 p.m. - 5:35 p.m.
PLACE: Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald; Councillors Sandy McMillan; Gary Clow; Diane Griffin; Emile Gallant; Patrick Ross; Robert Hughes, CAO; Kim O'Connell, Manager of Finance and Administration; Jeremy Crosby, Manager Public Works and Utility; Ron Fisher, Recreation Director; Kevin Reynolds, Development Officer and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Vahid Ghomoshchi, Director of Planning

CHAIR: Mayor Kevin Jenkins

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kevin Jenkins called the July 9, 2008, Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Diane Griffin and seconded by Councillor Patrick Ross that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

3. MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan and seconded by Councillor Patrick Ross that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2008, be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

Mayor Jenkins stated that we are pleased to have a number of presentations this evening and first on our list is a presentation to Staff Sgt. Neil Smith.

4. PRESENTATIONS

a) Presentation to Staff Sgt. Neil Smith

On behalf of the Stratford Town Council, Mayor Jenkins offered his congratulations to Staff Sgt. Neil Smith on his retirement, and thanked him for his years of service to the force and to the Town of Stratford. We have had a great working relationship with you over the past number of years. We have had a number of great conversations on a number of topics and we really appreciate the way you dealt with the sometimes difficult

issues that arose. *At this time Mayor Jenkins presented Staff Sgt. Smith with a plaque of appreciation, as well as a Stratford Jacket.* We are going to miss you and wish you all the best in your retirement!

b) Presentation to Winners of the Water Conservation Project

Mayor Jenkins stated that the Town has invested much time and resources in becoming a more sustainable community. One area we have invested in over the last couple of years was water conservation. As a Town, we recognize the importance of preserving our valuable resource - our groundwater.

We believe as a Town that if we want to succeed in preserving this resource, we must invest in our young people. And that is what we did - specifically Utility Technician, Billy Ramsay. We approached Glen Stewart Elementary School about the possibility of doing water conservation teachings in the classrooms and they agreed. This year 270 students were taught the importance of conserving water and these students took it to heart. They brought what they had learned back into their homes and are making a difference every day.

We are honoured to have with us today the grade five and six students from Glen Stewart School and their families. These students are the winners of the Stratford/Glen Stewart School Water Conservation Art Contest. We gave these students the opportunity to put down in art form what they had learned. We then took that artwork and put together a calendar to help deliver the message. We are pleased to have all of you here today. You all did a great job in your artwork, and we have a framed copy of your calendar page as a token of our appreciation.

At this time Mayor Jenkins called on each individual to come forward and Billy Ramsay presented each student with their their framed calendar page. Winners of the contest were as follows: Brock Roch - Coverpage; Lauren Clark - July; Nathan Davies - August; Niki Triantafillou - September; Kayla Barrett - October; Tanner Power - November; Veronica Stratton - December; Nahae Hur - January; Hyunji Shin - February; Jonathan Affleck - March; Eugene Lin - April; Sarah Steele - May; and Nicole McInnis - June.

c) Presentations from the Floor

Nil

5. CARI REPORT

There is no written report as the CARI Board did not hold a formal meeting in June, but Ron Fisher noted that there is a lot of construction work taking place in anticipation of the 2009 Canada Games.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

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

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Included in the package for Council to review.

8. **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Included in the package for Council to review.

9. **PUBLIC WORKS**

a) **Report**

Included in the package for Council to review. Deputy Mayor MacDonald gave a brief report noting that the public works department is looking at adding a bike lane on the section of the Keppoch Road from the intersection of the Keppoch and Stratford Roads up to the intersection of the Keppoch Road and Emmalee Drive. Jeremy added that there will be a meeting with provincial representatives to try and obtain approval for signage on the bike lanes.

We are also looking at constructing a trail in the new Kinlock Creek subdivision. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that the trail located in front of the Town Hall will have a concrete finish this summer.

It was noted that the active transportation plan RFP has been prepared and is being reviewed. The plan should be completed by the fall.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that a priority list for road repairs has been compiled (list included in agenda package). It was also noted that staff is kept busy with their day to day activities such as grass cutting, sidewalk repairs, building maintenance and general cleanup of all Town areas.

10. **STRATFORD UTILITY CORPORATION**

a) **No Report**

Councillor Ross stated that the Utility Board did not hold a meeting in June. He did however, wish to congratulate Billy Ramsay for the great presentation on water conservation that he put together for the school children. Seeing the children taking part in the art contest shows that they are really being made aware of just how much water they are using and how they can make a difference.

It was noted that the East Keppoch work is about 90% completed and reinstatements are going quite well.

Councillor Ross noted that we are looking at sludge removal to take place at the waste treatment facility and there will be more information on this in the near future.

b) **Financial Report**

Included in the package for Council to review.

c) **Resolution SUC005-2008 - Amendment to Bylaw #21, Water and Sewer Customer Service Regulations Bylaw Amendment, 1st Reading**

Moved by Councillor Patrick Ross
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald

WHEREAS section 67 (Frontage Charges) of the Stratford Utility Corporation Customer Service Regulations Bylaw, Bylaw #21, states:

“The applicable frontage for lots with service being placed on more than one side shall include the length of the longest side only, the shorter sides shall not be included in the total applicable frontage”

AND WHEREAS the Utility wishes to change this to state:

*“The applicable frontage for lots with service being placed on more than one side will be calculated based on **the average length of both sides, subject to a minimum length as set out in the tariff or a policy**”*

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached Bylaw, Bylaw #21-D, a Bylaw to amend the Stratford Utility Corporation Customer Service Regulations Bylaw, Bylaw #21, be hereby read and approved a first time.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

d) Resolution SUC006-2008 - 2008 Utility Tariff Amendment

Moved by Councillor Patrick Ross
Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS during budget discussions a number of billing changes were recommended as follows:

- change to the way frontage charges are applied to corner lots (i.e., corner lots shall be billed the average length of both sides with the short side deemed to be the length of that side or 125 feet, whichever is greater, regardless of whether the line fronts the full length of that side or not).
- change to the way frontage is calculated for lots with a long radius sweep (i.e., lots which are located on the inside curve of a long radius sweep shall be considered a corner lot).
- all lots shall be billed for frontage over 125 feet only.

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached Amended Stratford Utility 2008 Tariff be approved.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

There was some discussion regarding the lagoon and Jeremy stated that the system is able to work effectively with some upgrades, but there is going to be a point in time when we will have to make a change.

11. RECREATION REPORT

a) Report

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Clow briefly reviewed his report noting that staff is quite busy with all summer recreational activities in full swing. He noted that the turn out for Canada Day was great and he would like to thank all those who volunteered their time to help make it a great day.

Councillor Clow noted that the Strawberry Festival will be held on Saturday, July 12 and this is in conjunction with the woodcarving display. There will be musical entertainment, various community displays, as well as a pancake breakfast and everyone is encouraged to attend.

It was noted that a youth dance was held on June 13 and there were 433 youth in attendance and everything went well.

b) Resolution RC003-2008 - Supplementary Capital Budget - MacNeill Field Improvements

Moved by Councillor Gary Clow

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald

WHEREAS the Host Society will stage and organize the 2009 Canada Games throughout Prince Edward Island, August 15 to August 29, 2009; and

WHEREAS the Host Society is committed to having an "Island-wide" Games with many communities participating; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford owns facilities that the Host Society wishes to use for the purposes of Sport Competition; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford previously established a supplementary capital budget and entered into an agreement with 2009 Canada Games Host Society to provide the senior baseball field located at MacNeill Park to the 2009 Canada Games Host Society as a venue for the 2009 Canada Games, and cost share on a per venue basis to a maximum of 50% of the identified cost, or \$60,000.00, whichever is less, to ensure the renovations necessary to make this venue up to Canada Games standards; and

WHEREAS project estimates for MacNeill Field upgrade through a competitive tendering process came in at over 200% of project estimate.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford establish a supplementary capital budget and enter agreement with 2009 Canada Games Host Society to provide the senior baseball field located at MacNeill Park to the 2009 Canada Games Host Society as a venue for the 2009 Canada Games and cost share on a per venue basis to a maximum of \$80,000.00, to ensure the renovations necessary to make this venue up to Canada Games standards.

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

Ron stated that if everything proceeds according to plan the MacNeill Field should be ready to host the junior nationals. The standards for the junior nationals and the Canada Games are completely different, so after the junior national competitions are over Canada Games will come in and finish the field to Canada Games standards, which means a grass infield. A grass infield is not required for the junior nationals - the clay infield is fine. Robert added that there is a set of bleachers and a scoreboard that were originally in the contract, but were taken out as they are not required to meet Canada Game standards, as well as some other changes.

Question: **CARRIED**

Councillor Clow noted that this fall there will be a registration expo here at the town hall, and the aim of this registration is to inform Stratford residents of all the various volunteer opportunities that exist in the Town, as well as provide the residents the chance to register for the numerous activities and sports offered by the Town.

12. **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

a) **Report**

No Report. Councillor Gallant noted that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 10.

b) **Financial Statements**

Included in the package for review

Mayor Jenkins requested that a monthly report on the progress of the capital budget be included in future meeting packages.

13. **PLANNING & HERITAGE**

a) **Report**

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor McMillan briefly reviewed the report noting that there was a focus group meeting on the wind energy policy and although it was sparsely attended, it was a very positive meeting.

Councillor McMillan noted that we have been presented with a plan for a strategic

planning process that will be undertaken by the planning department beginning in early fall and we will be looking for involvement from residents.

It was noted that the Heritage Committee has been meeting regularly and at the last meeting we were informed that the province has verbally agreed to extend funding to some of the projects that we are planning. Councillor McMillan noted that approximately 25 heritage buildings have been identified in the Town and photos will be taken and put on display. Kevin Farnsworth will be the photographer and the photos will also be included in a brochure of the Town's heritage properties being produced by resident Stephen Thompson. We have done 12 of the 25 properties and the application process will continue in the fall for the remaining properties.

b) June 2008 Permit Summary

Included in package for Council to review.

c) Resolution PH011-2008 - Jamie and Coleen Kelly - Height Variance Request for Private Detached Garage - 90 Keppoch Road

Moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS an application has been received from Jamie and Colleen Kelly to construct a 624 square foot private detached garage with a roof height of 20 feet on parcel number 890574 located at 90 Keppoch Road.; and

WHEREAS in order to achieve architectural harmony with the slope of the roof on the existing house, the Kelly's are requesting a height variance of five (5) feet (or 33.3%) to the maximum building height of fifteen (15') feet for any private detached garage. The applicant, therefore, is seeking a height variance **from 15 feet to 20 feet**; and

WHEREAS Council may authorize variances in excess of ten (10%) percent from the provisions of the Bylaw, if Council deems such a variance is desirable and appropriate and if such a variance is in keeping with the general intent and purpose of the Bylaw; and

WHEREAS on June 16, 2008 nine (9) letters were sent to property owners within 200 feet of the subject property to solicit their comments on the height variance request and no negative comments have been received.

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be granted to an application from Jamie and Colleen Kelly for a roof height variance of 5 feet (or 33.33%) in order to construct a 624 square foot private detached garage with a roof height of 20 feet on parcel number 890574 located at 90 Keppoch Road in order to achieve architectural harmony with the slope of the roof on the existing house.

Discussion: For clarification, Kevin Reynolds demonstrated the request with the

aid of an overhead projector.

It was noted that this resolution bears the recommendation of the Planning and Heritage Committee.

Question: **CARRIED**

d) **Resolution PH012-2008 - Christine Compton - 35 Foot Protective Screen - 67 Golfview Drive**

Moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS an application has been received from Christine Compton to erect a 35 foot protective screen in the back yard of her home located at 67 Golfview Drive to prevent golf balls from entering her property; and

WHEREAS the Town currently does not allow fences to be constructed over 6 feet in height without receiving approval from Council.

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be granted to an application from Christine Compton to erect a 35 foot protective screen in the back yard of her home located at 67 Golfview Drive to prevent golf balls from entering her property.

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

For clarification, Kevin Reynolds demonstrated the request with the aid of an overhead projector. Councillor McMillan would like to make a friendly amendment that we are doing this for the purpose of ensuring Ms. Compton's safety and this should be made clear. Secunder agreed with the friendly amendment.

Friendly Amendment

The last paragraph of the resolution will now read:

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be granted to an application from Christine Compton to erect a 35 foot protective screen in the back yard of her home located at 67 Golfview Drive to prevent golf balls from entering her property and for the purpose of ensuring her personal safety.

Question: **CARRIED**

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

a) **Resolution CW010-2008 - 2009 Canada Games Donation**

Moved by Councillor Gary Clow

Seconded by Councillor Patrick Ross

WHEREAS a request was received to donate \$70,000 to the 2009 Canada Games; and

WHEREAS on March 26, 2008 Council discussed the request and agreed to donate \$10,000 over a period of two years; and

WHEREAS the Town received a further request to reconsider the amount of the donation, and after careful consideration Council agreed to change their commitment from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford donate \$15,000 to the 2009 Canada Games, to be paid no later than the date of the 2009 Canada Games.

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

Councillor Griffin stated that the Safety Services and Environment Committee did not hold a meeting in June.

b) Street Lights

No Report.

c) Humane Society Report

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

d) RCMP Report

The RCMP report for the month of June was included in the meeting package for Council to review. It was noted that there have been less warnings and more charges in regards to the highway traffic act.

Councillor Griffin drew attention to the RCMP report in which Sgt. Gary McLeod states that there have been a number of break-ins to businesses and residences in all areas of the Island. The RCMP believes it to be a group roving the entire Island and an action plan is being put in place to deal with the issue.

Councillor Griffin noted that there was an invitation in last month's newsletter for residents to join the *Citizens on Patrol* as volunteers, and we hope to have this program up and running by the fall.

e) Cross Roads Rural Community Fire Company

No Report

f) **Public Transit**

Councillor Griffin noted that there has been some discussion on possible transit routes and she asked that Council stay for a brief meeting following the Council meeting for further discussion.

16. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- a) Mayor Jenkins noted that the last meeting was held on Monday and the work plan for the new sustainable economic development officer was discussed. The Hon. Richard Brown was invited to attend the meeting to discuss economic development and there was significant discussion on the lagoon and its impact on economic development.

17. **HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE**

- a) No Report

18. **OTHER COMMITTEES**

a) **Stratford Seniors Complex**

Mayor Jenkins noted that there was a Seniors English Tea held last Saturday at Robert Cotton park and it was a huge success.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that there was a meeting with a representative from CMHC to conduct an inspection of the building to determine what work needs to be done and there will be meetings next week with contractors.

19. **PROCLAMATION**

Whereas: *lifelong learning of Canadians impacts our economy, thereby ensuring the quality and security of jobs and raising our standard of living; and*

Whereas: *creating a culture of learning in the workplace positively impacts key measures, such as job performance and productivity; and*

Whereas: *learning organizations' which exemplify best practices in workplace learning must be celebrated.*

Therefore,
Be it Resolved *that I Kevin Jenkins, Mayor of Stratford, do hereby proclaim September 22 - 26, 2008, as Learn @ Work Week in the Town of Stratford, and urge Canadian organizations to join CSTD and Learn @ Work Week champions in our community to celebrate that investing in developing people benefits the Canadian work and impacts our economic well-being.*

In Witness,

Whereof: *I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Stratford to be affixed hereto.*

20. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

21. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the monthly Council meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Kevin Jenkins, Mayor

Robert Hughes, CAO