

REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

May 14, 2008

Approved Minutes

DATE: May 14, 2008
TIME: 7:30 p.m. - 9:05 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; Vahid Ghomoshchi, Director of Planning and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald and Ron Fisher, Recreation Director

CHAIR: Mayor Kevin Jenkins

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kevin Jenkins called the May 14, 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 Diane Griffin and seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant that the agenda be approved with the following addition: Under # Planning and Heritage 13 f) Request for a Public Council Meeting to be held on May 21, 2008.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

3. MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Gary Clow and seconded by Councillor Sandy McMillan that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2008, the Public Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2008, the Special Council Meeting Minutes of April 23 and the Emergency Council Meeting of April 25, 2008, be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

4.a) Presentation - the Senior Volunteer of the Year Award to Ollie Hughes

Volunteers are the backbone of the tremendous sense of community that is evident in the Town of Stratford. The people who so generously donate their time and talent to many worthwhile endeavors are key to creating and sustaining a caring community. One area that is a priority for the Town is the Seniors who have built our community, province and country. This award was established to honour people who volunteer their time and talent to increase the quality of life of our senior's population and it is my pleasure to present the second annual MacIntyre-MacDougall Volunteer of the Year Award to Ollie Hughes - a very very deserving recipient! Congratulations Ollie.

A presentation was made to Ollie and photos were taken of Ollie with Council. Ollie thanked Council for the award and added that it was a really nice surprise.

4. b) PRESENTATIONS

Nil

5. CARI REPORT

Included in the meeting package for Council to review.

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. Mayor Jenkins noted that today he attended a special meeting for the Canada Games 2009 (the announcement of a major sponsor) and the Town did receive some recognition at that meeting.

Mayor Jenkins noted that he expressed Council's opinions at the Annual Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities (FPEIM) regarding the replacement of the CUSA agreement with a grant. He noted that he had attempted to communicate with some of the senior government officials, but requests for meetings have been denied, or there was no response at all. Mayor Jenkins stated that he has also sent a note to the provincial treasurer and the Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs and Labour outlining some of his concerns, but to date he has had no response.

Mayor Jenkins stated that we received a letter from the provincial tax commissioner advising that our tax rate will be reduced by 20 cents on the property tax bills going out. He added that there are a number of unacceptable items that are transpiring here from a community's perspective - particularly in the long term, and we have always had a long term financial outlook in the Town. We will continue our attempts to meet with the treasurer and other senior people. Mayor Jenkins stated that he understands that a bill was tabled yesterday in the legislature which will change the property tax scheme and give the province the authority to amend our property tax certificate and taking our rate from 64 cents to 44 cents.

Councillor Griffin stated that she believes we would all agree with the mayor on how the province is proceeding and it is very frustrating. She added that she believes Mayor Jenkins has done a very good job of stating our case. Councillor Griffin noted that we need to approach this issue in a very straight forward and methodical way. It is exceedingly important to remain professional in dealing with this issue. It was noted that at some point we will need to inform the residents of what is taking place, and we need to give some consideration on how we are going to do that.

Councillor Griffin stated that we need to do a presentation to the commissioner who will be appointed to deal with municipalities and land use.

Councillor Gallant stated that something we may want to consider is the need to hire a public relations person on a contract basis because we do not want to be putting information out to our residents that they cannot understand.

Councillor Ross agreed that our number one priority is to inform the residents. He reiterated that we were never consulted on this issue. No one has spoken with us and we are going to be strong affected by it. The treasurer nor the minister responsible for communities has contacted us and this just adds to the frustration. He believes we need to act on this quickly and in a professional manner.

8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Included in the meeting package for Council to review. Robert noted that there are now seven dark sky compliant fixtures installed on the Kinlock Road that Maritime Electric has installed as a pilot project. He noted that they are located just past Hillview Drive as you head towards the Keppoch Beach.

Robert noted that he received some information this week from our consultant regarding the Southport Motel development, and we should soon have a draft agreement ready for Jacob Heimstra and Gordon MacKay to consider.

Robert also took a moment to echo the comments regarding the need to take action regarding the CUSA agreement issue.

Mayor Jenkins noted that he received a call today from the province advising him that we won an environmental award. The Town was nominated by Councillor Griffin and an award will be presented by Lieutenant Governor Barbara Hagerman on Wednesday, June 4. Mayor Jenkins added that a letter of invitation will be forthcoming.

9. PUBLIC WORKS

a) Report

Included in the meeting package for Council to review. Vice Chair Gary Clow noted that a lot of time was spent on sidewalk priorities. However, in order to continue with the sidewalks and bike paths we need to partner with the Department of Transportation and Public Works (TPW), or move to other areas in the Town that do not require ditch infilling.

Councillor Clow noted that Jeremy Crosby, Public Works Manager and Doug Murray of the Active Transportation Committee met with Moncton's Active Transportation Committee, and brought back some great ideas that we hope we will be able to implement.

Councillor Clow stated that we have been asked by the Greater Grounds Committee to assist them in enhancing their trails and that is ongoing with Glen Stewart.

Councillor Ross asked if the province has any projects for the Town for this summer, and Robert replied that we have not been given anything in writing, but verbally the answer was no. Councillor McMillan added that we have asked our MLA's to work on this issue on our behalf and we have to be active and keep pressing the point.

10. STRATFORD UTILITY CORPORATION

a) Report

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ross gave a brief overview of the report noting that staff is currently looking at prices for a rotating biological contractor for the wastewater treatment plant. This is part of the treatment plant upgrade, and it will be installed this summer.

It was noted that the water truck is up and ready to go and the flushing and other maintenance will be starting soon.

Jeremy noted that we did a tour of all the infrastructure projects that were done last year. A deficiency list was prepared and forwarded to the contractors to ensure that everything is completed.

b) Financial Report

Included in the package for Council to review. It was noted that we have upgraded our Town Suite System, which is the accounting software used by the Town.

c) Resolution SU004-2008 Approval of Supplementary Capital Budget of \$12,500 for the Purchase of a Utility Truck

Moved by Councillor Patrick Ross
Seconded by Councillor Gary Clow

WHEREAS an amount of \$60,000 had been budgeted for the purchase of a Utility truck; and

WHEREAS all tenders received were over the \$60,000 budget amount; and

WHEREAS the additional cost to purchase the vehicle with service body and crane would be \$12,500 (after gst is reimbursed); and

WHEREAS the Board discussed and recommended that Council approve the additional \$12,500 as it was felt that this vehicle is what is required by the Utility.

BE IT RESOLVED that a supplementary capital budget in the amount of \$12,500 be approved (after gst is reimbursed), to purchase the Utility vehicle fully equipped from Fair Isle Ford, as per the tender.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Stratford Utility Corporation and the Committee of the Whole.

Question: **CARRIED**

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 the Events Committee is preparing for Canada Day celebrations with a wide variety of activities.

Councillor Clow noted that the Canada Games tenders were closed on May 7 and the MacNeill Field is under construction and will not be used until the Junior Nationals. Teams have made alternate arrangements to play at other ball fields in the interim.

It was noted that Stratford is the first community to partner with the Canadian Cancer Society to implement a tobacco free policy and provide sun safe parks, and we will be presented with an award in late May to acknowledge this initiative.

Mayor Jenkins asked about the site of the Cricket Field and Councillor Clow replied that there are three proposed sites, but negotiations are still on-going.

There was some discussion on the eagle's nest that is located on one of the lights at MacNeill field and whether or not we should have it moved. After discussions it was agreed that Robert will followup with Ron Fisher on this issue.

12. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

a) Report

No Report. Councillor Gallant stated that the committee did not meet since the last Council meeting.

b) Financial Report

Included in the package for Council to review.

c) Resolution FA006-2008 Charlottetown Rural High School Graduation Award

**Moved by Councillor Emile Gallant
Seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin**

WHEREAS a request was received from the Charlottetown Rural High School Graduation Committee for a graduation award; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford has annually donated a \$250 award be granted to a graduating Stratford student that is actively involved with the community of Stratford - a community ambassador.

BE IT RESOLVED that \$250 be donated to the Charlottetown Rural High School Graduation Committee, to be awarded to a graduating Stratford resident that is actively involved with the community of Stratford.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

d) **Resolution FA007-2008 Loan Approval**

Moved by Councillor Emile Gallant

Seconded by Councillor Gary Clow

WHEREAS a 5 year loan for the Stratford Town Hall and 2002 Capital Projects in the amount of \$3,265,573 expired on March 31, 2008, with an amortization of 20 years remaining on the loan; and

WHEREAS the amount of the loan, \$3,265,573, was requested from the following financial institutions:

- National Bank
- Bank of Montreal
- Metro Credit Union
- CIBC
- Dunne Consulting
- Royal Bank
- Scotia Bank
- TD Bank

AND WHEREAS the request for proposals closed at 1:30 p.m. on May 14, 2008; and

WHEREAS the following rates were received:

	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>10 Year</u>
• Bank of Montreal	4.60%	4.96%
• Dunn Consulting	4.63%	4.93%
• Royal Bank	4.01%	4.44%
• Metro Credit Union	4.95%	
• TD Bank	4.21%	4.58%
• CIBC	4.52%	5.07%

BE IT RESOLVED that the tender for the loan with an amortization of 20 years remaining will be awarded to the Royal Bank for a 5 year term at a rate of 4.01%.

Discussion: There was some discussion on the 10 year term and the consensus was to amend the resolution to the 10 year term at a rate of 4.44%.

Amendment

It was moved by Councillor Diane Griffin and seconded by Patrick Ross that the resolution be amended to read:

BE IT RESOLVED that the tender for the loan with an amortization of 20 years remaining will be awarded to the Royal Bank for a 10 year term at a rate of 4.44%.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

Mayor Jenkins asked about the progress of the paperless office and Robert replied that we have a three month training schedule with iCompass. He added that we also met with a representative from Konica Minolta regarding the photocopier/scanning functions that we will need to use for the paperless office system. Robert noted that we should have a system in place by the end of June or early July.

13. PLANNING & HERITAGE**a) Report**

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

b) April 2008 Permit Summary

Included in package for Council to review.

c) Resolution PH005-2008 - PEI Indoor Soccer Complex 19 Myrtle Street

Moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS an application has been received from PEI Indoor Soccer Complex Ltd., to construct a 45,816 sq.ft. Indoor Soccer Complex on a proposed Lot #6 (approx 3.98 acres) within the Stratford Business Park; and

WHEREAS the proposed soccer complex will consist of a 200' x 160' artificial turf soccer field, locker rooms, classroom, office and a mezzanine level; and

WHEREAS the proposed soccer complex will be serviced by the Town's municipal sewer and water and will also be equipped with a fire protection sprinkler system; and

WHEREAS due to the long length of the building, and being that it is designed with a minimum slope roof of 1/2:12 roof pitch, the overall roof height of the building is 45 feet, therefore exceeding the Town's maximum roof height of 35 feet by 10 feet (or 28.6%) which would require Council to approve the 45 foot high roof height

subject to all provisions of section 5.8 (2) Height Restriction Exemption of the Town of Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw being satisfied.

BE IT RESOLVED that preliminary approval be granted to an application from PEI Indoor Soccer Complex Ltd., to construct a 45,816 sq.ft. Indoor Soccer Complex on a proposed Lot #6 (approx 3.98 acres) within the Stratford Business Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a roof height variance of 10 feet (or 28.6%) shall be approved allowing for an overall roof height of 45 feet subject the following conditions:

- a) That all provisions of section 5.8 (2) Height Restriction Exemption of the Town of Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw must be satisfied.
- b) That all other relative provisions of the Town of Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw shall be satisfied prior to obtaining a Development Permit.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

d) **Resolution PH006-2008 - The Development Bylaw, Bylaw #29-A, an Amendment to Development Bylaw #29 - 2nd Reading**

Moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan
Seconded by Councillor Patrick Ross

WHEREAS pursuant to the Provincial Planning Act and under Section 24 of the Development Bylaw, a Public Meeting was held on April 16, 2008 to allow the Town's consultants (Ekistics Planning and Design and P. Wood & Associates) to present the Subsidiary Official Plan for the Core Area and the proposed amendments to the Development Bylaw # 29-A text and the Zoning Map attached to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS at the proposed public meeting (April 16, 2008) none of participants raised any comment or concern regarding the documents and maps presented, and the written objections and concerns addressed by residents and businesses were considered and responded to, and no essential changes to the documents were recommended; and

WHEREAS Bylaw # 29-A (Core Area), a Bylaw to amend Bylaw # 29, the Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw was read a first time by Council on April 23, 2008.

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw # 29-A (Core Area), a Bylaw to amend Bylaw # 29, the Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw, be hereby read and approved a second time. The Bylaw 29 shall be renamed as “Part I” and Bylaw 29-A (attached) shall be called “Part II.”.

Discussion: Councillor Emile Gallant asked if the Town received any further comments and Robert replied that he is not aware of any.

Question: **CARRIED**

e) **Resolution PH007-2008 - The Development Bylaw, Bylaw #29-A, an Amendment to Development Bylaw #29 - Adoption**

Moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan
Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS pursuant to the Provincial Planning Act and under Section 24 of the Development Bylaw, a Public Meeting was held on April 16, 2008 to allow the Town’s consultants (Ekistics Planning and Design and P. Wood & Associates) to present the Subsidiary Official Plan for the Core Area and the proposed amendments to the Development Bylaw # 29-A text and the Zoning Map attached to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS at the proposed public meeting (April 16, 2008) none of participants raised any comment or concern regarding the documents and maps presented, and the written objections and concerns addressed by residents and businesses were considered and responded to, and no essential changes to the documents were recommended; and

WHEREAS Bylaw # 29-A (Core Area), a Bylaw to amend Bylaw # 29, the Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw was read and approved a second time by Council on May 14, 2008.

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw # 29-A (Core Area), a Bylaw to amend Bylaw # 29, the Stratford Zoning and Subdivision Control (Development) Bylaw, be formally 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 to be passed.. The Bylaw 29 shall be renamed as “Part I” and Bylaw 29-A (attached) shall be called “Part II.”

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

- f) Councillor McMillan stated that there is a special planning board meeting this week to consider an application received from Andrews of Stratford for an expansion, and in the interest of time we would like to schedule a special Council meeting for next Wednesday, May 21, at 6:00 p.m. After a brief discussion it was agreed that a Special Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the Stratford Town Centre.

RESOLUTION

It was moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan and seconded by Councillor Gary Clow that a ***Special Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the Stratford Town Centre.***

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

Councillor McMillan noted that there were more than 100 petitions collected requesting more additional library hours, and they will be forwarded to Minister Bertram for consideration.

Councillor McMillan noted that there was a focus group meeting on Arts and Culture last evening, and although there was a small crowd, it was a good meeting.

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

a) Resolution CW006-2008 Indoor Soccer Facility Land Purchase and Grant

Moved by Councillor Gary Clow

Seconded by Councillor Patrick Ross

WHEREAS the PEI Soccer Association is planning to construct an indoor soccer facility and has requested a proposal from the Town of Stratford to provide land, tax relief and a financial contribution for the facility; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford committed the following to the PEI Soccer Association for the construction of an indoor soccer facility in the Town of Stratford:

- four acres of serviced land in the Stratford Business Park;
- a rebate of the municipal portion of the property tax on the facility for the first five years;
- \$30,000 donation per year for five years for a total of \$150,000 proposed indoor soccer facility would draw players from all across PEI and beyond and generate significant economic activity in the Town.

AND WHEREAS during the 2008 budget process council decided to allocate \$150,000 out of the 2007 surplus to a reserve for the Indoor Soccer facility.

BE IT RESOLVED that the allocation of \$150,000 of the 2007 surplus to a reserve fund for the Indoor Soccer facility be hereby confirmed and that the \$150,000 be given to the PEI Soccer Association upon completion of the building in lieu of the \$30,000 per year for five years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford purchase approximately 3.98 acres (Lot 6) of serviced land in the Business Park and transfer title of the land to the PEI Soccer Association for the Indoor Soccer Facility, at a cost of \$63,200 from the Capital Fund Reserve.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

b) Resolution CW007-2008 - Transit Bus Purchase

Moved by Councillor Diane Griffin

Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford has received funding in the amount of \$860,000 from the Public Transit Capital Trust for the purchase of two buses and 10 shelters for public transit; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford is negotiating with Charlottetown Transit and the City of Charlottetown to establish an integrated regional transit system; and

WHEREAS the Tender issued by the City of Charlottetown in 2006 for the purchase of vintage trolley buses included a provision to purchase additional buses and the successful bidder, Dupont Industries Inc., has held the price at \$352,000 per bus plus taxes per the original tender; and

WHEREAS Charlottetown Transit has asked for a modification to the wheelchair ramp at a cost of \$3000 per bus because the original design did not work in our weather conditions; and

WHEREAS Charlottetown Transit has also asked for an extended warranty at a cost of \$20,000 per bus which will reduce the Town's capital maintenance cost in the future.

BE IT RESOLVED that the purchase of two vintage trolley buses from Dupont

Industries at a cost of \$375,000 per bus plus taxes, which includes the wheelchair ramp modification and the extended warranty, be hereby confirmed.

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

Included in the meeting package for Council to review.

Mayor Jenkins asked that public transit now be included as a regular agenda item. Councillor Griffin noted that the busses have been ordered and we are still waiting to see a copy of the draft contract from the City of Charlottetown. Councillor Gallant noted that we also need to launch a marketing plan and we may need to talk with Trius Tours regarding promotion.

Councillor Clow asked if our mobile radar unit is now being used and Robert replied that it was taken out of storage last week and is currently set up on Glen Stewart Drive.

b) Street Lights

No report

c) Humane Society Report

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

d) RCMP Report

The RCMP report for the month of April was included in the meeting package for Council to review.

e) Cross Roads Rural Community Fire Company

No Report

Councillor Ross voiced concern regarding the fire that took place last week and the amount of smoke that was caused by the fire. He asked that because we allow control burns in our bylaw, that the Town be notified when the fire department plans to do a control burn (practice for training exercises). It was also noted that the public should be made aware of control burns as well. Mayor Jenkins asked Councillor Griffin to bring this issue to her next Safety Services meeting and Councillor Griffin agreed to add it to her agenda.

16. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- a) Report included in the package for Council to review. Mayor Jenkins noted that we invited Kevin Murphy to our last meeting and a good discussion ensued. Dr. Michael Mayne has been invited to attend our June meeting.

17. HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE

- a) Councillor Griffin noted that our new Sustainable Economic Development Officer will be officially starting in June.

18. OTHER COMMITTEES

- a) **Stratford Seniors Complex**
No Report

19. PROCLAMATION

Nil

20. OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Mayor Jenkins noted that Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald returned from Florida to attend the FPEIM meeting held on April 28 in Summerside, to receive the Bruce H. Yeo award. It was noted that Deputy Mayor MacDonald was a very deserving recipient.
- b) Town Council Meetings - Summer Hours
For the months of June to September inclusive, the Stratford Town Council meetings will commence at 4:30 p.m. It was noted that this change will be advertized in the newspaper and is also noted on our website.

21. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the monthly Council meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Kevin Jenkins, Mayor

Robert Hughes, CAO