

REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

November 18, 2009

Approved Minutes

DATE: November 18, 2009
TIME: 7:30 p.m. - 8:40 p.m.
PLACE: Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

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

REGRETS: Mayor Kevin Jenkins and Councillor Emile Gallant

CHAIR: Deputy Mayor McMillan

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Sandy McMillan called the November 18, 2009 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 Steve MacDonald seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None
Question: **CARRIED**

3. MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Gary Clow and seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2009 be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None
Question: **CARRIED**

4. PRESENTATIONS

Bus Gay introduced himself and stated that there are not too many people at the meeting this evening and that proves one thing - you people are doing a good job and it is a tough job.

Mr. Gay stated that he has completed a few projects and there are some he is still working on. Through the then MLA David McKenna he was fortunate enough to get the turn off lane from the Trans Canada Highway into the Kinlock Road into Sobey's. With the help of

Lawrence MacAulay, MP for Cardigan, Alan McIsaac, MLA for the fifth district and Ron MacKinley, Minister of Transportation and Public Works, we are getting the extra lane along with the turn off lane by Subway into Horton Drive, and a turn off lane from the Trans Canada onto the Stratford Road by the Stratford Esso Station. Mr. Gay stated that he met this summer with Ron MacKinley, Lawrence MacAulay and two engineers. Mr. MacKinley sent two engineers out to Stratford and they suggested that there should be four lanes from the Mason Road to the bridge and that the arterial highway in Charlottetown should also be made into four lanes. Due to slack traffic at this time the arterial highway is being done now.

Mr. Gay read an excerpt of a letter from Ron MacKinley, Minister of Transportation and Public Works to Lawrence MacAulay, MP. *This letter is in response to recent correspondence in which you requested upgrades to the Trans Canada Highway in Stratford. Thank you very much for bringing this request to my attention. The Department had a long term plan in place to address increased traffic problems along the Alexander to Clyde River Trans Canada Highway corridor. This plan includes the expansion of the Charlottetown perimeter highway, which they are working on now, to four lanes from the Hillsborough Bridge to the intersection of Route 2 West. This project is currently underway and will be completed in 2010. Further expansion along the corridor, including the expansion of the Trans Canada Highway in Stratford is also included in the long term plan. We would take, Mr. Gay, your request for a turning lane into consideration as we prepare the final design for expansion which we expect to take place in the coming year.*

Mr. Gay stated that he is working on the problem at Sobey's and Home Hardware and demonstrated with the aid of a drawing. He noted that he will be meeting with Steve Yeo to discuss a solution.

Mr. Gay noted that there is a large amount of fill by the soccer fields and he feels that we should make it known to the Provincial Department of Public Works so they can use it for ditch infilling on the Kinlock Road.

Deputy Mayor McMillan thanked Mr. Gay for all his effort on behalf of the Town.

5. **CARI REPORT**

Report is included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Clow asked about the finances and Ron Fisher replied that he believes there will be a shortfall again this year.

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. Deputy Mayor McMillan noted that the Town received the Chamber of Commerce *Excellence in Environment Award* on November 10 and Mayor Jenkins was in attendance to receive the award.

8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Included in the package for Council to review. Robert stated that he would like to acknowledge Councillor Griffin for submitting the nomination for the President's Excellence Awards Environment Category noting that a lot of work went into the application.

9. PUBLIC WORKS AND PROPERTY**a) Report**

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Griffin stated some of the items discussed by the committee were the bike lanes and sidewalks on the Keppoch Road, the purchase of a new mini truck and the rink repairs.

Councillor Griffin noted that repairs to the rink hall have been completed and repairs to the rink itself are ongoing.

It was noted that the Williams Gate trail has been installed and runs from the cul-de-sac in Williams Gate out to the Mason Road.

Councillor Griffin stated that there has been some vandalism in the Kinlock Park area and the committee is looking at making some improvements, and the possibility of adding some trail development around the perimeter of the park. Councillor Ross asked about the park lighting noting that he had forwarded some lighting information to Robert. Robert replied that he did send the company our information and requested a quote, but one has not yet been received. He added that he met with a representative of the company today, who apologized for not getting the quote to us sooner. Robert stated that they will be sending us the quote and a form for the free trial period. However, we may not be able to get it done this year because of the trail work, but we will have the quote and be able to make a decision.

Robert reiterated that the committee discussed putting a trail around the perimeter of the park and we would light the trail with the lights pointing in towards the park. However, he would suggest that we consult with the residents before we do this. Councillor Ross asked if lighting the trail turns out to be too costly will there still be some lighting added to the park, and Councillor Griffin and Robert replied that we would contact Maritime Electric and have them install a light.

10. STRATFORD UTILITY CORPORATION**a) Report**

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Deputy Mayor McMillan noted that the wellfield exploration is ongoing. They have drilled in two locations and will now move on to a third.

Deputy Mayor McMillan noted that the rotating biological contactor (RBC) is

installed, but we are still having some issues with the contacts and it is not turning on its own yet.

The report from ADI on the lagoon options is still being reviewed. Deputy Mayor McMillan noted that there is a lot of in-depth work to be done, but we should be able to have a good discussion in a month or two.

b) Financial Statements

Included in the package.

11. RECREATION REPORT

a) Report

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald gave a brief overview of the report.

The introduction to hockey program is running again this year and proving to be a big hit with the kids.

There will be a Christmas party for the children on December 3 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Councillor MacDonald noted that the regrading of the recreational open space at William's Gate is currently underway. We have placed signage on this property identifying it as future recreational space that can be developed for recreational use. Once completed, this space can be utilized for a playground, sport field and/or extension to a trail network.

Ron Fisher took a moment to thank the PEI Regiment, Events Committee and staff for their work on the Remembrance Day Ceremony.

Deputy Mayor McMillan would also like to thank Tanya Craig for the great work she did regarding the Torch Relay. All the children of Glen Stewart School each made a torch and they were proudly displayed here at the Town Hall. It was noted that the Torch entourage is now expected to come through Stratford between 4:45 - 5:00 p.m. and Kara Grant and Michael Morris will be part of the welcoming party.

Robert noted that there was a very positive story on Island Morning with Joanne Weir and Councillor Ross about the kids hockey program. Councillor Ross added that parents are very pleased with the program. He also asked if anyone has any hockey gear that they would like to donate it would be greatly appreciated.

b) Resolution RC005-2009 Neil and Gail MacDonald Town of Stratford Volunteer of the Year Award

Moved by Councillor Steve MacDonald
Seconded by Councillor Gary Clow

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford recognizes that volunteers are an essential part of our community; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford wishes to acknowledge the tremendous contribution made by volunteers to improve the quality of life to all who reside in our community; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford recognizes two residents in particular, who for many years have volunteered their services and talents to improve the quality of life to the community.

BE IT RESOLVED that a Town of Stratford Volunteer of the Year Award be presented annually at the Town's Annual Canada Day celebrations and be awarded to Neil and Gail MacDonald as the inaugural recipient and thereafter be awarded annually in their name to subsequent recipients.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

Councillor Griffin noted that Neil and Gail MacDonald have worked hard on behalf of the Town and are very worthy recipients.

12. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

a) Report

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ross noted that it is budget time and this is a very busy time for the finance department. He noted that there will be a pre-budget consultation meeting on Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00 p.m. Council will then meet with managers in early December to finalize the budget. It was noted that there will be an ad in the Guardian on Saturday, November 21 and again on Wednesday, November 25 to advise residents of the pre-budget meeting. It will also be on our website and the events reader board.

b) Financial Statements

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ross noted that we are on track for a healthy year end and the Finance Committee has echoed those sentiments

and asked that they be passed along to Council. A job well done by staff for using their budgets as intended.

c) **Resolution FA014-2009 Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence**

Moved by Councillor Patrick Ross

Seconded by Diane Griffin

WHEREAS a request for financial assistance was received from the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women; and

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford has historically supported the Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence; and

WHEREAS the Finance and Administration Committee has recommended that a \$500.00 donation be granted to the Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence.

BE IT RESOLVED that \$500.00 be donated to the Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

d) **Resolution FA0015-2009 Metro Fire Fighters' Association**

Moved by Councillor Patrick Ross

Seconded by Gary Clow

WHEREAS a request for financial assistance was received from the Metro Senior Fire Fighters' Association; and

WHEREAS the Association includes retired firefighters from the Crossroads Fire Department who wish to remain involved with the department and community. An example of their involvement would be presentations at schools and local events, as the majority of the active fire fighters are unable to do this due to full time

employment; and

WHEREAS the Finance and Administration Committee has recommended that a \$200.00 donation be granted to the Metro Senior Fire Fighters' Association.

BE IT RESOLVED that \$200.00 be donated to the Metro Senior Fire Fighters' Association.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

13. PLANNING AND HERITAGE

a) No Report

b) Building Permit Summary

Included in the package.

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

a) Resolution CW006 - 2009 Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination

Moved by Diane Griffin

Seconded by Patrick Ross

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford is a member of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against racism and Discrimination.

BE IT RESOLVED that the representatives of the undersigned member municipalities of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination, partner organizations, and supporters unanimously:

1. express our strong and ongoing commitment to champion equity and respect for all people through the Coalition, the endorsement of the Ten Common Commitments Against Racism and Discrimination and each municipality's own unique plan of action;
2. acknowledge that racism and discrimination in Canada continues to divide

communities, threaten democratic and participatory citizenship and entrench and aggravate inequalities within society;

3. Recognize that the work of the Coalition will be strengthened by an increased membership representative of municipalities across Canada;
4. welcome the ongoing role of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO in the work of the Canadian Coalition and of UNESCO in the international coalition and the regional coalitions;
5. call upon municipal governments, in partnership with local, municipal, provincial and pan-Canadian organizations, to invest in efforts and recommendations set forth by the Coalitions;
6. further call upon the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to make a strong and ongoing commitment to support the work of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination and to reiterate its call to its members in the Member's Advisory issued October 14, 2005 to join the Coalition.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole.

Question: **CARRIED**

Deputy Mayor McMillan asked if we are planning on doing anything for the Sea King for Christmas and Councillor Ross replied that yes, we will be arranging something.

15. **SAFETY SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT**

a) **Report**

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Vice Chair Diane Griffin noted that the new resource booklet *Stratford in Action* has been published and contains practical ways for an individual, or an individual family to reduce their carbon footprint. This resource book has received great coverage in the media. Councillor Griffin noted that the next session will be held on Monday night (November 23) and encouraged Council to attend and meet some of the people involved in this project.

Councillor Griffin noted that the committee has completed its review of the Noise and

Nuisance Bylaw and it will now go to the Committee of the Whole for final review.

It was noted that the Citizens on Patrol group met with the committee on Monday night. Councillor Griffin stated that there is a tremendous amount of volunteer hours going into this project and the group is requesting that an allotment be considered for gas in the budget deliberations.

Councillor Ross asked for an update on the request made by a resident for a children playing sign at the top and bottom of Millennium Drive, as there is a park at both the top and lower end. Robert replied that they will not do children playing signs any longer, but they will do playground signs and the request was sent to Kevin Campbell, Department of Transportation and Public Works.

There was some discussion on the speed limit allowed in park areas and Councillor Ross requested that the speed radar be placed in the Millennium Drive area.

b) Street Light Report

Councillor Clow asked about the street light request on Johnston Drive and Robert replied that a resident requested that a pole be replaced and that a street light be installed. Maritime Electric did replace the pole and install the light. However, they were unable to install the light on the same side of the street, so they called and asked for permission to install the light on the other side of the street. The resident called to say he was pleased with the installation.

c) RCMP Report

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

d) Humane Society Report

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

e) Fire Company

No Report.

f) Transit Report

No Report.

16. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**a) Report**

Included in the package. Councillor Ross gave a brief overview of the report noting that the Town's new web page is up and running. It is very eye catching and easy to use. There is also a new feature included on the web site. It is an economic development analysis tool and should be quite useful to potential businesses.

Councillor Ross noted that we are establishing a committee to implement the Diversity and Inclusion Plan. The terms of reference have been drafted and approved and the next step is to appoint the committee.

Councillor Clow asked what the status is on the Bid Committee and Deputy Mayor McMillan replied that the Bid Committee is continuing with preparations and meeting on a regular basis; however there has not been a formal decision yet to include the provincial museum in the capital budget.

17. HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE**a) No Report.****18. OTHER COMMITTEES****a) Stratford Seniors Complex**

A complete written report was included in the package. Councillor MacDonald gave a brief overview of his report noting that they had intended to purchase a snowblower for the complex, but will not be going ahead with the purchase due to liability issues.

19. PROCLAMATION

Nil

20. OTHER BUSINESS**a) Mason Road Joint Study**

Robert stated that he sent an email to Steve Yeo and asked for an update on the joint study - do we have an agreement, what is the time line and when should we expect a proposal from the consultant. A reply email was received from the Deputy who stated that he had the same thoughts and that we will hear from them very soon.

21. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the monthly Council meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Sandy McMillan, Deputy Mayor

Robert Hughes, CAO