

REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

September 10, 2008

Approved Minutes

DATE: September 10, 2008
TIME: 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 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; Ron Fisher, Recreation Director; Jeremy Crosby, Manager Public Works and Utility; Vahid Ghomoshchi, Director of Planning and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Nil

CHAIR: Mayor Kevin Jenkins

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jenkins called the September 10, 2008, Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Gary Clow and seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin that the agenda be approved with one addition: Under # 20 a) Other Business - Election Forum.

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 August 13, 2008 be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

4. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

5. CARI REPORT

No Report.

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 stated that he attended the National FCM Board meeting last week in Jasper. He noted that he sits on the Safety and Prevention Committee and the Social Economic Development Committee. There were presentations made at both these committees and Mayor Jenkins noted that he brought back some documents on their Diversity Program, as he feels that it might aid our new Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Included in the package for Council to review. Robert noted that there has been further training, and although our training is not complete, we do plan to conduct our October Council meeting electronically.

It was also noted that there was a meeting this morning with members of the Stratford business community and the Chamber of Commerce. Robert noted that we have been working with the Chamber to see if it is possible to set up a Stratford Business Committee within the Chamber, so we could have a liaison with the business community. It was a positive meeting and we will be moving forward.

Councillor Ross asked if we would check our business listing, as his two businesses did not receive an invitation. Robert noted that we did send our list to the Chamber of Commerce and they extended the invitation to the business community, but we will follow up to confirm that the list is up to date.

9. PUBLIC WORKS**a) Report**

A report was circulated and Deputy Mayor MacDonald gave a brief overview noting that the sidewalk repairs have been completed, with the exception of a few driveway approaches.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that due to the heavy rains there are areas in the Town where grass could not be cut. He added that our buildings survived the heavy rain without any major problems, but we did discover a leak in the roof of the maintenance building, which has since been repaired.

It was noted that there was a meeting held last night regarding the Woodlane/ Emmalee and Mitchell Drive water problem, and the Provincial Department of Transportation and Public Works was in attendance. There were approximately 50 people who attended the meeting and Deputy Mayor MacDonald believes that the majority of people were satisfied with the plan to correct the problem.

Mayor Jenkins asked for an update on sidewalk paving and Jeremy noted that he met with DOT and we will not be receiving any ditch in-filling this year, as the money has now been earmarked for the project on Woodlane Drive and Emma Lee Drive. The

Georgetown Road bike lane was also discussed and we are hoping that DOT will cost share in this project. The trail selections we selected are now being surveyed and we hope to have the tender out by the end of the month. The Shakespeare concrete sidewalk project has been delayed because of the heavy rains, but it should be able to get underway this week.

Councillor Ross asked if we had planned to have some ditch in-filling done this year before the Woodlane/Emmalee project took priority, and Jeremy replied that we plan to have some done every year, however, the province did not commit to us that they would be doing any ditch in-filling this year. Councillor Ross expressed concern that Stratford is not getting its' fair share of provincial infrastructure. Mayor Jenkins noted that a letter to Minister MacKinley was drafted requesting a meeting to discuss and offer our input into their five year capital plan.

Councillor Clow took a moment to thank Jeremy and all his staff for all their hard during the heavy rains.

10. STRATFORD UTILITY CORPORATION

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ross noted that he, Kim O'Connell, Jeremy Crosby and Deputy Mayor MacDonald attended the Bunbury water project announcement in Crapaud. It was great that the announcement has been made and the tenders will be going out the first of next week.

Councillor Ross reiterated Councillor Clow's remarks thanking the Utility staff for all their hard work during the heavy rain and looking after the issues the rain had caused.

b) Financial Report

A copy of the financial statements was included in the package. Mayor Jenkins noted that the formatting of the statements makes them hard to read and Kim replied that this is the new version of Town Suite and that they are working to solve the problem.

Kim noted that eleven disconnect notices were sent out and we are still waiting to hear from five residents.

11. RECREATION REPORT

a) Report

A complete written report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Clow noted that staff has been very busy hosting special events and tournaments. We held our first national junior baseball championships from August 14 - 17 at MacNeill Field and it was extremely challenging due to the heavy rains and late preparation of the venue. However, this event has given staff the confidence to hold these types of tournaments in the Town. Ten games were hosted in the Town over the four days of competition.

Councillor Clow noted that we are celebrating our first year with our dog park and there

are plans to have lights installed in the park later this month.

It was noted that last weekend there was a *Registration Expo* held in the gymnasium. The aim of the expo was to inform Stratford residents about all the various volunteer opportunities that exist in Stratford, as well as provide residents with a chance to register for numerous activities, clubs, groups and sports offered in the Town of Stratford. Approximately 30 groups attended the expo and expressed an interest in attending again next year.

Councillor Clow noted that the funding was announced for the Indoor Soccer Facility and this facility will be a great asset to the Town.

Councillor Ross congratulated the recreation staff for keeping 'on top of things' during the junior nationals. As noted earlier it was challenging due to some issues, but the staff did a great job.

Councillor Ross asked Ron if he could look into why the Soccer Association is collecting the soccer jersey's at the end of the year, and Ron replied that he is not sure why they collect them, but he will followup with the Soccer Association.

Councillor Clow took a moment to congratulate the Stratford Youth-Can-Do. Once again they had a float in the Gold Cup and Saucer parade and it was chosen the best community and organization entry. He stated that he would like to see the Town provide some additional funds to Youth-Can-Do to help them add to their float each year, as the float represents the Town.

12. **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

a) **Report**

Included in the package for Council to review.

b) **Financial Statements**

A copy of the financial statements was included in the package.

c) **Resolution FA009-2008 PEI Crime Stoppers - Donation Request**

Moved by Councillor Emile Gallant

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Steve MacDonald

WHEREAS a request was received from PEI Crime Stoppers for a donation; and

WHEREAS the Finance and Administration Committee has recommended that a \$500 donation be granted to the PEI Crime Stoppers.

BE IT RESOLVED that a \$500 donation be granted to PEI Crime Stoppers.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

Councillor Clow noted that Crime Stoppers will be moving out of our building shortly and moving into their new building.

13. PLANNING & HERITAGE

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor McMillan briefly reviewed the report noting that we have a large number of apartment buildings being proposed for the Town and two of them are being proposed for the corner of Stratford Road and Kinlock Road. A public meeting has been set for Wednesday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m. to solicit comments from the public.

b) August 2008 Permit Summary

Included in package for Council to review.

c) Resolution PH019-2008 - Adoption of Signage Standards

Moved by Councillor Sandy McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin

WHEREAS on February 8, 2006 Council passed a resolution awarding the Core Area Plan Phase 2 contract to Ekistics Planning and Design; and

WHEREAS Ekistics made recommendations in their final report for signage standards; and

WHEREAS Council deems it desirable to adopt the signage standards outlined by Ekistics Planning and Design in their final report.

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached Signage Standards, Chapter (5) of the Stratford Core Area Plan Final Report, submitted by Ekistics Planning and Design, be adopted.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Nil

15. SAFETY SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT**a) Report**

No Report.

b) Street Lights

No Report.

c) Humane Society Report

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

d) RCMP Report

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

e) Cross Roads Rural Community Fire Company

No Report

f) Public Transit

Councillor Griffin noted that public transit system started in Stratford on September 7 and there are approximately 50 people using the system and this is a good start. Councillor Clow noted that we have a very positive start to our public transit system and he has heard some good comments.

Mayor Jenkins asked about the review of the Nuisance Bylaw and Councillor Griffin noted that the Safety Services and Environment Committee only held one meeting during the summer, but regular meetings will resume in September and the issue will be addressed.

g) Resolution SS003-2008 Sustainability Plan - Adoption

Moved by Councillor Diane Griffin

Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford is committed to a sustainable future whereby decisions and actions are based on the four dimensions of sustainability, economic, environmental, social and cultural (quadruple bottom line); and

WHEREAS Council passed a resolution on December 13, 2006 to develop a sustainability plan and decision making framework which shall be guided by a Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS a plan was developed and prepared and presented to members of the public at a meeting held on August 6, 2008.

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached sustainability plan and decision making

framework be hereby adopted.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

Robert stated that he is proud to be working for a municipality who has passed a resolution to adopt a sustainability plan, and he believes that eventually everyone will have to follow this vision. Mayor Jenkins added that the plan has been led and supported by staff and without a strong staff it would not have progressed to this point.

16. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

a) Report

Included in the package for Council to review. Mayor Jenkins noted that Jason Lee was invited to attend the meeting for discussions and Rob Smith will be invited to attend our next meeting.

17. HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE

a) Councillor Griffin stated that the HR Committee did not meet during the summer.

18. OTHER COMMITTEES

a) Stratford Seniors Complex

No Report

19. PROCLAMATION

Nil

20. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Election Forum

Mayor Jenkins noted that one of the initiatives put forward by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities was municipalities hosting election forums - similar to what we did for the provincial election. The municipality invites the various candidates providing an opportunity for the public to attend and ask questions. A facilitator would also be invited. After a brief discussion it was agreed to hold an election form. It was also agreed that Scott Chapman would be asked to attend as the facilitator.

b) Committee of the Whole Meeting Date

There was some discussion on the date of the next Committee of the Whole meeting, but it was noted that because the Deputy Minister is scheduled to attend, we will keep the meeting on September 24.

21. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the monthly Council meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Kevin Jenkins, Mayor

Robert Hughes, CAO