

## REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

September 10, 2014

Approved Minutes

**DATE:** September 10, 2014  
**TIME:** 4:40 p.m. – 5:31 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

**PRESENT:** Councillors Diane Griffin; Steve MacDonald; Steve Ogden; Randy Cooper; Jeremy Crosby, Director of Infrastructure; Joanne Weir, Recreation Director; Kim O’Connell, Director of Finance and Technology; Vahid Ghomoshchi, Director of Planning, Development and Heritage; and Mary McAskill Recording Clerk

**REGRETS:** Deputy Mayor Gary Clow; Councillor Emile Gallant; and Robert Hughes, CAO

**CHAIR:** Mayor David Dunphy

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor David Dunphy called the Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

### 2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Councillor Steve Ogden and seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin that the agenda be approved with one addition under #21 Other Business – Council Meeting Time Change.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

### 3. **MINUTES**

It was moved by Councillor Diane Griffin and seconded by Councillor Randy Cooper that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Discussion: None

Question **CARRIED**

### 4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Nil

### 5. **PRESENTATIONS**

**Presentation to Principal Pat Campbell on her Retirement from Glen Stewart School**

*Mayor Dunphy* - It gives me great pleasure to present an award to long time educator Pat Campbell. Pat is here with us today, and she recently retired as principal of Glen Stewart School.

Mayor Dunphy noted that we wanted to do something to honour Pat, because Council felt that a person who has given so much to the school and to the community deserves to be honoured. It is a small token of our appreciation for all that you have done for the school, for the children, and for the community. Mayor Dunphy asked if any other Councillors wanted to make a comment before the presentation.

Councillor Griffin stated that it will be very different not having Pat Campbell waving as the children go home this year, adding that she was very impressed with that gesture. Councillor Griffin noted that her grandchildren went to Glen Stewart School and they always looked fondly on their time there. She noted that the fact that the school became overcrowded is not just a testament that the Town is growing, but goes to the reputation of the school. Councillor Griffin stated that she wanted to add her personal thanks for Pat's years of service and wished her an enjoyable retirement.

Councillor Cooper echoed Councillor Griffin's comments from a parent whose children attended Glen Stewart and had a great education. That is a testament to Pat Campbell as principal, and to her wisdom in bringing on first rate teachers. We have highly skilled individuals who have a real interest in teaching our children and that all starts at the helm. Councillor Cooper stated that Ms. Campbell has done a wonderful job and he wished her many years of happy retirement.

Mayor Dunphy noted that his three children also went to Glen Stewart and all three had good experiences at the school. He noted that we are very proud of the schools have here in Stratford, and because of that we want to present Pat with this small token of our appreciation.

A framed Henry Purdy print was presented to Ms. Campbell and Mayor Dunphy read the inscription aloud - *To Pat Campbell, an exceptional contributor to the education of the children in our town. Presented by the Stratford Town Council - 2014.* Photos were also taken at this time.

Mayor Dunphy asked Ms. Campbell if she would like to say a few words and she replied that she would.

*Pat Campbell - This is really special. It has been such a pleasure working in the Stratford community for nine years and I really should be the one who is presenting the Town with something, because you have been extremely supportive with the playground each and every year with your contributions. With Joanne Weir and Rachel Arsenault, we have had some really positive projects working with them. I have learned a lot from the Town of Stratford and your workings. I think you are a forward thinking and progressive community and Town. I think, if not now, you will be one of the best in the province with the things you are doing to plan ahead being proactive and making sure the community is a great place for*

*people to live is a testament to what you do. Thank you very much. This is very touching and I really appreciate it, and I appreciated working with everyone and I hope the experience was as positive for you as it was for me. Our children are our future. I also thank you for your comment about our teachers. Being at the helm is important, but it is the teachers who do the day to day work and we do have fabulous teachers, and I think it is the recipe for an effective school. Thank you very much.*

**6. CARI REPORT**

No Report

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

Included in the package is a list of all correspondence sent and received since the last Council meeting.

**8. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Dunphy gave an overview of his report noting that since the last Council meeting he attended the following events:

- Attended the presentation by author Steve Berry
- Chamber of Commerce Business Mixer hosted by the Town was a well-attended event again this year
- Along with Robert, met with representatives of the West Keppoch Cottage Association to discuss shore access issues in the area
- Interviewed by CBC Radio's Angela Walker regarding Stratford's additional budget allocation of \$400,000 for the Blue Frog System
- Met with Robert, Jeremy and Vahid in preparation for a meeting with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) to discuss Stratford's gateway project.

Councillor Griffin noted that it was great to see such a good turnout at the Chamber of Commerce Business Mixer. Mayor Dunphy thanked staff for all their work adding that the event came off without a hitch.

**9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Included in the package for Council to review.

**10. INFRASTRUCTURE**

**a) Report**

Councillor Cooper gave a verbal update noting that the committee did not have a regular monthly meeting in August, but did meet at the waste water treatment plant and things there seem to be going very well. He noted that the installers of the Blue Frog System gave a presentation on how the system works. Councillor Cooper noted that we are still

missing our screening apparatus and he asked Jeremy when we should expect to receive it. Jeremy replied that the work trailer has been delivered to the site and we have been told that they are going to start construction immediately. The actual device will not be delivered until late November, but the installers can go ahead and get all the infrastructure in and have a bar screener in place that will screen out material prior to the actual mechanical screener being installed.

Jeremy stated that the system is working the way it is supposed to, but there is some tweaking that has to be done next year. Our certificate of approval allows us an 18 month probation period to get the system calibrated and properly aligned, and the Department of Environment understands this.

Councillor Cooper noted that it is great that we took the time and energy over the past few months, along with Jeremy's guidance, to get us to an interim solution. It may be for only a short period of time or it could be 10 years or more. He noted that he believes Council made the right decision and we are seeing the benefits from that decision.

Mayor Dunphy noted that there was a lot going on in the Town during the summer; and one of those things was the completion of the Trans Canada Trail in Stratford. It was noted that an event is scheduled for Friday, September 12 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joseph A. Ghiz Memorial Park to officially recognize the completion of the Trans Canada Trail.

## **11. RECREATION, CULTURE AND EVENTS**

### **a) Report**

Included in the package for review. Councillor MacDonald gave a brief overview of the report.

For the month of August staff was busy hosting special events, tournaments maintenance requirements, and windup festivities for several of our summer program activities.

The summer camp for youth ages 8 – 12 years has seen registration totals continue to increase. The program averaged 22 to 25 participants each week over the 10 week period.

Another highlight this year was another presentation at this year's edition of the Gold Cup and Saucer Parade. The summer camp youth designed and created the Town's float with the theme "Our Island beach fun." Many thanks are extended to summer staff and the many youth involved for such a wonderful effort.

The Stratford Community Expo will be held on Saturday, September 27 in the gymnasium area from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

A community Theatre (ACT) had rehearsals for Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing," at the Robert Cotton Park. Performances took place August 22 to August 24 with a matinee on September 1.

Councillor Griffin stated that she attended the play "Much Ado About Nothing" and it was absolutely fantastic. The quality of the production was just fantastic.

Mayor Dunphy stated that it is great to see all the different options for our residents to participate in with all the great activities we have going on.

Councillor MacDonald took a moment to thank the Council, the Mayor, and the staff for the help they have given him over the last couple of weeks while he was 'under the weather.' Councillor Cooper stated that it was great to have Councillor MacDonald back.

Councillor Cooper took a moment to congratulate the Stratford Mosquito AA team for winning their provincial championships, and this weekend they are on their way to Ormocto, New Brunswick to faceoff with the rest of the Atlantic provinces. As well, the Bantam AA Baseball Team beat the two Summerside teams in Cardigan. Councillor Cooper noted that his son is on this team, and they will be heading to Yarmouth for the Atlantic AA's. He wished all the best to both teams as they take on teams for the Atlantic Championships.

Mayor Dunphy noted that Councillor MacDonald had announced that he would not be re-offering in the next election, and he offered his personal thanks to Councillor MacDonald for all he has done for the Town of Stratford over the past 20 plus years (taking in the Community of Bunbury). Mayor Dunphy wished Councillor MacDonald all the best in his retirement.

## **12. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **a) No Report**

Councillor Cooper noted that the committee took the summer off and will resume regular monthly meetings later this month. He noted that it will soon be budget time again and in consultation with Kim O'Connell, we are starting to work on the budget timeline. Once that is rolled out, it will go to the Finance Committee and Committee of the Whole for approval. It will be busy this year, as some of Council will also be preparing for the November election.

### **b) Financial Statements**

Included in the package for review. Councillor Cooper noted that we continue to run a healthy surplus on both the Town and the Utility Corporation.

**13. PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE**

**a) No Report**

Councillor Ogden thanked Vahid and the planning department staff for the very successful first public meeting for the Stratford Official Plan. It was a very professional presentation and it was well attended. He also thanked Kim Dudley for doing the media release. Councillor Ogden noted that there will be another public meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2014, so we are on track to have the final draft before the end of the term of this Council. Mayor Dunphy added that there was a lot of time and work involved and a lot of resident engagement, and it is great to see the official plan come to completion.

**b) Permit Summary**

Included in the package. Councillor Ogden briefly reviewed the summary.

**14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Nil

**15. SAFETY SERVICES**

**a) No Report**

Councillor Ogden noted that Safety Services Committee met last evening and they dealt with a number of housekeeping items.

**b) Street Light Report**

No report

**c) RCMP Report**

Included in the package for Council to review. The number of complaints in the community is up. However, the actual number of tickets issued is down marginally compared to last year. Councillor Ogden noted that there was a lot of leave in the month of August due to the events that took place in Moncton.

**d) Humane Society Report**

Included in the package for Council to review.

**e) Transit Report**

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Ogden noted that transit has been the main focus of the Safety Services Committee. He noted that there was also a sub-committee set up to deal with transit issues. The report shows we are on track. We are down marginally from August of last year. However, continuing a trend of around 89 – 90 riders.

Councillor Ogden noted that we are initiating a number of activities and he asked Kim Dudley if she would give an update on the recommendations for September.

Kim gave an update on the recommendations and noted that one of the items that will be rolled out soon is 'ride free week' from September 29 to October 3. The T3 transit will also have a representative at the Community Expo on September 27 for any questions and tickets will be available. Tickets will also be available from the bus driver or from the Town Hall. Kim noted that we will also be promoting the cost savings and the benefits of taking the bus through our newsletter, website and social media. We will also be receiving improved signage at all our bus shelters clearly marked with the departure times.

Councillor Ogden noted that there will also be a take transit free day on T3 day and the transit anniversary. We are also promoting the 'buddy system' where someone helps others learn to use the system with a possible reduced rate for the users who bring a friend. Councillor Ogden noted that we are also looking at tweaking some of the routes by going into areas that are not currently being served.

It was noted that T3 Transit has partnered with the Heart and Stroke Foundation to raise money for the Strike Back at Stroke Campaign. T3 Transit will donate fare proceeds to the health charity for every passenger who rides the bus on Fridays from September 19 until the end of November. The official launch of the campaign will take place at the bus shelter outside of the Charlottetown Mall on Friday, September 19 at 12:30 p.m.

As part of the launch, the City of Charlottetown, the Town of Cornwall, and the Town of Stratford have challenged the federal and provincial governments to see which level of government can get the most employees riding the bus for charity for the September 19 campaign launch. Coloured tickets will be given to government employees on the day of the challenge to track the riders.

Councillor Ogden noted that we set a target of 125 riders per day. Some feel this is ambitious and others feel it is very manageable. Councillor Ogden added that he looks forward to the campaign being a success and making a difference in our ridership.

Mayor Dunphy thanked Councillors Ogden, Gallant, and Kim Dudley for all their great work on the transit system. He feels if we can continue to promote the system more people will start using it. He added that he feels that 125 riders per day is an achievable goal.

**f) Fire Company**

No report

**16. SUSTAINABILITY**

**a) No Report**

Mayor Dunphy noted that one of the issues the Sustainability Committee is dealing with is the cosmetic pesticide issue. On Monday the City of Charlottetown passed a resolution

asking the province, if they are not going to enact more stringent regulations on pesticides, to give the municipalities the authority to do it. Mayor Dunphy noted that the Town asked for this a number of years ago but was refused.

The work in phase II of the business park has started, and hopefully we will have some activity there in the near future.

## **17. ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT**

### **a) Report**

Included in the package for Council to review. Councillor Griffin gave a brief update noting that there was some discussion on the global governance project and it will soon be ready to come to Council in the form of a resolution.

Councillor Griffin stated that the committee is working on the key progress indicators (KPI's) and there will be further to report at the next meeting.

Kim Dudley gave a report on the engagement activities that took place over the summer such as the Stratford Town Talk Newsletter, the Stratford Market, the Road Safety Campaign, and the waterfront and gateway.

Mayor Dunphy commented on the cosmetic pesticides and the City of Charlottetown resolution and our issues with it here in the Town. It was noted that we also received concern from a number of residents. As part of our education campaign, we can suggest alternative methods that people can try in their gardens and around their flower beds other than using chemical pesticides.

Councillor Griffin stated that there is a lot of public interest from residents regarding the old green street signs that are coming down and being replaced with new ones. Some residents are requesting the old signs, and the interest is so high for some streets that we may need to have a draw.

Councillor Griffin stated that there has been a huge amount of activity going on over the summer, and although the committee took the summer off staff certainly kept working. She would like to thank all the staff and especially Kim Dudley for everything she has done over the summer, as it was very much appreciated.

## **18. HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **a) No Report**

## **19. PROCLAMATIONS**

### **a) Nil**

**20. OTHER COMMITTEES**

**a) Stratford Seniors Complex**

No Report

**21. OTHER BUSINESS**

**a) Council Meeting Time Change**

**RESOLUTION**

It was moved by Councillor Randy Cooper and seconded by Councillor Diane Griffin that starting in October 2014, the Regular Monthly Council meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m.

Discussion: None

Question: **CARRIED**

**22. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

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**Mayor David Dunphy**

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**Jeremy Crosby, Acting CAO**