

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**  
**September 24, 2019**

Present:

Mayor Don Clarke  
Deputy Mayor Jane Bustin  
Councillor Barry Corbin  
Councillor Anna Ashford-Morton  
Councillor Ty Walsh  
Councillor Rod Reeves  
Councillor Mike Trinacty  
Tim Harding, Public Works  
Debbie Elliott, Recreation & Community Development  
Chantal Pineo-Atwood, Executive Coordinator

Absent with Regrets: Mike Payne, Chief Administrative Officer  
Laurie Saunders, BDVFD

In Attendance:

Dan Stovel  
Theresa Butts  
Pat Jodrie  
George Floris

**1. Call to Order**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:33pm.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The Committee approved the Agenda as circulated, with the following additions:

- In Camera Session

**3. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The August, 2019 COTW Minutes were approved as circulated.

**4. Dan Stovel, REMO**

Mr. Stovel offered a presentation on the draft REMO Hurricane Plan and the Heat Advisory & Response System, dated June, 2019.

Mr. Stovel asked that both of these plans are reviewed for adoption by Council in October.

Councillor Trinacty noted to Mr. Stovel that communication with Sports Nova Scotia may be a good idea with regard to considering (at times) high temperatures at sport events.

**5. Departmental Reports**

*a.RCMP*

Sgt. Ryan Kelly's reports were reviewed by the committee.

Some discussion ensued with regard to the concerning amount of break and enters within the town over the last few months.

Council asked Councillor Reeves to contact Sgt. Ryan Kelly to ask him to attend the October Council meeting. It was also suggested that Sgt. Kelly attend COTW every other month.

*b. Berwick & District Volunteer Fire Department*

Mr. Saunders did not attend the meeting. The report was reviewed by the committee.

*c. Public Works*

Mr. Harding's report was reviewed by the committee.

Mr. Harding highlighted that due to Hurricane Dorian, 80 loads of brush have been transferred to an outside site, 50 loads this past week and have approximately 20 loads left to go.

Councillor Ashford-Morton asked about weakened trees. Tim asked her to contact Mr. Regan.

Mr. Harding confirmed the department is working ahead with the Bezanson Street sidewalks but the Fall is challenging due to employee vacations.

Councillor Walsh congratulated the department on their steadfast work with Gala Days going directly into Dorian work.

The SLOW DOWN street signs have been removed. There have been complaints that the streets are too narrow for such signage.

*d. Community Development and Recreation*

Ms. Elliott's report was reviewed by Council. Ms. Elliott highlighted that the work at the Tennis Courts is almost complete and asked Council their opinions on number of drop off sites vs. accessible parking sites. Council suggested perhaps 3 accessible parking sites and the rest be labelled "Drop Off Only".

Staff will be meeting with AMANS to discuss the new website venture which has been awarded to them by the Town.

*e. Finance*

Mr. Wood has now retired from the Town of Berwick. Council reviewed his last report which was submitted before his departure.

Two recommendations will go to Council as per Mr. Wood's report:

*THAT Council approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution 19/20-01 in the amount of \$77,000 for the paving of the Town Hall back parking lot.*

and

*THAT Council write-off the outstanding balance of \$23,046.38 tax account AAN02387867 named Alta G. Taylor.*

f. CAO:

Mr. Payne was out of Province. The Committee reviewed the CAO and Bylaw Officer Reports. There were no questions of same.

## **6. Mayors Report:**

Mayor Clarke highlighted various events he has attended over the summer such as:

- Kings REMO Meeting
- Mr. Wood's retirement lunch
- Meeting with Clarke Squires

Future events:

- Valley REN Meeting September 26<sup>th</sup>
- Fibre Network AGM September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Advisory Committees Review Meeting October 2
- Co-op Housing Meeting October 3

Ms. Jodrie asked the status of a hotel. Mayor Clarke noted that one interested party confirmed it would be at least two years before they would be able to entertain such a project. Another party is still considering options and looking at the project.

## **7. Council Round Table**

Councillor Corbin:

- Update on Valley Waste, meeting last week, hoping to have Audit passed on September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- See attached Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Solid Waste Resource Management System report.
- Councillor Corbin would like to step down from the Valley Waste Board in November – December, and asked that thought go into a replacement.
- Trails meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 1pm in the Small Meeting Room

Councillor Trinacty:

- New signage will be installed on the trails.
- Will new gates, etc be capital work?
- Has been in discussions with Nick Bentley (property owner) with regard to a walking trail through the land adjacent to the Grandview Manor. Mr. Bentley is supportive of the idea.
- Mr. Bentley is also interested in discussing co-op housing initiatives with the Town.

Councillor Reeves:

- Encourages everyone to visit the new pet store at the Industrial Park.

Councillor Ashford-Morton:

- Continues to be busy with the “cleaning up” of Gala Days
- Would like to set up a meeting with the Gala Days executive and Council at some point in the near future about planning going forward.

Councillor Walsh:

- Attended the Library Board Meeting for Deputy Mayor Bustin who was away and noted that Berwick’s branch has huge performance numbers – from April 1<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> 30,400 pieces were distributed.
- Has been invited to a Diversity Kings Meeting

Deputy Mayor Bustin:

- Gave a brief update on the Co-op Housing meeting and noted ideas are still being considered and hoping to nail down more definite plans at the next meeting with various committee members bringing back research/information tasked at last meeting.

## **8. New Business**

### *a. Family Medicine Forum*

Mr. Mike Larsen is attending a Family Medicine Forum out west. Council feels this is a very viable trip and will be beneficial in the doctor recruitment process.

Council gave direction for a \$1000.00 contribution toward Mr. Larsen’s expenses.

## **9. In Camera Session**

The Regular Council entered into an In Camera Session at 8:58pm and re-entered into Regular Council at 9:15pm, with no motions.

## **10. Adjournment**

The Council Meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.