

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting - 10 January 1995

Present:

Chairman

Mayor John W. Rainforth

Deputy Mayor Michael J. Munday Councillor Bruce H. Morse Councillor Gary Whittier

Councillor John P. Prall

Councillor Ronald G. Reeves Councillor Michael E. Trinacty Judith Mitchell, Town Clerk Robert Stewart, Solicitor

Connie Coles, Recording Secretary

,In attendance:

Ms. Sara White, Berwick Register

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7: 05 p. m.

Approval of Previous Minutes

(a)

Hearing of no errors or omissions, the Chairman approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting of December 13, 1994 as circulated.

(b)

The following minutes were distributed for the information of Council:

(1)

Recreation Committee - January 4, 1995

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

(a)

Non-Council Appointments to Committees

It was noted that vacancies exist on the Regional Housing Authority, the Recreation Committee and the Planning Advisory Committee. The Clerk to advertise these positions.

(b)

Department of Municipal Affairs

Deputy Mayor Munday reported that the Department of Municipal Affairs requires that a Public Hearing

be held by Council to finalize the adoption process for the Municipal Planning Strategy. Therefore, it was moved by

Deputy Mayor Munday and seconded by Councillor Whittier that Council pass a resolution to withdraw the requested approval of the amended Municipal Planning Strategy and Land-Use By-Laws, as previously put through by motion on November 8, 1994. That motion now rescinded.

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Munday noted that the old Municipal Planning Strategy and Land-Use By-Law are now in effect; although the Planning Act, Section 83 (7) prevents the issuing of any development permits that are contrary to the new Municipal Planning Strategy and Land-Use By-Law. He also noted that only those members of Council who attend the Public Hearing can subsequently vote on the adoption of the planning documents by Council.

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(c)

(d)

Department of the Environment

Mr. David Wigmore has been tentatively scheduled to attend February 1995 Council, contingent upon the Environment Bill being passed in the

Legislature.

Public Sector Compensation Restraint Board

It was reported that the various requests made by the Town for approval from the Public Sector Compensation Restraint Board are tentatively scheduled for hearing at the January 19, 1995 Board meeting.

Reports

4.

Committee

Social Services

(a)

Councillor Morse reported on the November and December social Services reports received from the Director of Social Services at the Municipality of the County of Kings.

(b)

Planning Advisory

other than noting one non-council vacancy on the PAC, Deputy Mayor Munday had nothing to report on PAC matters.

(c)

Fire

councillor Prall extended thanks from members of the Fire Department to the Town for the Christmas turkeys and reported on the Annual Fire Report from Terry Hiltz; noting that installation of dry hydrants was ongoing. councillor Prall had nothing new to report on solid Waste Management other than receipt of the South Shore/Valley Region Solid Waste Management study - Final Report, prepared by

Vaughan Engineering.

(d)

Recreation

councillor Trinacty reported that the breakdown of Recreation participants for the past year is 52% from Town and 48% from county, with 1056 participants overall. The Recreation Committee intends to focus on the following issues in the new year: Tourism, Policy Manual, Program Review, Environmental Awareness, Parks and Trails, and Promotion of Recreation Resources in general to the community.

(e)

Streets

Councillor Whittier reported that snow removal is going very well with few complaints. He noted that the Streets Department is using less salt and more sand this year for environmental reasons.

.../3

(f)

(g)

Finance

councillor Reeves had nothing to report this month but did note that the Finance Committee will be holding a meeting later in the month. ,

Mayors Report

Personnel Committee - The Chairman raised the question of whether the Personnel Committee should advise Council on non-council members serving on Committees. Councillor Morse will coordinate with Clerk. The Clerk will send letters of appreciation to all those members ending their term on various committees, once replacements have been appointed.

Electric Commission - The Chairman reported that the Electric Commission is experiencing overheating problems with the generator due to a lowvoltage current. Water levels remain low; can generate once generator is operational at powerhouse. Demand reading is also a concern.

Quality Health Care Committee - The Department of Health to provide information on the future of the Berwick Hospital soon. The Quality Health Care Committee will remain in existence until the new Community Health Boards become operational. (Regional Health Boards will be implemented in the next 12 months; Community Health Boards to follow thereafter.)

Service Exchange - A report has been received with an overview of the Municipal Reform Bill, part of which was circulated to Council for their information.

UNSM Meeting - The Chairman reported on a Mayors/Wardens 'Meeting held January 6, 1995, which was found to be interesting and informative. Bob Radchuck of KPMG had prepared a report on "Downloading", citing figures on debt levels, program expenditures, changes in transfer payments and changes in funding formulas for Social Assistance. Discussions on social services, health care, roads and policing were of major concern, particularly to those municipalities affected.

5.

Correspondence

a.

b.

c.

A newsletter on education, and the Nov '94 and Dec '94 minutes of the Kings County District school Board. Copies distributed for the information of Council.

Thank you note from Edwin Jones for the retirement gift from the Town. For the information of Council.

Report from Malcolm Maxwell, Nova Scotia Department of Health: Policy, Planning & Research Division, on Municipal Reform, with emphasis on Health Reform in Nova Scotia and building a new structure for delivery of social programs by Regional Health Boards. For the information of Council. Report on file.

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6.

d.

Letter and information package from Department of Municipal Affairs regarding Bill No. 114, the Municipal Reform (1994) Act. The 'Service Exchange Amendments have been summarized in note form and copies have been circulated. For the information of Council.

e.

A letter from Access Cablevision requesting that the Town write a letter to the CRTC supporting the position of the Canadian Cable Television Association. Council has agreed that they will not respond to the request.

f.

A letter from the Kings County District School Board with a second request that the Town provide the school Board with an amount equal to its share of the 3% rollback of school wages, i. e. \$3,410.00. Councillor Prall moved and Deputy Mayor Munday seconded that the request from the School Board be denied.

Motion Carried

g.

A letter from Beth Caldwell, executive Director of Evangeline Trail Tourism Association, requesting a contact person for Berwick. Also, a letter from ETT A requesting an updated community profile of the Town of Berwick. Copies distributed to Council. At Council's direction, the Clerk will submit the Recreation Director's name as a contact person.

h.

Fax from Dan De Matteis of CED Steering Committee asking for the name of the person appointed as the Municipal Representative to the CED Service Board. Deputy Mayor Munday agreed to continue his position on the CED Steering Committee, with Councillor Reeves as his alternate.

i.

Letter and Membership Cards from Ken Simpson, UNSM. Annual Conference will be held October 11 - 13, 1995, in Yarmouth, NS . Membership cards to be distributed. Letter on file.

j.

Kings Regional Economic Development Commission sent a cheque for \$191.00 from defunct

commission funds for year ended March 31, 1994. Statement on file. For the information of Council.

The balance of the correspondence was of a routine nature or passed to committees for action.

Bills and Accounts

It was moved and seconded by Councillors Reeves and Morse that the attached list of bills and accounts in the amount of \$89 1373.99 be approved for payment.

Motion Carried

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7.

New Business

(a)

Tourism

After lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Tourist Bureau provides a valued service to the Town and it should be open six days a week and closed on Sunday. That Recreation and Tourism fit well together and complement each other and that a plan/brochure should be developed promoting services/attractions to the area. Therefore, it was moved by Councillor Trinacty that Tourism and the operation of the Tourist Bureau should fall under the mandate of Recreation. To be evaluated at the end of one year. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Munday.

Motion carried

(b)

Board of Family and Children's Services

Councillor Reeves stated that, due to a conflict in meetings, he will be unable to serve on the Board of Family and Children's Services. Councillor Morse indicated an interest and agreed to accept the position. The Clerk to advise the Board of this change.

(c)

Police Commission

It was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Councillor Whittier to appoint Mayor Rainforth as the Chairman of the Police Commission.

Motion Carried

(d)

King's Transit Authority

The Chairman informed Council of an upcoming Joint Council meeting with Kings Transit Authority being held January 17, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. and encouraged all Councillors to attend this meeting and make their concerns known. At issue will be the funding formula (population vs km travelled), incorporation changes, opting out provisions, representation on Authority Board, routing and the cessation of provincial funding for operating costs.

8.

Council moved to a committee-of-the-whole meeting at 8: 40 p. m . to discuss a number of confidential matters.

9 .

Council returned to regular Council at 8: 55 P. M.

10.

The meeting was adjourned at 8: 56 p. m .



John W. Rainforth
Chairman

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Town Clerk & Treasurer