

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting - April 14, 1995

Present:

Chairman

Mayor John W. Rainforth

Deputy Mayor Michael J. Munday Councillor Bruce H. Morse Councillor John P. Prall

Councillor Gary W. Whittier Councillor Ronald G. Reeves Councillor Michael E. Trinacty Judith Mitchell, Town Clerk Connie Coles, Recording Secretary

In attendance:

Mr. Leonard Poetschke, CED

Ms. Isabel Madeira-Voss, Chairperson, CED Ms. Sara White, Berwick Register

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Previous Minutes

(a) Hearing of no errors or omissions, the Chairman approved the minutes of the regular council meeting of March 14, 1995 as circulated.

(b) Copies of the following minutes were circulated for the information of Council:

(i) (ii)

Police Commission Finance Committee

- March 21, 1995 - March 30, 1995

Community Economic Development Update

Isabel Madeira-Voss presented an update on the progress of the CED to date. They are currently developing a strategy and action plan, setting priorities through a series of workshops covering six sectoral areas and five regions. A citizen's Congress will be held on May 13 to discuss a draft Strategy & Action Plan. The CED has applied for funding for the upcoming year and have also advertised for an Executive Director, for hire date of June.

Mr. Leonard Poetschke outlined a draft for the West Kings area (copy attached) and explained the process to date. He went on to ask questions of Council on the primary opportunities/issues that should be addressed in the Berwick area, "identified as

follows: (1) Promotion of lifestyle: for families and retirees; (2) Health Reform: displaced people should be linked somehow to new opportunities arising in the

Health Field; (3) Government Taxes and regulatory structure are a burden to small businesses just starting out: some recognition/relief is needed; and (4) Berwick needs a focus to define its Downtown Core. Mr. Poetschke commented favourably on the new provincial budget's funding commitment to community economic development, and a possible provision for municipal or provincial bonds. The next step will be to determine how to accomplish goals that have been set for the CED. The Mayor thanked both members for their presentation.

4. Committee Reports

(a) Social Services Committee

Councillor Morse reviewed the social Services report for the month of March and noted that General Assistance has remained constant with last month and with this time last year. The Coordinated Home Care will be assumed directly by the Province on April 1, 1995. Both General Assistance and Homes for Special Care are expected to be overspent by year end.

(b) Planning Advisory Committee

Deputy Mayor Munday noted that there was nothing new to report this month.

(c) Fire Department

Councillor Prall advised that the Fire Department training schedules are ongoing. The Department is currently working on the 95/96 budget to present to the Commission. The chairman noted that a letter was sent to Fire Chief Hiltz from Council, thanking the Fire Department for the recent tour. A meeting has been scheduled for May 15, 1995, at 7: 00 p. m., for the Berwick & District Volunteer Fire Department, the Town's Fire Department Committee and the Fire District of Berwick Commission.

(d) Solid Waste Management

Councillor Prall and the Clerk attended a meeting at the Municipality of Kings on April 6, and, along with Councillor Morse, attended a second meeting on April 7 at Universite Ste. Anne in Church point, hosted by the Municipality of Clare. A summary of the two meetings was reviewed outlining highlights of the meetings, (copies of which are attached to the minutes) . of particular note: more stringent regulations; high diversion targets; escalating costs to implement recycling, composting, hauling and disposal. Kings County has been included in two regional studies and will ultimately have to decide between (1) the Valley/Southwestern Nova Scotia region, (2) South Shore/Valley Region, (3) Kings/Annapolis/West Hants, or (4) Kings County on its own.

(e) Recreation

Councillor Trinacty advised on the following issues:

i)

The Recreation Committee has hired a section 25 Parks Maintenance employee, working out quite well. Considering a part-time student for evenings and weekends.

ii)

The Kings County Funding Formula for funding eligibility of the Berwick & District Recreation Department is \$10,558 for 95/96, up from the 94/95 figure of \$9,000.

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The Environmental Group is meeting regularly and are in the planning stages of several projects.

iv)

New programs are being organized for the upcoming season, (Le. gardening workshop, Tai Chi, babysitting course, etc.)

v)

New Ball Field: ahead of schedule financially; just waiting for earth to be moved to get things underway. Expecting heavy equipment students to work on preparing the field.

vi)

Apple Blossom Princess Tea will be held April 22 at 2: 00 p. m. in the Lion's Hall. The two princesses running for Miss Berwick this year are Natasha Surette and Jillian Clarke.

(f) Streets

Councillor Whittier noted that Gary Gould and Bill MacLellan had attended a Public Works Seminar in Sydney, NS recently, which went quite well. The Superintendent is currently working on the 95/96 budget. The Department has been busy doing tree work on Main Street for the last few weeks. It is too early for paving yet, but the infrastructure areas on Main Street and Maple Street will be re-paved this spring, when conditions permit.

( g) Finance

Councillor Reeves had nothing new to report this month. The Town appears to be on or near budget for this time of year.

(h) Mayors Report

The chairman updated Council on Kings Transit, noting that the three owners (Kings County, Wolfville & Kentville) have approved the budget for 1995/96. The bus will continue to run to Berwick until the end of April, 1995; expanded routing to Greenwood and Area is still undetermined at this time. The Mayors/Warden's meeting for April will take place later on in the month; Berwick is the host.

Correspondence

5.

- (a) Letter from the Honourable Sandy Jolly, Department of Municipal Affairs, advising the Town that she is in receipt of all required documents for the Municipal Planning strategy and Land Use By- Law. For the information of Council.
- (b) A reply from the UNSM regarding the Municipal Legislation Review Committee and Council's request for the Municipal Charter to be pursued -they indicate that the Province is unlikely to commit to a Charter that would restrict future governments. For the information of Council.

(c) A letter from Mary DeWolfe, Executive Director of the Chrysalis House Association, inviting Council to the founding meeting of the Kings county

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Family Violence committee on April 18, 1995, at 2-4 p. m., at Chrysalis House. RSVP please. Any council members wishing to attend to inform the Clerk.

,(d) A Thank You note from the Berwick & District School Band Parent's Association and the Berwick School Junior High Band for support and donation to the Toronto Trip fund. For the information of council.

(e) Kings County District School Board Minutes for March 1, 1995. information of Council.

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(f) A written request from Chief DeWolfe for Council to attend Challenge Day '95 hosted by the Victory Over Violence Committee. Theme is "Youth & Alternatives to Violence", April 19, 1995, 4-6 p.m., at the Berwick Lion's Hall. RSVP please. Mayor Rainforth, Deputy Mayor Munday, Councillor Prall, Councillor Whittier and Councillor Morse have all indicated they will attend the meeting.

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

### Bills and Accounts

It was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Councillor Morse that the attached list of bills and accounts in the amount of \$228,310.15 be approved for payment.

Motion Carried

### New Business

(a) Amending Amusement Machines By- Law

It was moved by Councillor Morse and seconded by councillor whittier to approve the first reading of an Amendment to By-Law #104 - Automatic Machines.

Motion Carried

The Licensing Committee will meet within the next couple of weeks to revise the By- Law, a draft of which will be placed in the local newspaper one week prior to the next Council meeting.

(b) Building By-Law Amendment

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Munday and seconded by Councillor Trinacty to approve a Notice of Intent to review By-Law #135 - Building By-Laws, to amend the Building Permit Fees specified in Part 3, to reflect new rates being set by the Municipality of the County of Kings.

Motion Carried

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It is a condition of the Building Inspection Services Agreement that all participating municipalities amend their rate schedule if the Municipality of the County of Kings does so.

(c) Municipal Concurrence for Infrastructure Application:

Berwick Arena

It was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by councillor Morse to agree to sign the Municipal Concurrence portion of the Infrastructure application in which the Berwick & District Community Association is applying for \$60,000 to do necessary repairs to the arena. Municipal Concurrence does not place any obligations on the municipality; it merely denotes that the municipal unit is in agreement that the project is suitable for their area and should proceed.

(d) Agreement to Process Fire Department Summer Career placement Grant

It was moved by councillor Prall and seconded by Councillor whittier to approve the Berwick and District Volunteer Fire Department's Summer Career Placement Grant being administered through the Town Office, with any portion unpaid being billed back to the Berwick & District Volunteer Fire Department, subject to Grant approval.

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Motion Carried

This has been done in prior years as well.

(e) Board of Trade Brochure

After a general discussion and a review of the proposed brochure being distributed by the Board of Trade, it was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Councillor Trinacty to approve the expenditure of \$400.00 for an advertisement on the back page of the brochure for the Berwick & District Board of Trade.

Motion Carried

The Mayor will supply a picture of the new school for this brochure ad.

(f) WKMH Debenture Payout

It was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Deputy Mayor Munday to accept the Debenture buyout of the West Kings Memorial Hospital 1967 Debenture in the principal amount of \$12,000, and that GICs be purchased with these funds to cover the interest costs.

Motion Carried

\_The Clerk to advise John Dow of the Western Kings Memorial Health Centre (formerly Hospital) accordingly.

(g) Western Kings Memorial Health Centre

Councillor Reeves updated Council on the status of the new Health Centre, noting that one architect was brought in to review the upcoming renovations. A second architect was hired to try and lower costs and get a second opinion. Councillor Reeves pointed out that none of the renovation costs would be borne by the Province, and all funding would have to come from within the Health Centre resources. Western Kings Memorial Hospital Association is still the operating board of the new Centre, but will not come under the Regional Hospital Board, as the new facility is not a hospital. Mayor requested that Councillor Reeves make known the opinion of himself and of Council, in that renovations should proceed as quickly as possible, as the only way to keep the first floor services is to ensure the viability of the second and third floors. Councillor Reeves indicated the fund of \$1 million will be targeted towards reconstruction costs, if possible, to enable the funds to stay within the local community. The Mayor commented that it will be a wonderful facility when completed and more than Berwick had initially expected when first informed of the closure; he thanked everyone involved for all of their hard work. Councillor Reeves emphasized how important it is for the public to continue to stay involved and to keep the pressure on the Province.

(h) Annual Reports

Councillor Trinacty raised the issue of the need for Annual Reports, and if such a need, for what purpose. After some discussion, it was agreed that the chairman of each Committee will prepare a brief, concise report, (two pages) to be reviewed by Mayor Rainforth to ensure a standard format is maintained, and in turn be compiled into one overall Annual Report that will be made available to the public. All committees are asked to submit this report to the Chairman by the first of June.

8.

Council moved to a Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 8: 40 p. m. and returned to regular Council at 9: 11 p. m .

9.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 9: 12 p. m.



John W. Rainforth  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Judith Mitchell". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and "M".

Judith Mitchell Town Clerk & Treasurer

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