

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting - December 12, 1995

Present:

Chairman

Mayor John W. Rainforth Councillor Bruce H. Morse Deputy Mayor Michael J. Munday Councillor John P. Prall
Councillor Michael E. Trinacty Councillor Gary W. Whittier councillor Ronald G. Reeves Judith Mitchell, Town
Clerk Connie Coles, Recording Secretary

,In Attendance:

Ms. Sara White, Berwick Register Mr. Robert Stewart, Solicitor

1.

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

2.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a) Hearing of no errors or omissions, the Chairman approved the minutes of
the Regular Council meeting of November 14, 1995, and Special council
meeting of November 30, 1995 as circulated.

(b) For the Information of Council:

(i) (ii) (iv) (v) (vi)

Police Commission Police Commission Personnel Committee Recreation Committee Personnel Committee

November 22, 1995 (circulated)

December 1, 1995 (circulated) December 5, 1995 (circulated) December 6, 1995 (circulated) December 12, 1995

3.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a) Kings Regional Housing Authority

Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Councillor Morse that:

(i)

(ii)

(iii)

All residents residing within Kings County would be eligible for placement within any municipal unit; and

Any applicant within Kings county who has resided within Kings County for twelve consecutive months within the last twenty-three months would be eligible to reside within any Municipal unit within Kings County; and

No more than 20 percent of each Municipality's total portfolio of housing units be used for housing applicants who, at the time of application, are residing in an area of Kings County other than the Municipality where occupancy is being requested. Only when there is disparity of ten points or greater in the point scoring (needs assessment) system would applicants who reside in areas other than the relevant Municipality be considered; and

(iv)

The relevant Municipal units would cost share the Municipality's share of the net operating loss proportionate to the number of units occupied by its residents. And Agreement that the Housing Authority monitor each Municipality's operating budget to limit the cost of housing applicants from one Municipality into another to not more than ten percent of that Municipality's approved budget.

Motion Carried

(b) Social Services - Recommendation of 5th Resolution

Following a recommendation from the County of Kings to lower the Comfort Allowance for non-licensed facilities from \$105 per recipient per month to \$90 per recipient per month, Councillor Morse called Christine Pinch, placement Officer of the Department of Social Services, for clarification on a number of points regarding Comfort Allowance, reporting that the definition of Comfort Allowance is an allotment of funds for those items and services not required by the home i. e. clothing, toiletries and furniture not required for day-to-day living, noting that all needs must be met first.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Deputy Mayor Munday that Council continue to support the Comfort Allowance in unlicensed homes at \$105 per recipient per month.

Motion Carried

3.

COMMITTEE

REPORTS

(a) Personnel Committee

Councillor Morse reported on the recent Personnel Committee meeting, noting that the secretary for the Police Department has taken alternate employment and will be leaving her present position effective January 12, 1996. For the information of Council, the Personnel Committee has approved an interdepartmental transfer of the Administrative Secretary to this full-time position at the Police Department, effective January 2, 1996, with salary level to remain as is.

It was moved by Councillor Morse that, on the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, Council approve the advertising for a 3/5 Term Accounting position, for 12 month period, and to leave the present Administrative Secretary position vacant. Seconded by Councillor Trinacty.

Motion Carried

The advertisement will be run for a period of two weeks, with competition expiring on December 29, 1995.

(b) Planning Advisory Committee

,Draft Development Agreements have been sent out to the concerned parties for their review. The chairman of PAC and the Development Officer will meet with those concerned early in January to finalize same. A meeting will also be held with Mr. Murray Saunders to continue discussion of plans for the proposed subdivision.

(c) CED

A meeting was held in November, which Deputy Mayor Munday was unable to attend due to family illness. A meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, December 19, which, due to prior commitments, Deputy Mayor Munday will also be unable to attend. Business development activity is underway at the CED agency. CED has five proposals before it from Kings County, including two from West Kings; some CED members will be changed due to illness and the CED Agency has approached ETТА to look at mutual Tourism concerns.

(d) Berwick Fire Department

Councillor Prall reported on the following items:

(i)

Fire Department continuing to experience water problems due to inadequacy of pump. Possibility that a submersible will have to be installed, and may have to replace some pipe.

(ii)

Continuing to check into the fuel expenditures to determine why gas and oil expenses are so high.

Liquor License not yet received but still ongoing.

(iii) (iv)

Janitorial services are needed right away due to upcoming rentals for the holiday season; considering possibility of contracting out. Not in budget, so cost will be the responsibility of the BDVFD for now.

(e) Solid Waste Management

Councillor Prall, the Clerk and the Public Advisory Representative toured the Westmoreland-Albert Solid Waste Facility near Moncton, New Brunswick, which is similar to the facility in Lunenburg but on a much larger scale.

The landfill in Moncton is up to code; however, recycling and composting facilities not running at 100% yet. Tests of landfill leachate are done on a regular basis to maintain proper levels of BOD. The Joint Solid Waste Interim Committee meeting that had been scheduled for December 11, 1995 was rescheduled and will be held on January 22, 1996. At issue is whether Kings County and the rest of the units involved wish to form one region or two, (to grapple with solid Waste Management). Town of Berwick had already decided to support whichever position Kings county adopts.

(f)

Recreation Department

,Councillor Trinacty updated Council on the following items:

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

Santa Claus Celebrations were well attended considering the stormy weather conditions; Breakfast with Santa and Santa Claus skate were especially well attended;

The Recreation Committee has agreed to pursue a Tourism Theme and will look at expanding on the Apple theme (in festivals, signage, etc.); also checking into the possibility of funding. Director has been asked to solicit support from the Board of Trade for a joint effort.

Revisions have been made to the current Gym Rental Policy to accommodate growing demands for use of the gym i

The Recreation Director is now on the new Health Promotion Committee for the Western Kings Memorial Health Centre;

The Recreation Department will be closed from December 27 - 29, 1995 due to vacation.

(g) Streets Department

The aerator screens and drums hears are still experiencing fat buildups. Mr. Ian Frost, Larsen's, met with the Superintendent of the Public Works Department to see first hand the amount of fat accumulating. Looking into possibility of having a hot and cold water wash cycle, as well as increase water pressure, to help cut down fat accumulation on the screens. A

recommendation will be forthcoming to Finance for more aeration in the ponds. councillor Prall questioned if there was any way to divert the fat from Larsen's before going through the screens. T_e Chairman questioned why, when we have two drumshears, one couldn It be used to handle Larsen's effluent and the other used to handle the effluent from Avon Foods. Councillor whittier to follow up on both questions and report back at next Council meeting.

The Public Works Department has commenced holding regular monthly safety meetings to discuss various health and safety issues.

Councillor Trinacty questioned the snow removal system, (i. e. what priority determines which areas get cleared first). Councillor whittier responded that Commercial Street gets plowed first, followed by Orchard Street (hospital). Most streets should get a "first swipe" before more thorough cleaning is done, however, arterial

highways must be kept clean.

(h) Finance Committee

,Councillor Reeves briefly reported on the Kings Transit Authority, noting that following a brief downslide, ridership is now up again, and is expected to remain up for the months of November and December. It was noted that

Council will need to make a decision, probably in January, as to whether they will become a partner of the Kings Transit Authority or opt out of the venture.

(i)

Electric Commission

The Chairman reported on a meeting held with the seven municipally owned Electric Utilities in Nova Scotia, held in Lunenburg. The meeting was very

interesting and showed good ground work for cooperation.

Each utility

gave a report on the areas in which they serve. A second meeting will be held in the Spring in Kentville to discuss the possibility of joint tendering.

A Rate Hearing was held recently to determine if Berwick Electric Utility can increase the present rate schedule. still awaiting a decision.

The Superintendent of the Electric Commission appeared before the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board as an intervenor to oppose some of the rate changes applied for by Nova Scotia Power rnc. Mr. Regan represented the Commission's interests in an able manner and received favourable comments regarding his intervention.

4.

Correspondence

- (a) News Release from the Canadian Soft Drink Association. Soft Drink Manufacturers are alarmed about proposed Deposit System, and refer to it as "yet another tax grab" / and note that the soft drink industry is the largest private sector contributor to the Resource Recovery Fund. For the information of Council.
- (b) A letter from Kings County Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Bob Suffron, indicating that the formula for determining the cost of delivering Town Park and Leisure services to Kings County residents should be revisited, and if necessary, modified. Passed on to the Recreation Director and Chairman for action. For the information of Council.
- (c) A letter from the Honourable Wayne Adams, Minister of the Department of the Environment, explaining the expanded mandate of the Resource Recovery Fund as a "private-sector, industry-driven, non-profit organization". A new Board is being established to administer the Fund, however, as Mr. Adam explains, "For the next few months, everything will be in the developmental stage, so it will be impossible to provide complete details on how the Final Board will operate or how to apply for funding". For the information of Council.

- (d) A letter from David Witherly of Annapolis Valley Regional Library outlining the responsibilities for providing branch library service and their Selection Policy on adding or deleting materials offered to the Public. For the Information of Council.
- (e) A draft copy from the Department of Environment of the new Provincial Strategy for waste, entitled "Solid Waste Resource Management: A Strategy for Nova scotia". This document is 12 pages long, with an additional ten pages of Regulations, all double-sided. For the information of Council. Anyone wishing to view this documents, it is available in the Clerk's office.
- (f) A Policy Paper from the Nova scotia Department of Supply and Services on Government Procurement. It is unclear whether or not this document applies to Municipal Government. Awaiting clarification from the Department of Municipal Affairs legal department. For the information of Council.

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

5.

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 \$175,753.69 be approved for payment.

Motion Carried

6.

New Business

Councillor whittier thanked the Town and staff for the flower arrangement received in recognition of his 25th Wedding Anniversary.

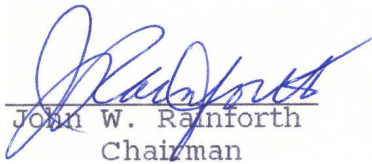
7.

There was a five minute break at 8: 10 prior to going to Committee-of-the-Whole at 8:15 p.m.

8.

Regular Council resumed at 8: 30. adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

There being no further business, Council was


John W. Rainforth
Chairman



Judith Mitchell
Clerk & Treasurer
Town