

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting - Jan. 09, 1996

Present:

chairman

Mayor John W. Rainforth

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

In Attendance:

Ms . Sara White, Berwick Register Ms . Debbie Smith, N. S . sports & Recreation

1.

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

2.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Hearing of no errors or omissions, the chairman approved the minutes of the regular meeting of Dec .12,1995, as circulated.

3.

GUEST SPEAKER

Ms. Debbie Smith, Valley Representative for N. S . sport & Recreation, presented an award on behalf of the Department of Health and N. S . sport & Recreation, to the Mayor for the Town's winning of the Summer Active Challenge. Ms. smith

noted that the Town had the most recruits and the highest

number of active participants. She expressed thanks to the Recreation Director for her support and involvement in getting the community to respond to the Challenge. The award consisted of a Plaque to be held for one year, and a Gift Certificate for a shrub.

4.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Any items of old business to be covered by the Committee Reports.

5.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a)

social SerVices Committee

Councillor Morse reported on the monthly statistics for Social Services for December 1995. Generally, the costs remain well within budget for the current year.

(b)

#### Personnel Committee

Councillor Morse informed Council that the Clerk had made a recommendation to the Personnel Committee to fill the advertised Term Accounting Position, which the Personnel Committee subsequently approved.

Chairman Morse then moved that Mr. Roger Ryan be hired as 3/5ths Accountant on a 1-year Term, with duties to commence the week of Jan. 15/96. Seconded by Councillor whittier.

Motion Carried

(c)

#### Planning Advisory Committee

Deputy Mayor Munday was unable to attend, due to other commitments, but forwarded a written report, which the Mayor read aloud. The report included updates on the Development Agreements between the town and Mr. Preston Ilsley, and with Dr. MacEachern; and the subdivision plans for M. Saunders Investments. A Planning Advisory meeting will likely be required by the end of the month.

(d)

#### C.E.D. Agency

There is no report from C. E . D . Agency, however, Deputy Mayor Munday plans to attend the regular monthly meeting on January 16, 1996.

(e)

#### Berwick Fire Department

Councillor Prall reported that the implications for Fire Departments in the event of Municipal Amalgamation as outlined in Bill 28 were unclear, and that the Fire Chief had requested that the Minister of Municipal Affairs, or her alternate, attend a meeting in Berwick to address the issue. The Department of Municipal Affairs' valley representative had contacted the Clerk earlier that day, and will be forwarding more information. Holding of assets and need for incorporation are the issues that require clarification. Mr. Robert Stewart is also looking into the matter.

(f)

#### Solid Waste Management

There will be a meeting on January 22,1996 at Univ. Ste. Anne to discuss regions and new developments. Councillor Prall,however, will be away and asks that another Councillor attend in his absence. Public appointee Mr. Levi Sherman will also be attending.

(g)

Recreation Department

Councillor Trinacty commented that the Recreation Dept. is taking a new approach by trying Bulk Purchasing in conjunction with other Recreation Departments. winter Programs are now underway. The Recreation Director submitted a Tourism Proposal, which was approved by the Recreation Committee, and leaves the way clear to start

a Tourism Planning Subcommittee, to try and drum up interest in a Tourism strategy for Berwick and area. Such a plan will require community involvement: watch for an ad in this weeks' paper.

(h)

streets Department

Councillor Whittier reported on the snow plowing and sanding and salting that has kept the Public Works Department extremely busy the last few weeks; and presented a map to indicate snow plowing procedures for the Department. The new truck and plow have cut down on the time it takes to plow out the Town, compared with years gone by. The Mayor reported that Chief DeWolfe, and others, have commented on the fine job Public Works is doing to keep the streets cleared and passable. Councillor Morse asked that the streets Dept. Chairman extend Council's gratitude for a job well done.

Councillor Whittier also reported that hot/cold water is being tried on the screens at the Sewer Treatment Plant; and that the Backhoe required a repair in excess of \$4000. dollars.

(i)

Finance Committee

Nothing new to report. Kings Transit Authority meeting is upcoming: will report back on the outcome.

(j)

Kings Municipal Reform Advisory committee

The Mayor reported that the K. M . R . A . C . will be meeting on January 11,1996 at the Research Station. The Mayor plans to suggest, on behalf of Berwick, that a study for amalgamation not be pursued in light of recent legislated changes, (i.e. - Bill No.28), but that energies be re-focused on a study of shared services and how that would benefit the municipal units involved. The results of this meeting will be reported at the next council meeting.

6.

(k)

#### Police Commission

There is a meeting on Police Unification scheduled for next week in Kentville, therefore, the Police Commission meeting will be scheduled the week after. The Kentville meeting will initiate a Planning Committee, identify necessary tasks, and name a Chairman. For the information of Council, the Berwick Police Department is due for a new car this year, and will have to order soon to have delivery in the next fiscal year. May be able to Tender with other local Police Departments for added savings. will likely be looking for permission via Finance Committee/ Council next month to place such an order.

(l)

#### Berwick Electric

Superintendent Don Regan is attending the N. S . P . I . hearings before the N. S . Utility and Review Board in Halifax, and will be acting as an Intervenor on behalf of the Berwick Electric Commission along with the Superintendent of the Kentville Electric Commission. The Rate Application from Nov. 30, 1995 for the Berwick Electric Commission was approved as submitted with an effective date of January 1, 1996.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

(c)

(a)

Kings County District School Board Minutes for Dec.06, 1995, as well as the Newsletter About Education. For the information of Council.

(b)

A letter from the Honourable Bill Gillis, MInister of Justice, informing the Mayor that in accordance with the Provincial-Municipal Service Exchange, all units will start paying for Prosecutorial Services as at Apr. 1, 1996. (Berwick always has). For the information of Council.

A Memo from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities updating Council on the GST status of the \$3500 per kilometre Road Fee that Regional Municipalities and Rural Municipalities pay to the Province. "We have been successful with our appeal and units with the agreements will no longer be required to pay GST". For the information of Council. The Clerk reminded Council that the Town pays GST on all of its Road Expenditures, and is not affected by this update.

7.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS

It was moved by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Councillor Whittier that the attached list of Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$ 119, 195.59 be approved for payment.

8.

NEW BUSINESS

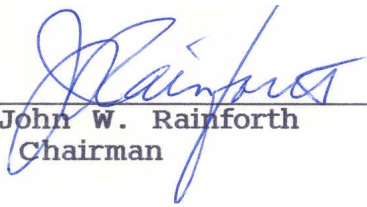
There was no New Business to report.

9.

There was a five minute break at 7: 52 prior to going to Committee-of-the-whole at 7: 57 p. m.

10.

Regular Council resumed at 8: 05 .  
business, council adjourned at 8: 06



John W. Rainforth  
Chairman

There being no further p.m. /

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Town Clerk