

Any other items to be discussed will likely arise under Committee Reports.

5. Committee Reports

(A) Licensing & Bylaws

Councillor Morse advised that the next scheduled meeting for the Licensing & Bylaws Committee is tentatively Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Councillor Trinacty inquired if any further developments have come about with the Skateboarding Bylaw. Councillor Morse replied that he has spoken to Mr. John Rainforth about the issue, and they are planning to include a notice and information in an upcoming school bulletin. There doesn't seem to be a big hurry, as snow will be on the ground soon. Councillor Trinacty stated his interest in having all information distributed well in advance of Spring 1999.

(B) 75th Birthday Committee

Councillor Morse advised that the next scheduled meeting for the 75th Birthday Committee is planned for November 18th, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will provide updates from all subcommittees to date, as well as to plan for the Santa Claus Celebrations and the New Year's Eve Gala Ball. A final wrap up meeting will be held in January.

Councillor Clarke noted that the Heritage/Historical Night held on October 17th was very successful. Wanted to publicly thank all those who brought out historical data. Feels there is an interest, and that it should be done again. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

Deputy Mayor Munday reported on the New Year's Eve Gala. The last meeting of this subcommittee met in mid-October and finalized the ticket sales procedures. Sent out 37 letters to local businesses looking for support, received 12 replies; very generous. Tickets will be going on sale November 12th, \$30/couple or \$15/person, at the Town Office; or directly from Deputy Mayor Munday or Mr. Wes Keddy. Prizes will be awarded throughout the evening. Formal advertisements will start in December on the radio and in the newspapers. This will be the only public New Year's Eve dance in Town, as the Fire Department is holding one for members only.

(C) Tree Committee

Councillor Banks reported that the first meeting of the Tree Committee was held on November 2, 1998, and went very well. Several removal options were discussed, one of which is having an arborist top off the highest, most hazardous trees. The Superintendent of the Electric Commission will look into the practicalities and cost effectiveness of this plan. The Electric Commission and the Public Works Department have agreed to allocate two days per week for tree removal; currently removing a large Ash tree on Main Street.

Discussion followed regarding having an Arbor Day in the spring. Will plan to invite a representative from the Town of Wolfville's Tree Committee to talk to the Committee about how Wolfville has planned Arbor Day.

(D) Kings CED Agency

Councillor Banks reported that several meetings have been held recently. An incubation centre for small businesses is to be developed in Wolfville within the next 24 months. Kings CED Agency plans to approach Michelin and CFB Greenwood regarding running a high speed data transmission line to Greenwood. Expected to attract more business to the Valley.

Councillor Banks brought forward a letter which he sent to the RDA Executive Director, Mr. Robin Marshall. This letter dealt with accountability of federal/provincial/municipal funds that are unused, feels that these funds must be returned, or used to reduce next year's funding level. Municipal Units feel they need more say in how the funds are used, but the federal/provincial levels feel that the Municipal Units have too much say as members of the upper levels don't sit on the Board. Kings CED Agency is reluctant to advertise further due to small amount of staff, can only do so much.

Program funding is available directly from provincial/federal levels, but requests would be checked through the RDA anyway. On the funding issue, the Town of Berwick's reluctance to commit for five years was understood, however, were somewhat concerned with the Town's point that election changes may change the five-year commitment from the two senior levels of government.

(E) Fire Committee

Councillor Clarke reported that the Fire Department Executive are waiting to see what takes place with the Building SubCommittee. If the new building does not happen, the current Fire Hall is still in need of serious renovation.

A special meeting of the Fire Committee was held on October 17th with representatives from the Arena and the Police Department on hand to discuss how the Ammonia leak at the Arena was handled. A good discussion took place on what happened and what improvements could be made. It was pointed out that there is a need to formalize the Town's EMO plan so everyone knows who's responsible for what and proper protocols are put in place. Planning to meet with the Western Zone EMO Controller Mr. Keith Crosland as soon as possible

(F) Valley Solid Waste Authority

Councillor Clarke noted that it had been a busy month for the Authority. A Valued Engineering Audit has been completed to evaluate the specific designs and technology developed to date to ensure that it fits the requirements of the Strategy and the needs of the users. Cut approximately \$700,000 off the original projected capital costs: some savings from the Eastern Management Centre can be applied to the Western Management Centre for further savings. Tenders for land-clearing have been awarded, with more coming up as the project gets underway.

After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Banks that authority be granted to the Mayor and Clerk to sign a Warranty Deed between the VALLEY REGION SOLID WASTE-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY as Tenants-in-Common and 2394341 NOV A SCOTIA LIMITED, for the purpose of deeding over the right-of-way extension for the Donald Hiltz Connector Road, known as Parcel DHC-2, to the Town of Kentville. Such parcel amounts to 2.64 acres and is part of the land acquired for the Eastern Zone Management Center.

Motion Carried

(G) Recreation Committee

- (i) Santa Claus Celebrations: Councillor Trinacty advised that the Annual Santa Claus Celebrations for the Town of Berwick will be held on December 4 - 6, 1998. Some new events are being planned this year, hope to see a good turnout.

(ii) Sports Hall of Fame: The Sports Hall of Fame is proceeding. Looking at having an event in the spring, tentatively a banquet or supper, to recognize athletes from the previous year, and from days gone by. Still looking for volunteers to help out with organizing and planning. Next meeting is scheduled for November 17th at 7 p.m.

(iii) Gymnasium Roof: The Gymnasium Roof repairs are underway with no disruption to the Recreation Programs. Classes and programs are going on as usual, but with access to the facilities through the back door of the Town Hall.

(iv) Recreation Facility Names: The Recreation Committee has suggested the possibility of naming the gymnasium and/or other recreation facilities to help better identify them. Now seeking a response from Council on this issue. All agreed that this seemed to be a good idea and would lend itself well to a contest. It was noted that attractive signs would be appropriate once any facility names were decided upon. A good opportunity to commemorate local community leaders or families around Town.

(v) **Hiring of Recreation Director:**

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Whittier that, upon the successful completion of her six-month probationary period and an excellent performance appraisal; it be recommended that Ms. Jill Bishop be hired as a Permanent Full-time Recreation Director at the approved salary level with applicable benefits; effective 2 November 1998.

Motion Carried

(H) Personnel Committee

(i) **Public Appointees:** Councillor Trinacty reported that a Handbook has been developed, detailing the structure of Committees, Commissions, and Boards for the Town. Two more pages were updated at the Personnel Committee meeting last evening. Will continue to add to the Handbook as time goes along. Reviewed all the various citizen appointees; accommodated the majority of requests received. Very fortunate with the level of quality of people who have applied.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Deputy Mayor Munday that the list of appointments to Committees, Commissions, and Boards be approved as submitted. (Copy attached to the formal copy of the Minutes.)

Motion Carried

Mayor Prall noted that letters will be sent out to public appointees to confirm their appointment, and to those public appointees not returning to sit on Committees, thanking them for their time and effort in the past. A discussion followed questioning the size of the Tree Committee. It was agreed that a larger Committee allows for more public input and also gets the word out to the public about the state of the tree situation in Berwick.

(ii) **Resignation of Mr. Shawn Anderson:**

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Banks that Council accept, with regret, the resignation of Mr. Shawn Anderson from the Town's Public Works Department, for an effective date of November 27, 1998.

Motion Carried

(iii) **Kings CED Agency Appointee:** Councillor Banks informed Council that the Town will need a new Kings CED Agency citizen appointee, due to the resignation of Mr. Colin MacDonald (end of two year term). Not sure that this should be dealt with here, but Council should be aware that there will not be a vote at Board meetings of the Kings CED Agency until a new citizen appointee has been chosen. The first scheduled Local CED Committee meeting is scheduled for November 24th, this issue can be addressed at that time.

(I) Public Works Committee

(i) **Orchard Street Sidewalks:** After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Whittier and seconded by Councillor Clarke that the Tender for Sidewalks on Orchard Street be accepted from the firm of LaFarge Canada Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$20,000; and that the Mayor and Clerk be granted authority to sign off the Tender documents.

Motion Carried

The initial quote was cheaper than anticipated, so the work has been extended to Thomas Street instead of stopping at Ilsley Street. Any landscaping work will be done in the spring. Councillor Whittier is to check with the Public Works Superintendent regarding the ditch involved with the work, and if it will be okay to wait until spring to have landscaping work done on the banks of it. Mayor Prall noted that the sidewalks are a great addition to Orchard Street, especially for schoolchildren. A job well done.

(ii) **Sewer Treatment Plant Tender:**

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Whittier and seconded by Deputy Mayor Munday that Council accept the written recommendation of Hiltz & Seamone Company Limited to approve the STP Disinfection Tender from R. Hurlburt Construction Limited in Yarmouth in an amount not to exceed \$547,000, including HST. Tender to be accepted in its entirety with the exception of \$32,000 for aeration work, (note that \$547,000 is exclusive of the \$32,000). A further decision to be made no later than January 13, 1999 as to whether to proceed with the additional aeration work for \$32,000, or not.

Motion Carried

(Note: Technology for disinfection is to be the Schreiber FUZZY BALL filtration system with ultraviolet treatment; along with chemical treatment for several months/year.)

The budget for this project is \$577,000. Mayor Prall noted that the aeration would help the odor problem, however, will have to review in January to determine if there are enough contingency funds left to fund the rest of the project. If the funds are available, may see fit to do aeration and help prevent or lessen some of the septic conditions that leads to odour build up. This is a different form of aeration than is currently installed; and may oxygenate in a manner complementary to the existing aerators.

(iii) **Temporary Employee:**

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Whittier and seconded by Councillor Trinacty that a Temporary Employee be hired by the Public Works Superintendent on a casual basis until such time as the vacancy has been advertised and filled in the Public Works Department; pending an organizational review.

Motion Carried

(J) Finance Committee

Deputy Mayor Munday reported that the next meeting of the Finance Committee is to be scheduled for November 30, 1998 at 7 p.m.

(K) Planning Advisory Committee

Deputy Mayor Munday noted that there were no new items to bring forward from PAC, but there are several issues pending.

(L) Police Commission

(i) NSAPB Conference, November 20-21: Mayor Prall advised the Commission that he would be attending this conference, along with Commissioner Keith and Chief DeWolfe. Should be very informative with topical items. Restorative Justice is to be discussed as well.

(ii) Main Street/Commercial Street Intersection: The Commission is looking at installing a flashing light over the centre of the intersection to make the crosswalks more visible, putting in speed reducing ridges on the approaches to the intersection, and upgrading the crosswalk signage. A suggestion was made that the Police Department may want to watch the intersection in order to remind motorists that pedestrians have the right-of-way to cross.

(iii) Municipal Policing: This issue is becoming very costly; the Mayor advised that we are trying to show some leadership and look at alternative methods of policing that are at least equivalent to the level of policing in effect now. A letter has been sent to the Minister of Justice to inquire what the RCMP could provide; (i.e. to present an overall package of what they could offer versus what we already have). Just a preliminary, exploratory look so that the Town can weigh all of the options and arrive at an informed decision later on. More information is

needed about 24-hour service, level of presence in the community, cost, etc.

IT WAS THEREFORE moved by Mayor Prall and seconded by Councillor Trinacty that consent be granted for Council to request an exploration of alternative policing strategies by asking the RCMP to prepare a joint presentation for Council (and Police Commission) in the near future.

Motion Carried

(iv) Mayors/Warden/CAOs Meeting: Mayor Prall reported that the most recent Mayors/Warden/CAOs meeting was held on November 3, 1998. These meetings provide an important venue to exchange ideas and to communicate and build cooperation between the four Municipal Units within Kings County. Decision has been made to meet quarterly, away from Council Chambers. Provides a good opportunity to discuss common issues such as natural gas, possible sharing of fire inspection, look at RDA funding. Concerned about First Responders. The EMO plans need to be updated in light of the ice storm, etc. One Municipal Unit quoted a figure of 624 planes going over the valley on any given day. Next meetings will be as follows: December 1, 1998 - Wolfville; March 1999 - Berwick; June 1999 - Kentville; September 1999 - Municipality of the County of Kings.

(v) Electric Commission: Mayor Prall reported that the upgrade to Spicer Park, in cooperation with Bragg Communications and MT&T, is now underway. Upgrading the wiring/cabling system by using a boring machine to drill under the street; then a flexible conduit is hooked through and cables are lined through, holes are filled on backstroke, all in one operation. This saves cutting through the pavement.

The Dam has been generating for two to three weeks. This is much earlier than last year, largely due to higher water levels from recent rainfall.

The HST Rebate is being processed manually and has been applied to bills sent out in October; will be applied to the remainder of the bills when sent out in November.

(M) Joint Expenditure Board

A Joint Expenditure Board meeting was held to discuss the lockup expenditures. Based on usage figures, the Provincial Government is not paying appropriately. In Shelburne, the Province pays \$20/hour, so on motion of the Joint Expenditure Board, have put it to the Province that they pay from September 1998 to March 1999 as a lump sum. From April 1, 1999 on a monthly billing will be submitted, based on hours of usage for each month. This proposal has been submitted to the Province by the Board. Still awaiting a reply.

6. Correspondence

(i) Received a copy of a letter from the Municipality of Annapolis County to the Minister of Transportation indicating that more than 2000 western valley residents have signed a petition requesting the Province make Highway 101 safer by installing passing lanes on some sections between Digby and Bridgetown, repaving necessary portions between Digby and Kentville, and extending the controlled access highway between Digby and Weymouth. For the information of Council.

(ii) Received a NOTICE from Joan Tracey & Anne Cameron advising that a "TWIN TO WIN" Petition for twinning Highway 101 will be presented in the foyer of Province House at 1 :00 p.m. on November 12, 1998. The Notice asks that all Municipal Councils, Town Councils, Village Commissions, and interested persons please try to attend and bring your relatives, neighbours, and friends. For the information of Council.

(iii) Received from Mr. Ted Peters, Chair, of St. Anthony's Church, a thank you note to Mayor and Council for any advice and assistance provided during the recent building of the new Parish Centre. Much appreciated. For the information of Council.

(iv) Received from the UNSM a notice of a gathering being planned for June 5, 1999 to showcase Nova Scotian hospitality for the FCM Conference being held in Halifax next year. All Municipal Units are being invited to provide sponsorship of \$1,000 for this event: which can be dollars or an in-kind contribution. For a decision of Council. (Note: this would be in the 1999/2000 fiscal year). Town Clerk to inquire with Ken Simpson to determine what "in-kind" includes. Perhaps the Town could supply apples for nutritional breaks, or prizes of some sort.

IT WAS THEREFORE moved by Deputy Mayor Munday and seconded by Councillor Whittier that Council agree to participate in the sponsorship, and to work out the details at a later date.

Motion Carried

- (v) Received from the Annapolis Valley Regional Schoolboard, a copy of the 1997/98 Audited Financial Statements as approved by the Board on October 7, 1998. For the information of Council.
- (vi) Received from Mr. John Nichols. Berwick Building Supplies, a written request to move his sign on the corner of Union and Commercial Streets; to be placed more predominantly. The sign request indicates the sign dimensions are 48" high by 72" wide and the request involves moving it to the side of the existing sign, closest to the sidewalk, with an overhang. (A sketch of the proposed sign has been enclosed with the correspondence). For the information of Council. (Note - Request was directed to the PAC).
- (vii) Received from the Minister of Housing & Municipal Affairs a letter indicating that a new Deputy Minister has been appointed: Mr. Howard Windsor, who was a Senior Policy Advisor at the Priorities & Planning Secretariat previously, and prior to that a senior administrator with the Department of Environment. For the information of Council.
- (viii) Received from the Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board an Order dated October 29, 1998 approving the Rate Application for all bills rendered on or after November 1, 1998, based on information filed at the Public Hearing for the Rate Study as held on September 10th, 1998 in Council Chambers. For the information of Council.

All remaining correspondence was of a routine nature or forwarded to Committees for their action.

7. **Bills and Accounts**

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Munday and seconded by Councillor Clarke that Bills and Accounts for the month of October 1998 be approved in the amount of \$153,476.50.

Motion Carried

8. **New Business**

(i) UNSM Conference; Yarmouth

Mayor Prall noted that this conference was one of the best the Town has ever attended; a lot of information, very well organized. The Sempra Gas session went well. The official opening was with the Premier and other dignitaries. SaskEnergy did a very good presentation. The workshop on Education was very hotly debated. The Provincial Government has enlarged schoolboards, taken away decision-making capabilities from the Municipal Units, and have put up Education costs. The Municipal Units are very unhappy with this arrangement. If the Province wants to control it, they should be paying for it.

Met on Friday afternoon with Minister Gaudet to discuss position of small towns: plight with service exchange and removal of funding; how towns have been negatively impacted while larger Municipal Units are able to foster reserves and so on. Mayor Sylvester Atkinson was on the UNSM Committee when the Service Exchange was worked out initially. The final outcome was a great disappointment, especially after larger Municipal Units reworked some of the terms in their favour. The Minister did acknowledge there was a problem.

Mayor Prall noted that the other Municipal Units have a promotional package distributed from their area, at the Conference. Perhaps we should be doing this as well, for draws, etc. Councillor Morse stated that the Town needs a flag, with the Town symbol or crest on it.

(ii) Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society of Nova Scotia CST ARS)

Councillor Clarke collected an information package from a kiosk at the UNSM Conference regarding this group, and inquired if there was an approved helicopter landing site in the Town. The documents outline specifications for landing sites. Councillor Clarke and Mayor Prall to check with the Fire Department to see if they are aware of an approved site in Berwick.

(iii) Canadian Water Board

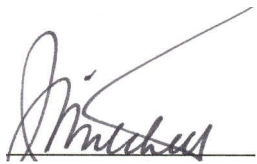
Councillor Banks reported that the Kings CED Agency is looking at tours of various facilities in the area and would like to look at the Berwick Electric Dam. Mayor Prall suggested that they may want to wait until the disinfection gear is working and then look at the Cornwallis River. It is difficult to get around at the Dam, even in a four-wheel drive vehicle.

(iv) Antique Fire Truck

Councillor Clarke informed Council that the Fire Department had found an old relic Fire Truck. Originally thought it to be 1939 vintage, but upon closer look, it seems to be roughly 1918 to 1923 vintage: Model T with spoke wheels. This is the first firetruck the Town ever had. Hoping to purchase it at a reasonable price and then restore it for parades and possibly the museum. Mechanically speaking, the heads are off of it and it needs some work, but it's a great find and they're very excited about it. Would make a great show piece.

9. **Adjournment**

Hearing of no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Judith Mitchell", written over a horizontal line.

Judith Mitchell
Town Clerk/Treasurer

John P. Prall
Chairman