

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
12 OCTOBER 1999

Present: Chairman Mayor John P. Prall
 Deputy Mayor Michael J. Munday
 Councillor Michael E. Trinacty
 Councillor Bruce H. Morse
 Councillor Thomas S. Banks
 Councillor Donald E. Clarke
 Mr. Rick Ramsay, Acting Town Clerk
 Ms. Judith Mitchell, Town Clerk
 Ms. Rachel Jones, Recording Secretary

Absent: Councillor Gary W. Whittier

In attendance: Ms. Sarah Keddy, Register
 Mr. Bob Stewart, Town Solicitor

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed Ms. Keddy, as well as the return of Ms. Mitchell to the Council meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Councillor Trinacty requested an addition to New Business, (e) Recommendation from Personnel Committee. There was a consensus to add Committee Reports after Business Arising.

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Banks and seconded by
Councillor Clarke to approve the Agenda as amended.**

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Hearing of no errors or omissions the Chairman approved the minutes of 14 September 1999 as circulated.

4. **Business Arising**

(a) **Air Conditioning of RCMP Facility**

Mr. Ramsay reported that Mayor Prall had met with the RCMP in order to work out an arrangement to pay for the air conditioning to be installed in the new community office. The RCMP views this as the Town's responsibility. In return for this, the Town's budget for 2000/01 should show an equal amount to pay for furniture and other upgrades, so as to be a gradual repayment. The RCMP will forward a request of items to be considered by Council.

(b) Sewer Treatment Plant Upgrade

Mayor Prall reported that there has been no reply regarding the grant for the STP Upgrade Project. He has contacted Jon Carey, MP to help speed the process along at the Provincial level.

4. Committee Reports

(a) Licensing/Bylaws

Councillor Morse reported that at the last Licensing and Bylaw Committee meeting held September 28th, it was agreed not to create a bylaw for Poop and Scoop, rather to start an educational campaign with the public to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets when off their property. The next meeting is scheduled for October 26th.

(b) Future Development

Councillor Morse reported that the Committee met on September 27th and accepted the new structure as agreed by Council. The next meeting is scheduled for October 25th. All agreed that Council has a responsibility to provide some leadership in the transitional phase to ensure the continuation of the committee. Mayor Prall agreed to make contact with groups and committee members to ensure this.

(c) Kings CED Agency

Councillor Banks reported that the Kings CED Agency has had its funding cut by the Province from \$100,000 to \$50,000. It was suggested that Councillors consider the Town's continuing contribution to the Agency or if these funds should be utilized in other ways.

(d) Trees

Councillor Banks noted that the nursery is ready for trees to be planted. Public Works will be gathering saplings this week to plant in it on October 16th, Arbour Day. Mr. Gould has purchased 15 large trees, 10 of which will be planted at the school, one for each grade. Everyone is encouraged to participate in Arbour Day.

(e) Pony Express

Councillor Clarke represented the Town at the recent reenactment of the Pony Express. A representative from England also attended and provided information regarding the area he was representing, extending an invitation to all to visit the area.

(f) Personnel

Councillor Trinacty reported that the recruiting and interview process to fill the Public Works Foreman position has been completed.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Banks that based upon merit and qualifications, Council accept the recommendation to hire Mr. Tim Harding as Public Works Foreman, effective as soon as he is available, with the salary to be negotiated per the CUPE Agreement.

Motion Carried

(f) Public Works

Mayor Prall reported that the Department is operating as usual. The trim on the Town Hall Complex has been painted and the work has begun on staining the woodwork. As well, a catch basin has been installed on Orchard Street to alleviate a flooding problem.

(g) Berwick Electric Commission

Mayor Prall reported that the Commission is considering a Bylaw similar to NSPI which outlines that developers of new subdivisions will be responsible for paying for the installation of poles and power lines, with payment being returned to them over a period of years, depending on occupancy. As well, insurance coverage has increased to cover all substations.

(h) First Responders

Mayor Prall noted that the Town has insurance coverage for first responders. MacDonald Chisholm has provided the coverage at no cost for the first year. The statistics for first response calls will be studied and the issue will be further discussed at that point. Councillor Clarke noted that the Fire Department believes there is a document in their files regarding insurance coverage by the Province on this issue. Councillor Clarke will obtain a copy of the document to be reviewed by Council.

5. Bills and Accounts

- (a) **IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Munday and seconded by Councillor Banks that the Bills and Accounts for the month of September 1999 be approved in the amount of \$264,705.15.**

Motion Carried

6. New Business

a) Approval of VSWA Land Transfer

Mr. Ramsay reviewed the process of the land transfer to this point. After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Clarke that the Mayor and Clerk/Treasurer be authorized to sign the warranty deed on behalf of the Town of Berwick.

Motion Carried

b) Draft Police Services Advisory Committee Bylaw

Mr. Ramsay noted that this was the first reading for the proposed Bylaw. Mayor Prall is to meet with Corporal Payne upon his return to discuss the details of the Bylaw.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Munday and seconded by Councillor Morse to accept the first reading of the Police Services Advisory Committee Bylaw.

Motion Carried

The second and final reading will be held at the regular Council meeting on November 9th.

c) Tree Removal Tender Recommendation

Councillor Banks reviewed the memo regarding the tender process for the tree removal. After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Banks and seconded by Councillor Clarke to accept the tender from Asplundh Tree Services Inc. as submitted in the amount of \$14,975.00 plus HST.

Motion Carried

Arrangements are being made to mill some of the wood, as well as to offer the deadwood to adjacent property owners and town residents in general.

d) Date for Mock Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mayor Prall noted that the date scheduled for this meeting is October 27th at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Ramsay stated that the purpose of the mock meeting is to test the procedure and some typical issues will be invented to be dealt with. A schedule is being created for the next year for Council and Committee of the Whole, the latter being scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month. Mr. Ramsay will present the draft Committee of the Whole Bylaw at that time for review.

Council took a short break at 8:00 p.m. Regular Council reconvened at 8:05 p.m. with all in attendance.

- e) Personnel Recommendation
After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Clarke that Council accept Mr. Kevin Roscoe to fill the vacant Planning Advisory Committee position, with the term to expire in November 2001.

Motion Carried

7. Any Other Business

- a) Crosswalk at Main and Commercial Streets
Councillor Morse noted that he had been contacted regarding the crosswalk at the intersection of Main and Commercial Streets. Mayor Prall assured Council that the crosswalk was under consideration by Corporal Payne and Town officials.
- b) Proposed Lock Up
Councillor Morse inquired if the Town had thought about submitting a proposal for the Town of Berwick to house the new jail. Mr. Stewart noted that one of the main requirements for the location was that it should be within 15 minutes of the Halifax and Dartmouth courthouses.
- c) Extension of Bezanson Drive
Councillor Morse inquired if there were any plans to extend Bezanson Drive up to Berwick and District School. Mr. Stewart advised that the land is owned privately and has changed ownership at least two times since the school was built. There are no formal plans to develop that area as an extension to Bezanson Drive.
- d) Business Cards
Councillor Banks inquired if business cards could be printed for Councillors prior to the UNSM Conference. Ms. Jones will arrange for business cards to be printed for those Councillors who would like them.
- e) Fall Clean Up
Councillor Clarke raised the issue of Fall Clean Up for the Town of Berwick. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the level of service residents of the Town are accustomed to, and the possible items that may be left out after the VSWA completes its clean up on October 15th. Suggestions were made regarding augmenting the cleanup by utilizing equipment and manpower of the Public Works Department. Staff will have to evaluate the remaining items left behind after clean up day to determine the extent of the Town's clean up. All agreed that a suggestion be made to the Authority to include in their developing bylaws a time limit as to when items are permitted to be out for large clean up schedules. Therefore,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Clarke that the Town of Berwick augment the VSWA one-day Fall Clean Up, as well as continue with its own leaf collection, with a work plan to be put in place by the Public Works Department.

Motion Carried

f) Halloween

Due to Halloween falling on a Sunday this year, all agreed to leave the date as usual, although there are several municipal units who are asking residents to celebrate the day on Saturday, October 30th.

8. Hearing of no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

John P. Prall
Chairman

Rachel L. Jones
Recording Secretary