

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
9 JANUARY 2001

Present: Chairman Mayor John P. Prall
 Councillor Michael E. Trinacty
 Councillor Gary W. Whittier
 Councillor Donald E. Clarke
 Councillor Thomas S. Banks
 Councillor Bruce H. Morse
 Mr. Gary Gould, Public Works Superintendent
 Ms. Linda Parker, Acting Town Clerk
 Mrs. Rachel Turner, Recording Secretary

Absent: Councillor-elect Richard Horsburgh

In attendance: Dr. Jim Gunn, AVRSB
 Mrs. Heather MacLean, AVRSB
 Ms. Sara Keddy, Register
 Mr. Bob Stewart, Town Solicitor
 Representatives from Larsen Packers Ltd.
 Members of the public

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

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

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Hearing of no errors or omissions the Chairman approved the minutes of 12 December 2000 as circulated.

4. **Presentation**

a) **Annapolis Valley Regional School Board**

Mayor Prall welcomed Dr. Gunn and Mrs. MacLean from the School Board and invited them to begin their presentation. Mrs. MacLean reviewed the status of the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board, noting that the region encompasses 44 schools, 15 board members, 17,500 students, and 1800 staff members. The cutbacks last spring have been felt this year in teacher/pupil ratios, and the loss of 50 teaching staff. The Board is making a more organized effort to get to the bottom of child poverty through breakfast programs and similar projects. As well, there will soon be a committee working to decrease the amount of violence in schools in response to the events in Columbine, Ohio and Tabor, Alberta. Transportation costs have increased this year due to the turnover of the busing contract, and there are hopes that the cost will decrease in the next year.

Dr. Gunn distributed a short report and reviewed it for the benefit of Council (copy filed with minutes). He also noted that the School Board is greatly enjoying the facilities in Berwick at the Health Centre, and that he appreciated the opportunity to address Council this evening.

Councillor Trinacty noted that, as a Councillor and with his contact within the local schools, the reception for the RCMP and their various programs has been very good from the Berwick School. Principal John Rainforth has been involved in determining the Town's Recreation Strategy, has had very positive input, and created an atmosphere of sharing and partnership between the Town and school for facilities and information. Dr. Gunn acknowledged the concern regarding teacher shortages in the upcoming years and noted that options are being discussed.

Mayor Prall thanked Dr. Gunn and Mrs. MacLean for their time, who then left the meeting.

5. Business Arising

a) Sewer Discharge Bylaw – 2nd Reading

Mayor Prall provided a brief background and history of the Sewer Discharge Bylaw, noting that the second and final reading had been deferred from October 2000 Council meeting. Meetings have been held between the Town, Larsen Packers and Avon Foods to discuss the issues around the Bylaw. A solution has not been reached but it is close and the Mayor gave credit to the engineering firms involved for the work done in proceeding to this point. Thanks were expressed to the Town's engineering firm, Hiltz and Seamone, for the time, effort and advice given through these past months. Further negotiations are required but the Town is confident that solutions will be found. The Town needs to gain control over the sewer system and determine exactly what is discharged into the system. There will be odour in the spring and the Town is working very hard to control this. At this time, the deferred motion was brought back for consideration.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Munday and seconded by Councillor Clarke to proceed with the second reading of the Sewer Discharge Bylaw.

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Whittier to delete the word starch from section 2.1 (d).
Vote taken on the amendment.**

Motion Carried

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Banks to delete the word blood from section 2.1 (e).
Vote taken on the amendment**

Motion Carried

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Morse to delete section 2.4 (c) “suspended solids in excess of 200 milligrams per litre” and replace with “wastewater flows in excess of 250,000 IGAL per day”.

Vote taken on the amendment.

Motion Carried

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Whittier to amend section 2.4 (d) to read “total BOD (CBOD + NBOD) in excess of 1000 lbs. per day”.

Vote taken on the amendment

Motion Carried

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Trinacty and seconded by Councillor Whittier to add section 2.4 (g) total nitrogen (TKN) in excess of 30 mg/l.

Vote taken on the amendment

Motion Carried

Vote taken on the amended motion.

Motion Carried

Mayor Prall noted that any odour issues will be addressed over time as required. Council is of a mind to enter into further negotiations and the Bylaw is the first step. There is still a lot of work to be done and will be ongoing.

Mayor Prall circulated a report submitted by an individual contracted from Acadia University to study the noise levels emanating from the sewer treatment plant (report filed with minutes). Sound tests were taken inside the gate at the STP, out into the yard, and at the property line at 215 Main Street. The report states that there was no noise heard at the property line. More work will be done in that area including further planting of evergreen trees and the installation of another shroud to help lower the noise.

b) Penner Sewer Exemption

Ms. Parker reviewed the report as a follow up to a report made at October Committee of the Whole. After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Banks and seconded by Councillor Trinacty to send Mr. Penner a letter indicating he would have the option of connecting to the Town’s sewer line if it were to be extended to his property and that he would be exempt from the Town’s sewer tax levy as long as he owned the property.

Motion Carried

6. New Business

a) Councillor Horsburgh – Leave from Council

Ms. Parker reviewed the report for the benefit of Council.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Whittier and seconded by Councillor Morse that Council approve a leave of absence for Councillor-elect Horsburgh for the months of November and December 2000 and January 2001.

Motion Carried

b) Document Destruction

Mrs. Turner reviewed the report and responded to questions from Council regarding the quantity of documents to be destroyed, and the company recommended to do the work. After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Whittier and seconded by Councillor Banks to approve the destruction of the list of documents as outlined in the Town Clerk's Affidavit.

Motion Carried

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Morse and seconded by Councillor Trinacty to hire the services of Proshred to complete the destruction of the listed documents.

Motion Carried

c) Date for Council Strategy Session

After a brief discussion, it was agreed to hold the next Council Strategy Session on January 22, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. Councillors will be informed once a venue has been determined.

7. Council took a short break at 8:00 p.m. to move into an In Camera Session to discuss matters of a confidential nature. Regular Council reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

8. Valley Waste-Resource Management Authority

It was agreed that a new alternate member representing the Town at Authority meetings was required. After a brief discussion,

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Whittier that Councillor Banks be appointed as the Town's alternate member representing the Town of Berwick at the Valley Waste-Resource Management Authority.

Motion Carried

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9. Hearing of no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

John P. Prall
Chairman

Rachel L. Turner
Recording Secretary