

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
11 FEBRUARY 2003

Present: Chairman Mayor John P. Prall
 Deputy Mayor Michael E. Trinacty
 Councillor Gary W. Whittier
 Councillor Donald E. Clarke
 Councillor Thomas S. Banks
 Councillor J. Richard Horsburgh
 Ms. Linda Parker, Chief Administrative Officer
 Mrs. Rachel Turner, Recording Secretary

In attendance: Mr. Ken MacPherson, Register
 Mr. Brian MacCulloch, 4Site Group
 Corporal Don Allen, RCMP
 Mr. Dale Lloyd
 Mrs. Beth Easson

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and welcomed everyone in the gallery.
2. **Approval of Agenda**
The following additions were made to the Agenda: (5) Recommendations from Committee of the Whole (renumber remaining agenda items); move 8(f) after 4(a); 8(h) Valley Waste Resource Authority Budget; 8(i) UNSM Executive Report. Hearing of no further changes the Chairman approved the Agenda as amended.
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes**
Hearing of no errors or omissions the Chairman approved the minutes of 14 January 2003 as circulated.
4. **Presentation**
 - (a) **Union/Commercial Street Intersection – Mr. Dale Lloyd**
Mr. Lloyd made several favourable comments regarding the Town, specifically the extension of parking on Union Street, the new sidewalks on Commercial Street, and the downtown Christmas decorations. However, due to the long winter that we are experiencing, and the amount of snow that has fallen, Mr. Lloyd would like to develop better communication with the Town regarding snow removal times. He would like to be able to have his snow removal done at the same time as when the Public Works Department is working in that area in order to better clean out the area to allow for better traffic flow and parking.

Secondly, Mr. Lloyd proposed eliminating both left turning lanes on Commercial Street as he claims that they make it difficult to enter his store's parking lot. They seem to be dangerous and unfair. Thirdly, he proposed expanding the parking facilities further east and west on Union Street. He noted several actions that he has taken over the past year and the funds spent in order to improve the appearance of his business and the intersection. As well, Mr. Lloyd volunteered to participate on any committees that the Town has in order to provide

input and work together with the Town in its endeavours. He thanked Council for the opportunity to discuss the issues raised at the meeting.

Mayor Prall thanked Mr. Lloyd for his comments and concerns. It was noted that the traffic lights have not yet been installed and tested, therefore eliminating the left turning lanes prior to a full assessment of the system would be ill advised.

7. (f) Groundwater Resource Study

Mr. MacCulloch commended Council on undertaking this study as it was not legislated but very timely to enter into this project. The issue is very much in discussion at the Roundtable and elsewhere in the Province. He then proceeded to review the report produced from Phase 1 of the study.

Ms. Parker reviewed the report distributed at the meeting regarding the results of the Invitation to Bid for Phase 2 of the study. As a result of the recommendation, Mrs. Easson explained that the purpose of the extended timeline included in her bid was to provide a more accurate baseline of testing for the Town that would include a year's worth of sampling to include climate and seasonal changes. Discussion of the two bids for the sampling component followed at length. Ms. Parker noted her concern about following the process closely now that the Town has entered into a formal bid process and the legal ramifications of changing the parameters. After further discussion,

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the bid from Beth Easson for the Sampling Component of Phase 2, at a cost of \$8,827.

Motion Carried

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the bid from Hiltz & Seamone for the Modeling Component of Phase 2, at a cost of \$13,975.

A brief discussion of the merits of the bid followed.

Motion Carried

5. Recommendations from Committee of the Whole

(a) 2003 Officers for Berwick & District Volunteer Fire Department

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the 2003 list of Officers for the Berwick & District Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion Carried

(b) Operating Fund Line of Credit

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to renew the \$400,000 Operating Fund Line of Credit with the Royal Bank.

Motion Carried

(c) Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Sewer, Street & Sidewalk Upgrades

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution Renewal in the amount of \$490,000 issued by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations for Sewer, Street & Sidewalk Upgrades.

Motion Carried

(d) 2003 Berwick Princess Committee

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the 2003 Berwick Princess Committee consisting of Chantal Atwood, Nicole Lee, Anna Morton and Allyson Burgess.

Motion Carried

(e) Apple Dome Fundraising Dinner

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve \$500 for the purchase of a table in the Town's name at the annual Apple Dome Fundraising Dinner on March 1, 2003.

Motion Carried

Mayor Prall noted that he had been approached by the President of the Apple Blossom Festival regarding holding the opening ceremonies of this year's Festival in the Town of Berwick. More information will be brought to Council as it is known.

6. Recommendations from Other Committees

(a) Police Services Advisory Committee

After review of the issue, it was agreed to defer this issue to the upcoming budget process.

(b) Fire Services Sub Committee

Ms. Parker reviewed the report.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the CBCL proposal for the development of a program for a new Fire Hall on a 50/50 cost share basis with the Berwick & District Fire Commission to a maximum of \$4,500 (including HST).

It was noted that the program will provide a conceptual plan as to what will be needed and housed in a new facility, as well as identifying the square footage required in a new building. Architectural plans will not be completed until the conceptual plan is done and a suitable site has been identified.

Motion Carried

7. New Business

(a) TBR – Computer System

Ms. Parker briefly reviewed the report. Councillor Banks inquired if the Town is able to pay this loan off now due to the forecasted surplus for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2003. Ms. Parker recommended that the TBR should be approved but can be held until further information is brought forward for consideration at the February Committee of the Whole meeting.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution Renewal for the computer system in the amount of \$10,000 as issued by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

Motion Carried

- (b) Fire Inspection Services
Ms. Parker reviewed the report and draft letter.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the Mayor's signature on the letter to Mr. Robert Cormier of the Provincial Fire Marshall's Office.
Motion Carried

It was agreed to copy the letter to all three Provincial political parties, including the Minister of Environment and Labour.

- (c) Special Election – Advanced Polls
Ms. Parker briefly reviewed the report.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to set the dates for the Advance Polls for the 2003 Special Election to be held on Tuesday, March 4, 2003 from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 8, 2003 from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.

Motion Carried

- (d) Flag Day
Mrs. Turner briefly reviewed the report noting that Council representation is being sought. Councillor Banks agreed to attend on behalf of the Town.

- (e) HRDC Job Creation Partnership
Ms. Parker reviewed the report and letter for the benefit of Council.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the Mayor providing a letter of support to be included with Mrs. Keddy's application for HRDC funding to provide part-time employment to support the activities of the Berwick and District Board of Trade, Apple Capital Museum and promotion and special events organized by the Town's Recreation Department.

Motion Carried

- (g) EMO Emergency Readiness Plan
Ms. Parker noted that Council received a draft copy of the Town's Emergency Readiness Plan prior to the beginning of the Council meeting. The report was reviewed and it was agreed that the Plan would be presented to the Advisory Committee and Council at a meeting on February 19, 2003 at 6:00 p.m.

- (h) Valley Waste Resource Management
Councillor Horsburgh reviewed a number of issues that the Town of Berwick and other participating municipal units have raised with respect to the Valley Waste-Resource Management Authority's proposed budget. There will be a meeting on February 19th to further discuss and approve the budget, at which time it is important that answers be provided to those concerns raised. Council is not prepared to support the budget as presented until those concerns are addressed. It was agreed that the issue would be brought to the February Committee of the Whole meeting if required, and that Councillor Clarke will represent the Town at next week's meeting.

(i) UNSM Executive Report

Councillor Clarke noted that he will have a written report to distribute to all municipal councils very shortly. He provided a brief update on some of the issues discussed at the last UNSM Executive Committee meeting.

8. Other Business

(a) Resignation of Deputy Town Clerk

Due to the resignation of the Deputy Town Clerk, Mayor Prall presented Mrs. Turner with a parting gift on behalf of Council. Mrs. Turner thanked the Mayor and Council, noting that her time in Berwick has been enjoyable working with a very supportive group of staff and Council, and that she will certainly miss everyone.

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

John P. Prall
Chairman

Rachel L. Turner
Recording Secretary