

MINUTES OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
12 NOVEMBER 2003

Present: Chairman Mayor John P. Prall
 Deputy Mayor Michael E. Trinacty
 Councillor Gary W. Whittier
 Councillor Don Clarke
 Councillor J. Richard Horsburgh
 Councillor Murray Bezanson
 Ms. Linda Parker, Chief Administrative Officer
 Ms. Michelle Millett, Recording Secretary

In attendance: Mr. Barry Corbin, Citizens' Roundtable
 Mrs. Beth Easson, Citizens' Roundtable
 Mr. Brian MacCulloch, Citizens' Roundtable
 Mrs. Polly Scott, Citizens' Roundtable
 Mr. Ken Crichton, Hants Kings Business Development
 Centre Ltd.
 Mr. Bruce Morse
 Ms. Sarah Keddy, Berwick Register

Absent: Mr. Dwight Johnson, Co-Chair, Citizens' Roundtable
 Mrs. Tanya Musseau, Citizens' Roundtable
 Mr. Randy Holmsdale, Citizens' Roundtable
 Mr. Anthony Morse, Co-Chair, Citizens' Roundtable

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and welcomed guests in attendance.

2. Presentations

(a) Citizens' Roundtable Presentations

Mayor Prall welcomed members of the Citizens' Roundtable and congratulated them on the recommendations brought forward in the Community Profile Report. He discussed the gift and certificate chosen by Council to present to the group that served as a reminder of our interdependence on one another. Mayor Prall said that this was the first time that a group had been struck that included members of the community, as this one had. The Mayor requested that the group set a meeting date this evening that would allow the development of a mission statement, communication of Council's response to the Citizens' Roundtable recommendations, and the set-up a communication plan to make available to the public the Committee's recommendations. He requested that Ms. Parker, Mr. Corbin and Deputy Mayor Trinacty set a meeting date before the end of November to facilitate

the completion of these objectives by the Roundtable members. Wednesday the 26th of November at 7:00 p.m. was set as the meeting date.

(b) Hants-Kings Business Development Centre Ltd. Annual Report

Mayor Prall welcomed Mr. Ken Crichton who distributed the Annual Report of the Hants-Kings Business Development Centre Ltd. and promotional material for the Centre. He described the structure of the organization and activities that the Centre had been involved in during the past year. Mr. Crichton described how this organization had been one of the most active of its type in Atlantic Canada. He was looking for a representative board member from western Kings County that must be a business owner. Mr. Crichton described the types of loans made by the organization and the viability of the businesses that the Centre had aided in start-up. He noted that loan rates varied but were in the range of prime + 2% without any administration fees and/or other charges.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The following additions were made to the Agenda: under New Business 5(c) Election of Deputy Mayor; and 5(d) Agriculture, 5(e) Crows, and 5(f) VWRM - Historic Day for Inter-municipal Co-operation. Under Correspondence, the addition of 6(d) St. Eudora Rebekah Lodge Tax Relief Request, 6(e) Citizens Patrol, 6(f) Berwick & District Board of Trade Christmas Reception Invitation & Funding Request, 6(g) Eat Canadian Campaign, and 6(h) AMA Presidential Award. Hearing of no further changes the Chairman approved the Agenda as amended.

4. Approval of the Previous Minutes

Hearing of no errors or omissions the Chairman approved the previous minutes of 14 October 2003.

5. New Business

(a) Annapolis Valley Regional Library Representative

Ms. Millett reviewed her recommendation noting that Mrs. Connie Archer was willing to have her name put forward to represent the Town of Berwick on the Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to appoint Mrs. Connie Archer as the Berwick Town Council representative on the Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board.

Motion Carried

(b) Valley Natural Gas

Mayor Prall reviewed his recommendation and requested Council support the Kings Centre for Economic Development and the Valley Natural Gas Committee in their efforts towards a feasibility study for bringing a natural gas pipeline as far as Hantsport. Mayor Prall noted that the study would

investigate the feasibility of continuing a pipeline from Hantsport through to Annapolis. Deputy Mayor Trinacty enquired as to the benefit the Town of Berwick would receive from the money put forward. Discussion ensued as to amounts other municipalities had contributed. Council requested that more information be collected and the matter be brought back to Council. Interest was expressed in contributing to the study and the opportunity for natural gas to be in the area was seen as advantageous. Mayor Prall agreed to add this issue to the Agenda of the next Mayors & Warden Meeting.

(c) VWRM - Historic Day for Inter-municipal Co-operation

Councillor Horsburgh reviewed the media release from Valley Waste Resource Management Authority noting that the official signing of a twenty year disposal agreement with the Municipality of the District of Chester was a cost effective solution for landfill waste for Kings County. He highlighted that there should be no cost increases with the signing of this contract due to the lower cost of transport to Chester.

(d) Election of Deputy Mayor

Ms. Parker reviewed her report and discussed with Councillors the background on elections of Deputy Mayor. Councillor Clarke was nominated and accepted the nomination.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded that Councillor Clarke would serve as Deputy Mayor for the term beginning November 12, 2003 to October 16, 2003, the date of the next Municipal Election.

Motion Carried

(e) Agriculture – Hog Industry

Councillor Clarke requested Council do whatever it could to aid agricultural producers experiencing hardship in the industry. He handed out an article on the subject from the Chronicle Herald and asked that Council contact some producers in the area to see if there is anything that could be done at the municipal level to assist local producers.

(f) Crows

Councillor Bezanson noted that crows had returned to roost in Berwick especially behind the curling club and said that perhaps that area could be clear-cut. Mayor Prall and other Councillors' quickly pointed out to Councillor Bezanson that the Town had many trees and that the crows would only roost in another area of the Town. Discussion ensued with various solutions suggested. Ms. Parker agreed to discuss activating the past practice for noise to move crows with Mr. Gould.

6. Correspondence

(a) UNSM Update on Policing Services

Ms. Parker reviewed the Memo and noted that the UNSM had an Advisory Committee in place to represent municipal interests when the province negotiates annual policing services and cost. She highlighted that there was not adequate Town representation on that Committee and she had contacted Mr. Simpson regarding this issue. Councillor's requested that a letter be sent in regard to this issue. Ms. Parker and Mayor Prall agreed to put the matter before the Town Caucus structure to see if they also wanted to correspond in this regard.

(b) Candle in the Window

Ms. Parker read a card from the Candle in the Window (Polly Scott) regarding emergency service by the Public Works Department of the Town. Councillor Whittier noted that the Public Works Department takes a lot of unnecessary flack and that it is nice to see some positive comments for all good work they do.

(c) Valley Restorative Justice

Ms. Parker read the thank you from the organization regarding a funds received through grants to organizations.

(d) St. Eudora Rebekah Lodge

Ms. Parker discussed a letter from the St. Eudora Rebekah Lodge, No. 43, I.O.O.F that Council had received regarding a requested tax exemption. She recommended further research on the matter before bringing a recommendation to Council.

(e) Western Kings Citizens Patrol

Ms. Parker read a thank you letter from the group in response to grant provided through the grants to organizations fund.

(f) Berwick & District Board of Trade & Town of Berwick Christmas Wine & Cheese

Mayor Prall extended an invitation to Councillor's to the joint Berwick & District Board of Trade & Town of Berwick Christmas Wine & Cheese to be held on 28th November 2003 and the request for funding as a co-sponser of the event.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve funding to the Berwick and District Board of Trade as a participant in the annual Christmas reception in the amount of \$150.00.

Motion Carried

(g) Eat Canadian Campaign

For information of Council.

(h) AMA Presidential Award

Ms. Parker thanked Council for their support of her participation as the AMANS President during the past year and relayed what a good opportunity personally and professionally it had been to participate. She noted that she had received her certificate with her new designation of CMM. Ms. Parker and Councillor's agreed that her certification and participation in this organization was of benefit to Ms. Parker, Council and the citizens of the Town of Berwick. Council congratulated Ms. Parker on her achievements.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of Council would be held the 9th December 2003.

8. Hearing of no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

John P. Prall
Chairman

Michelle Millett
Recording Secretary