

MINUTES OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 2005

Present: Chairman Mayor John P. Prall
 Deputy Mayor Donald E. Clarke
 Councillor J. Richard Horsburgh
 Councillor Beth Easson
 Councillor Michael E. Trinacty
 Mr. Bob Ashley, Chief Administrative Officer
 Ms. Michelle Millett, Recording Secretary

In Attendance: Mrs. Sara Keddy, Berwick Register

Absent with Regrets: Councillor Gary W. Whittier
 Councillor Anna Ashford-Morton

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

The Agenda was approved with the postponement of the Hants Kings Business Development Centre Ltd. presentation due to inclement weather. The Veterans Memorial Committee was added under item 6(b), and a Canada Games Stakeholders Meeting as 6(c) under New Business. The Agenda was approved as amended.

3. **Approval of the Previous Minutes**

The Chairman approved the Council minutes of November 8, 2005 as circulated.

4. **Accolades**

(a) Tri-District Addiction Services International Awards

For the information of Council.

(b) Blood Donors to Canadian Blood Services

For the information of Council.

5. **Committee Updates and Recommendations**

(a) Committee of the Whole

Mr. Bob Ashley read the motions.

(i) Signing Officers

IT WAS MOVED and seconded that Council approve the addition of Donald E. Clarke to the approved list of signing officers and the deletion of Mike Trinacty.

Motion Carried

(ii) KPSC Immigration Committee

IT WAS MOVED and seconded that Council support requesting the Kings Partnership Steering Committee to form a committee to explore ways to attract immigrants to the Annapolis Valley. This committee should be as broad based and inclusive as possible.

Motion Carried

Mr. Ashley reported that Kentville had passed this motion, but that Wolfville was postponing its decision. It was determined that a committee of Councillors would work on the initiative. Mayor Prall noted that the provincial workforce has more people leaving than incoming and that it was costly and an often lengthy process for immigrants to come to Nova Scotia and Canada.

(b) Planning Advisory Committee

Councillor Trinacty reviewed the report. Semi-detached housing was discussed. Mr. Murray Saunders, who had expressed an interest in this particular planning issue, had no immediate plans to develop these types of dwellings. Deputy Mayor Clarke noted that the GIS system viewed at PAC could also be used at Council meetings. Discussion ensued regarding the Town purchasing a “pull down” screen and a projector compatible with laptops. Councillor Easson reported that students working with the Open Space Committee would be returning in January to give their report regarding Public Open Spaces. Discussion took place regarding the Brown Street Ball Park and a trail to Illsley Park. Discussion also took place regarding the utility pole at the north exit of Appletown Estates.

Mayor Prall relayed that Kingston Village Commission was interested in a copy of our Water Resource Management Study. Councillor Trinacty requested the study be put on the Town’s web site.

(c) Police Services Advisory Committee

Mr. Ashley reviewed the report and indicated that the PSAC would recommend the extended zone be dissolved and the Town adopt a stand-alone force. He relayed that the RCMP and Department of Justice will have some input in this process. Mr. Ashley indicated that Peter Sayer of the Aylesford Village Commission had expressed concerns with the loss of the extended zone on the Aylesford area.

Mayor Prall relayed that there would be a public meeting regarding the decision and then the PSAC would recommend to Council. Mayor Prall noted that policing is an issue for the UNSM too.

Councillor Easson raised the issue of a children-at-play sign on Union Street and asserted that she had no clear direction from Council regarding this issue. Mayor Prall indicated that the signs are not legally enforceable signs and that too many of the posted signs may decrease their effectiveness. Councillor Trinacty questioned what streets should not have signs, how the signage was to be managed and by what authority signs are posted. Discussion ensued regarding utilizing the Citizens on Patrol or mobile signs in neighborhoods where children are playing.

Mr. Ashley noted that the questions posed by Councillor Trinacty are of a policy nature and suggested that a policy for warning signs such as children-at-play” signage may be in order.

(d) Fire Services Sub-Committee

Deputy Mayor Clarke reported that the Illsley property had been selected by the Fire Commission and the Fire Department as the proposed site for the new Fire Hall. Mayor Prall indicated that prior to the purchase of the property certain conditions would need to be met.

Discussion ensued regarding the partnership of the Town and the Fire Commission in the purchase of the property and development of the land purchased. The inclusion of a tourist bureau and walking parks on the property were also discussed to improve the entrance to the Town as part of the fire hall property.

Deputy Mayor Clarke relayed that the KPSC is calling for proposals to do a Fire Study for the entire County and there had been a suggestion at the last meeting of the KPSC that Berwick may want to put plans for a new Fire Hall on hold until the area Fire Study was completed. Deputy Mayor Clarke and other Councillors were in agreement that a future study should not postpone the purchase of property for a new Fire Hall and its future construction.

Mayor Prall reiterated that a study had been contracted by the Town that determined a need for a new fire hall.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded that Council approve the purchase of the Illsley property in conjunction with the Fire Commission as a full partner at the cost of \$100,000 with the following conditions: **a.** Approval of the site for the intended use by the N.S. Department of Environment and Labour; **b.** Passing necessary amendments to the Town’s Municipal Planning Strategy **c.** passing necessary amendments to the Town’s Land Use By-law; and **d.** Town Councils approval of total cost for site development.

Motion Carried

Councillor Trinaety reiterated that costs associated with the amendments to the MPS and LUB required to rezone the property to house the Fire Hall be split evenly with the Fire Commission.

(e) Assessment Board Update

Mayor Prall reviewed the contents on the Assessment Board meeting held on December 8, 2005. He noted that the Board was trying to keep the budget down for this year and that the Board would be costly to administer.

(f) Mayors and Warden Meeting Update

Mayor Prall noted that when the Mayor's and Wardens meet they are normally confidential meetings. Mr. Ashley noted that the Agenda often is really topics of discussion rather than a formal meeting agenda. Deputy Mayor Clarke requested that the possibility of scholarships from Council be considered for Berwick students. He relayed that in other municipal units each Councillor is given an amount to put towards grants to organizations.

6. New Business

(a) Annapolis-Cornwallis Sustainable Water Project

Mr. Ashley reviewed his report. He noted that the other municipal units with the exception of Wolfville are not showing early support. He relayed that the County and Town of Kentville had referred the project to staff. Mr. Ashley was of the opinion that a more sophisticated business model should be developed.

Councillor Easson suggested that the project proponents should have done further research to determine the needs of municipal partners. Mr. Ashley was directed to correspond with the proponents to let them know that the Town is not interested in participating at this time, but that the Town would share results of the Water Resource Management Study, if they were required by the group.

(b) Veterans Memorial Committee Update

Mr. Ashley reviewed his report and reported that the committee is looking forward to having the carving done but they would also like to have the name of Main Street (east side only) changed to Veteran's Drive. He relayed that a WWI infantry soldier had been the image selected by the Committee.

Mr. Ashley suggested that the renaming of the street would be a constant reminder throughout the years of the service performed by veterans to our country. He added cautions, however, about the inconvenience to residents of the street and noted that the residents should be consulted regarding changing the name of the street.

Mayor Prall noted that Mr. Preston Illsley had relayed to him that the name Main Street was derived as the street served as the Number One highway prior to a

road being built around the bog. Mayor Prall suggested that it was Mr. Illsley's opinion that Main Street had historical significance that should be preserved.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded that Council endorses the Veterans Memorial Sub-Committee recommendation to move forward to commission a wooden carving in the likeness of a WWI infantry soldier.

Motion Carried

Mayor Prall suggested that the motion regarding the Main Street naming change be directed to PAC for further review. Councillor Horsburgh requested that public input be collected before this name change was instituted.

(c) Canada Games Stakeholder Meeting

Councillor Trinacty reported that the above subjected group would meet December 19th at 3:00 p.m. at the Irving Centre. He invited all Councillors to attend. He relayed that the Canada Games Stakeholders Committee now has further direction as to how to proceed with the bid process and this information would be shared at the meeting.

7. Correspondence

(a) Department of Health

For the information of Council.

(b) Berwick Art Gallery

For the information of Council. Councillor Easson expressed concern that the Berwick Art Gallery received free space from the Town when other entities such as the Food Bank were paying rent to facility owners. Discussion took place regarding the possible sale of the Annex following the construction of the Century Centre.

(c) Order of Nova Scotia

For the information of Council. Councillor Easson suggested that Mrs. Thelma Chute may be a candidate. Councillor Trinacty requested that the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) be referred this item. It was suggested that the Volunteers of the Year award be investigated to see whom may be eligible for having their name put forward.

(d) Municipality of the District of Yarmouth

For the information of Council.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of Council would be held January 10, 2005.

9. Hearing of no further business the Chairman adjourned the Council meeting at 8:57 p.m.

John P. Prall
Chairman

Michelle Millett
Recording Secretary