

Town of Berwick

Council

Minutes of the Meeting

March 13, 2007

Attendance

In attendance

Mayor	John Prall	Chair
Deputy Mayor	Beth Easson	
Councillors	Richard Horsburgh Mike Trinacty Don Clarke Gary Whittier – left early Anna Ashford-Morton	
CAO	Bob Ashley	
Staff	Craig Burgess Gary Gould Mike MacLean	Recreation Public Works Accountant
Guests	Marge DeBodt	Valley Restorative Justice
Media	Sarah Keddy	Kings County Register
Absent with Regrets	Councillor Don Clarke	

1 Call to Order

Mayor Prall called the meeting to Order at 7:02pm. At this time, he thanked Deputy Mayor Easson and Council for filling in for him while he was away.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved with the following additions:

- 7d) UNSM Spring Conference
- 7e) Profile of Success
- 7f) Feed our Communities

3. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the previous Council Meeting were approved as circulated.

4. Accolades

Municipality of the County of Kings – Petition to Support Pork Industry

Mayor Prall relayed to Council that there was a Petition to Support the Pork Industry being circulated at present, which was initiated by the Municipality of Kings. He asked that everyone please sign the Petition and commended the County for taking the initiative in being vocal to support the farming community.

5. Presentations

(a) Valley Restorative Justice

Marge DeBodt gave a presentation on Valley Restorative Justice. She indicated that their current programs were implemented in November, 1999, and since that time Valley Restorative Justice have been providing community based services to the Annapolis Valley for youth ages 12-17. Ms. DeBodt reviewed some of their objectives and programs including a "Victim Repay Program".

6. Committee Updates and Recommendations

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approve the Valley Waste upcoming budget.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council set the interest rate charged on overdue accounts at 12.7% per annum (1.0% per month-compounded) for fiscal 2007/2008.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council increase the qualifying household income level to \$21,647.00 and exemption amount to \$260.00 (or the amount of taxes whichever is less) for the taxation year 2007/2008.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approve the deletion of the budgeted revenue requirement to transfer \$25,000.00 from accumulated surplus.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approve the reduction of the dividend to be taken from the BEC to \$40,000.00 for fiscal year 2006/2007.

MOTION DEFEATED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approve the Insurance Program offered through MacDonald Chisholm Trask for fiscal 2007/08 at a cost of \$54,763.04.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approve in principle the Town's partnership with the Berwick Electric Commission, Conserve Nova Scotia and the Council of Atlantic Canada Premiers to jointly execute the "Compact Fluorescent Light" (CFL) giveaway program.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approve an expenditure of up to \$2500.00 to cover the Town's share of sundry costs (50/50 with BEC) to organize the Berwick Energy Fair in the upcoming year, in the event that Council approves resolution A regarding participation of the CFL giveaway program.

MOTION CARRIED

7. Ongoing Business

(a) Pork Crisis Petition

Mayor Prall reviewed the letter which was sent to him from the Acting Minister of Agriculture, Ronald Chisholm, dated March 2, 2007. Mr. Chisholm indicated in his letter that the government and Maple Leaf officials have an ongoing dialogue with regard to the status of Larsens.

Councillor Morton and Councillor Trinacty suggested that Council direct a letter back to the Minister requesting information with regard to the dialogue between Maple Leaf and the Department of Agriculture.

(b) Sewer Operations Manual – Update

Mr. Ashley reported that ABL has met with Bill, Tim and Gary about the Sewer Operations Manual. This party is consultation with each are making progress on the Manual, with an aim to be more site specific. ABL has senior management working on this as well. Mr. Ashley indicated he hoped we can approve this by the upcoming COTW meeting.

(c) Mayors/Wardens – Emergency Meeting March 8, 2007

Mayor Prall reported that he and Mr. Ashley attended the Mayors/Wardens Meeting on March 8th. The highlighted topics included the Buy Local Campaign and the capping issue. Mayor Prall indicated that the municipalities hands are simply tied with regard to this subject, and the ramifications of this is that low income households are really going to be hurt by this.

(d) UNSM Spring Conference

Council confirmed who would be attending this spring's conference.

(e) Profile of Success

Mayor Prall explained that the magazine, Profile of Success, is featuring Donna Conrad as a successful entrepreneur of our area. They have asked us to sponsor an ad in their magazine, supporting Donna and her achievements.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approve an ad in the amount of \$490.00, size being 1/6th of a page for Profile Magazine in support of Donna Conrad.

MOTION CARRIED

(f) Feed our Communities

Deputy Mayor Easson announced a session, Feed Our Communities, taking place in Port Williams. The farming communities and organizers are looking for support. Ms. Easson asked that everyone try to make it.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm

John Prall, Deputy
Chair

Chantal L. Pineo-Atwood
Recording Secretary