

Town of Berwick

Regular Council Meeting- Minutes of the Meeting

April 09, 2019 6:30pm

Attendance

In attendance Don Clarke, Mayor Chair

Councillors
Anna Ashford-Morton
Mike Trinacty
Rod Reeves
Ty Walsh
Barry Corbin

Mike Payne, CAO
Jerry Wood, Finance Director

Absent with
Regrets:

Deputy Mayor Jane Bustin
Debbie Elliott, Director of Community
Development & Recreation

Present:

Pat Jodri
George Floris

1. Call to Order

The Council Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The previous Council Minutes were approved by motion of Council.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as circulated with the following additions:

- Kings Transit Bus Route

4. New Business:

a. *Platinum Certification for Berwick from the World Council on City Data*

Council reviewed the submitted powerpoint presentation, by Barry Gander. The WCCD is willing to do the certification for Berwick at no charge for this year, on the understanding that next year, Berwick would invest \$10k in another certification round. Gander noted it would be common practice, because the best value is to get a multi-year trend-line for analysis.

It is proposed that this would be an ISO certification for the entire Valley, with the gleam of Platinum shining on Berwick and the other towns.

This kind of regional coordination has never been done before.

The Launch event will be a big conference on June 12th, when Patricia McCarney comes from Toronto to be keynote luncheon speaker at a conference of Municipal Ministers from the provinces, federal government and municipalities. She will give out all the awards at that time.

After discussion ensued, it was agreed that there is no interest from Council to pursue this.

b. Proclamation/Flag Policy

Mayor Clarke explained that he often receives requests for proclamations to be read and posted at the Town. Council feels that in doing this, it looks as though the Town may be endorsing the cause, where in some instances, very little is known about the endeavor and may not be in the best interest of the Town to do so.

This is similar with requests to fly flags at the Town Hall.

Council agrees that instead of a policy which would direct all or nothing, that Mayor Clarke decides on each of these on a single merit basis. If he is unsure, then he may bring it to Council for decision. Council stated that Provincial recognized flags would certainly receive more positive weight.

5. Ongoing Business

a. Bill No. 92 MGA

Mr. Wood spoke to his report indicating that the introduction of this legislation will provide the municipalities with greater flexibility and discretion in establishing budgets and finance goals and ability to respond to changing priorities in an efficient and timely matter.

Mr. Wood did note that it is not clear how support with hospitals is supposed to happen and will get more clarity on this and the Hospital Act.

b. Kings Transit Bus Route

Discussion ensued regarding some questions from the public as to why the change in routes, etc. While there has been some negative comments, most citizens whom Council and staff have heard from are very happy with the changes.

Councillor Corbin suggested signage at the McConnell Ball Field due to the bus and heavy summer traffic in that area.

Council also encouraged staff to perhaps use more public notices in the way of Mayor and CAO Newsletters, planning and development signage, copies of notices at Post Office and other well attended places.

Management will discuss public notice.

6. Mayors Update

Mayor Clarke noted some events he has taken part in in the last couple of weeks such as the Volunteer Awards in Halifax on April 21st, Minor Midget Tournament and the Valley Waste Meeting regarding Annapolis County.

Some upcoming events are:

- Joint Council Meeting April 10th
- War Memorial Dedication April 11th
- BEC Meeting April 11th
- Princess Tea April 13th
- REMAC Meeting April 15th
- Valley Waste Meeting April 17th
- Ann Marie's Retirement Lunch April 17th
- Easter Egg Hunt April 13th

7. In Camera (Legal)

The regular Council meeting entered into an In Camera Session at 7:29pm and returned to regular Council at 8:26pm.

8. Adjournment

The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.