

MEETING #285MINUTES OF MEETINGGRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCILHELD IN THE TOWN HALL7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2005

PRESENT: Mayor: Walwin Blackmore
 Councillors: Jim Courtney, Janice Eisenhauer-O'Reilly,
 Michael Griffin, Barry Oake, Fred Parsons
 Staff: M. Pinsent, Town Manager\Clerk
 J. Saunders, Director of Engineering
 B. Griffin, Director of Finance
 G. Hennessey, Promotions & Marketing
 Co-ordinator

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor: Robert King
 Staff: D. Nichols, Director of Parks & Recreation

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #284 of Tuesday, March 8th, 2005.

Motion
 Courtney\Parsons

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #284 of Tuesday, March 8th, 2005 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Oake presented the disbursement report in the amount of \$111,207.04.

Motion
 Oake\Griffin

Be it resolved that the disbursement report in the amount of \$111,207.04 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development and Tourism

The following report was presented by Councillor Courtney.

Marketing Co-ordinator's Report

Focus Groups – Gary held the second focus group with the Retail Sector on March 2nd. He received feedback from them and their comments are attached to this report. The next focus group is Wednesday March 23rd with representatives of the Transportation Sector.

Work Term Student – Gary informed the Committee that a work term student from the College of the North Atlantic will work with him from May 9th-June 3rd. This Marketing student will assist him with various projects such as the Salmon Festival brochure, Community Profile and Town Crier.

Innovation Regional Roundtable – In attendance were the Mayor, Councillor Parsons, Town Manager\Clerk Michael Pinsent and myself. A general presentation took place by AMEC, the consulting company holding the roundtable. The group was divided into three (3) smaller focus groups and each group discussed three (3) questions each and then a presenter was selected to give their results to the total group. AMEC will present its findings to the Provincial Government in the next few weeks.

Others

Mr. Boyd Cohen – Mr. Cohen spoke to the Committee on his feelings on development in Grand Falls-Windsor, specifically as it pertains to retail on Cromer Avenue and other areas of Town.

Prospecting Report – Gary is continuing to contact prospective retailers about opportunities in Grand Falls-Windsor. He has not had any correspondence from the major retailers he met with in the last two (2) weeks, but will continue to follow up.

Explore NL Trade Show – Gary was approached by a local business about partnering with that business in sharing a booth at a Trade Show in Mount Pearl in May. However, the business is not registered with the Town and it is our policy not to partner with businesses that are not registered here. He will, however, follow up with the conveners of the Trade Show and will attend in May month to promote the Salmon Festival and Centennial Celebrations.

Chamber of Commerce Trade Show Concessions – Gary was asked by the Chamber of Commerce to inquire as to the possibility of one of its exhibitors selling food during the Trade Show. As Minor Hockey has a contract to sell food during events at the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium, he will contact the Association and inquire with their Executive.

Updates

EXCITE – The next meeting is March 16th at which time Committee Members are being asked to think about EXCITE: Post June 30th, 2005. As well, the Mayor, Town Manager\Clerk and Stanley Singh of EXCITE met with the Minister of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development, Kathy Dunderdale in St. John's. They are trying to encourage her to lead a Trade Mission to Atlanta in the next few months and also to initiate incentive programs aimed at bringing IT companies to Newfoundland and Labrador.

Motion

Courtney\Oake

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Councillor Eisenhauer-O'Reilly.

Motion

Courtney\Parsons

Be it resolved that the Town continue to fund the EXCITE Corporation with Mr. Stan Singh in the Business Development Officer position as described in the attached job description and the Town's Economic Development Officer salary will be analyzed as per Council policy and the attached job description for the Finance and Administration Committee's recommendation to Council. This motion carried by a vote of 5-1 with Councillor Griffin voting negative.

Business Hall of Fame

Motion

Courtney\Parsons

Be it resolved that Council commit to two (2) seats at the Provincial Business Hall of Fame Awards in St. John's when Mr. Boyd Cohen will be inducted. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

2005 Multi-Year Funding

The Director of Engineering reviewed the projects the Town plans to do this year under the Multi-Year Capital Works Program. This list is attached.

Regional Council Nomination

It was agreed that Mayor Blackmore and Councillor Eisenhauer-O'Reilly be nominated for the Central Regional Council of the Rural Secretariat.

Salmon Festival Beer Concessions

Councillor Parsons reviewed the bid sheets for the three (3) year beer sponsorship.

Motion

Parsons\Courtney

Be it resolved that the Labatt's bid totaling \$61,440.00 per year for three (3) years be accepted. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Amendment

Griffin\Courtney

Be it resolved that the Minutes be amended to state Council would finance the EXCITE Corporation to the end of 2005. This amendment carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councillor Griffin requested that the EXCITE Corporation Minutes be entered into public record through the Council Meeting. It was agreed that the Minutes would be tabled through the Economic Development and Tourism Committee.

Councillor Parsons advised Council that the beer sponsorship was very competitive and congratulated Labatt's on having the successful bid.

Motion

Eisenhauer-O'Reilly\Oake

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated with the noted amendment. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Public Works and Planning

The following report was presented by Councillor Griffin.

Development Regulations – Parking\Site Development for Commercial Properties

The Committee discussed the issue of paved or concrete surfaces for commercial driveways\parking areas. There are several commercial properties that have not prepared their lots as per the regulations. Landscaping and maintaining areas outside parking areas is also a concern in light of the festivities planned for this year.

The Committee recommends that staff compile a list of all commercial properties that have not paved their parking areas. Contact will be made with these businesses to inform them of our regulations and have them conform. The Town has spent approximately \$800,000.00 to improve the street network on Hardy Avenue and there are several businesses in this area that will be expected to do their part and conform to the regulations.

Development Proposals – Hardy Avenue

The Committee briefly discussed the proposal for the building lot on Harris Avenue. There is one other proposal that will be submitted and two are on file.

The Committee recommends that no decision on this sale be made until the other proposal is submitted.

Development Request – Hardy Avenue South of TRA

The Committee discussed a proposal for a senior's development on property south of TRA on Hardy Avenue.

The Committee recommends that staff discuss the proposal with the applicant for more detailed information.

Parking Concerns – High Street

Several businesses have expressed concern with parking on High Street. When parking meters were removed, it was done in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. It appears that staff are using all the spaces on High Street and there is no parking available for customers.

The Committee recommends that this issue be discussed with the Chamber and encourage staff to park in designated spaces. If the problem cannot be resolved, consideration will be given to reinstalling the parking meters in selected areas.

Correspondence – D. D. Transport – Used Tire Collection

G.C.R. Tire on the Trans Canada Highway has been selected by D. D. Transport as the transshipment site for used tires. A trailer will be placed on site and removed when full.

The Committee recommends approval of this request.

Building Occupancy and Maintenance Regulations

The Committee reviewed the revised regulations. The main reason for the revision was to update and ensure regulations are established under the authority of the Municipalities Act and the Urban and Rural Planning Act.

The Committee recommends approval of the new regulations.

Salvage Dealer's Licenses

The Committee reviewed salvage dealer's renewal licenses for Norm Freake and Cluney's Scrap Metal.

The Committee recommends both renewals be approved.

Correspondence – Marjorie Taylor, #5 Poplar Road

The Committee discussed correspondence from Mrs. Taylor concerning problems she is experiencing with mail for her address at #5 Poplar Road and mail addressed to a Mr. Osmond at #5 Poplar Drive.

The Committee recommends that staff contact the three (3) houses on Poplar Drive and consider changing the street name to Osmond Place. Staff will report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Recycling

The Committee asked staff to arrange a meeting with Multi-Materials Stewardship Board to discuss options for curbside recycling.

Grenfell Heights Land

There are two (2) lots remaining at the intersection of Grenfell Heights and New Bay Road (attached). There are restrictions on development due to the easement for the main water transmission line. Lot sizes may change slightly from what is shown on the drawing when survey work is completed.

The Committee recommends that lots be sold for \$40,000.00 per lot plus HST, survey and legal fees. Lot sizes will be a minimum 150 foot frontage and a maximum 300 feet deep.

Motion

Griffin\Eisenhauer-O'Reilly

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councillor Courtney expressed concern that the G.C.R. Tire site on the Trans Canada Highway has been a problem for Council due to the outside storage of tires being unsightly to the people living on Lind Avenue.

Councillor Oake inquired as to whether the regulations were adequate on Grenfell Heights because houses are different distances from the road.

Councillor Griffin explained that all tires will be stored inside a trailer. He also informed Council that the Committee did meet with the Multi-Materials Stewardship Board and had a very successful meeting and plans will be moving on towards recycling.

Exploits Regional Services Board

The following report was presented by Councillor Griffin.

Adoption of Minutes

It was moved by Jerry Dean, seconded by Grant Hemeon to accept the Minutes from January 31st, 2005. This motion carried.

Business Arising

The Purchasing Officer is obtaining prices to remove the incinerator. This is required for environmental and safety reasons.

The election of Vice-Chairperson was referred from the past ERSB meeting. Jerry Dean was nominated by Grant Hemeon and seconded by Wayne Taylor. Jerry Dean accepted the nomination. No other nominations

were made. Therefore, Jerry Dean from Botwood is the Vice-Chairperson for the ERSB.

Disbursement Report

It was moved by Bob King, seconded Doreen Tremblett that the disbursement report totaling \$37,650.48 be accepted. This motion carried.

Operations Report

The Board reviewed the Operations Report as presented. Highlights of the report are as follows:-

Water reports for January and February 2005 were presented. It showed that the using of SternPAC has reduced the other chemical dosage to the point where it is paying for itself, in addition to reduction in overtime due to process fluctuations by over 50%.

The issue of water conservation was discussed. Staff are to get together to develop a water conversation policy and present it at the next meeting.

The landfill bulldozer was received with a deficiency of not having a hydraulic angle. Payment will not be made until the tendered blade is installed or a credit for the deficiency is issued.

There was a meeting with the ERSB and Environmental Minister Tom Osborne. He had stated that Government will support any ban on cardboard and will help in a press release and education program. A meeting with the Regional Chamber of Commerce indicates that they are in support of a ban on cardboard. It was noted that Botwood and Bishop's Falls had some concerns regarding the logistics for a cardboard ban, especially with smaller businesses in their area. The Town Manager\Clerk of Grand Falls-Windsor will arrange a meeting with Multi-Materials Stewardship Board, PBO and Scotia Recycling to work out some of their concerns.

It was moved by Jerry Dean, seconded by Grant Hemeon that a tentative date for a commercial cardboard ban at the landfill will be September 1st, 2005. This motion carried. It was noted that the ERSB might change this date, depending on the time required to address all of the issues.

Correspondence

A list of the items accepted at Scotia Recycling was presented.

A copy of the Waste Watcher, from the Green Bay Waste Management Site was presented.

New Business

Roger's Cable will be doing a feature on the Water Treatment Plant on March 9th. The Vice-Chairperson will also be there.

The next meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M., Monday, April 4th at Grand Falls-Windsor.

Adjournment

It was moved by Jerry Dean, seconded by Grant Hemeon that the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Motion

Griffin\Courtney

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Finance and Administration

The following report was presented by Councillor Oake.

HR Policies

The Committee reviewed draft policies on General Occupational Health and Safety, Injury Reporting and Accident\Incident Investigation and recommends that these policies be adopted.

Terms of Employment

The Committee reviewed proposed Terms of Employment for non-union and management\supervisory staff.

The Committee recommends that all correspondence between the employer and employees be communicated via the HR Office and that the Terms of Employment be amended to reflect this.

Cash Collections

The Committee reviewed cash collections for February 28th, 2005. Total taxes outstanding were \$8.2 million – an increase of \$200,000 over the same period last year. Staff will continue to monitor collections and will endeavour to collect all outstanding arrears.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour report as of week 9. Labour for this period appears to be within budgeted guidelines.

Emergency Measures Plan

The Committee received an update on the current status of the Emergency Measures Plan.

The Committee recommends that staff formally review all aspects of this Plan and begin planning for a table-top exercise.

A.N. D. Company

The Committee reviewed a request in the amount of \$10,000 for furniture and equipment funding for the A.N.D. Company.

The Committee recommends approval for this funding conditional on approval from ACOA. The Committee also recommends that should the A.N.D. Company cease operations, the assets purchased under this grant would revert to the Town.

Banking Agreement

The Committee recommends that staff begin drafting terms for inviting bank services proposals. This agreement would be for the period of five (5) years.

Motion

Oake\Parsons

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The following Resolution was also presented by Councillor Oake.

Resolution GF-W 2005-148

WHEREAS under Section 94 of the Municipalities Act of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, subject to the approval of the Minister, Council may borrow monies and issue securities for the repayment of monies borrowed.

AND WHEREAS it is deemed necessary to borrow the amount of \$48,260.00 to finance a water and/or sewer project, including engineering and related costs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that subject to the approval of the Honourable Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs, Council borrow this amount from a chartered bank in Grand Falls-Windsor, and that this amount be repaid by debt grants.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Mayor and Director of Finance be authorized to negotiate said loan and to sign promissory notes and execute all documents pertaining to this Resolution.

Motion

Oake\Parsons

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2005-148 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Salmon Festival

The following report was presented by Councillor Parsons.

Sponsorship

The Committee reviewed proposals from beer companies for sponsorship of the Exploits Valley Salmon Festival for a three (3) year term.

The Committee recommends that staff summarize these proposals at the Committee of the Whole.

Talent Update

The Committee reviewed the proposed line-up for this years Salmon Festival and recommends that staff continue negotiations in finalizing this.

Sound and Light

The Committee reviewed proposed sound and light for the Salmon Dinner and Stadium events.

The Committee recommends that staff further review this and discuss at a future meeting.

Recyclables

The Committee received requests from the Exploits Valley Minor Hockey Association and the Y2C Centre to collect recyclables on the concert venue.

The Committee recommends that the Director of Parks & Recreation review these requests.

Vendor Request

The Committee received a request from the Y2C Centre to sell hemp jewelry, bottled water, glow necklaces and slushies at this years Salmon Festival concert.

The Committee recommends that the Director of Parks & Recreation review this request.

Motion

Parsons\Eisenhauer-O'Reilly

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Parsons commented on the lack of resources from the Provincial Budget for Central Newfoundland and expressed concern that the Municipal Operating Grants have been cut. He suggested that MHA Ray Hunter be invited to the next Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss Provincial matters that effect the Town. Councillor Parsons also requested we contact Abitibi Consolidated and request information on the Company review.

Councillor Griffin suggested that the Union also be invited to meet with Council.

Councillor Oake mentioned that the School Board was investigating making Grenfell Intermediate a high school which will increase traffic on Grenfell Heights. He asked the Engineering Department to look at the timing of the paving of Grenfell Heights.

Councillor Eisenhauer-O'Reilly requested that Council write another letter to the Premier and Minister of Health and Community Services.

Councillor Courtney requested staff look into the activities going on at the old Grand Falls Academy Building on Lincoln Road. The Town Manager\Clerk advised that the Municipal Police, RCMP and the Provincial Regulation Services are working on this problem.

Councillor Courtney also requested that a letter be sent to the owner of the former KIX Country building on Grenfell Heights ordering the relocation of the trailers in front of the building.

Mayor Blackmore informed Council of the meeting the Canadian Cancer Society held with the Deputy Minister of Health concerning the Cancer Clinic at the Central Newfoundland Regional Health Center.

Mayor Blackmore advised Council that after twenty-eight (28) years service on Municipal Councils he will be retiring as Mayor. He acknowledged the support of his wife and Deputy Mayor King who served with him on all twenty-eight (28) years.

Motion

Parsons\

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, April 19th, 2005. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Walwin Blackmore
Mayor

M. Pinsent
Town Manager\Clerk