

MEETING #286MINUTES OF MEETINGGRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCILHELD IN THE TOWN HALL7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, APRIL 19TH, 2005

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

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #285 of Tuesday, March 29th, 2005.

Motion

Oake\Courtney

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #285 of Tuesday, March 29th, 2005 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Councillor Courtney inquired whether G.C.R. Tire on the Trans Canada Highway were going to put up a screen or fence to block the view of the tire storage from the residential area. The Director of Engineering advised that the owners were going to provide such a screen.

In response to a question from Councillor Parsons, the Town Manager\Clerk advised that Mr. Hunter is only available on Friday or on the week-end. It was agreed we would attempt to meet with him on Friday, April 29th.

In response to a question from Councillor Griffin, it was agreed we would meet with both the Union and Abitibi Consolidated regarding the ongoing company review in the near future.

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Oake presented the disbursement report in the amount of \$59,193.89.

Motion

Oake\Courtney

Be it resolved that the disbursement report in the amount of \$59,193.89 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was acknowledged from the Exploits Regional Curling Club thanking Council for their contribution to remodeling the Curling Club.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development and Tourism

The following report was presented by Councillor Courtney.

Marketing Co-ordinator's Report

10K Race – The Promotions & Marketing Co-ordinator has contacted representatives of the Running Club here in Grand Falls-Windsor about the possibility of organizing a 10K Road Race for this summer. He will be meeting with Colin Power of the local Running Club on April 8th to continue with plans. He suggested that we determine a date in August and make sure it doesn't conflict with other races in the Province. We will then promote it accordingly.

Trade Show 2005 - Plans are progressing very well for this year's Show. It is sold out and the Town is sponsoring the exhibitor's reception. As well, the Promotions & Marketing Co-ordinator will make a presentation to exhibitors on how to prepare and present your business at a Trade Show.

Cultural Capitals Applications – A letter was received from Ms. Louise Morrison of the Department of Canadian Heritage. It summarized our application and recommended that Council consider a stand alone cultural policy on Arts & Culture. The Promotions & Marketing Co-ordinator has attached a copy of her letter and recommendations for Council.

Corporate Profile - The Promotions & Marketing Co-ordinator will work with the Director of Finance to put together the Corporate Profile for 2004. It should be completed by the end of May.

Stan Singh's Report

Mapleworks – Stan met with Paul Gasparro, CEO and delivered 135 resumes for the positions that EXCITE publicized in the local media. Mr.

Gasparro had many questions on Grand Falls-Windsor including Government assistance, air transportation, etc...

Web Relay – This Maryland based company is hoping to have an operation in Grand Falls-Windsor in June 2005 and plans to start with 4-5 people and bring it to 100 over a 12 month period.

Nova Scotia Business Inc. – This group is targeting Newfoundland technology companies for the Nova Scotia Government.

NL Trade Mission to Atlanta – This mission is scheduled for this fall. Funding through ACOA is in place for 2 delegates from Grand Falls-Windsor to attend.

EXCITE Delegation to Grand Falls-Windsor in June 2005 – To bring a delegation of technology outsourcing companies to Grand Falls-Windsor from New England, Washington DC area and Atlanta. The objective is to specifically showcase the region as a near shore site for outsourcing to service the United States and United Kingdom.

NATI Office in Grand Falls-Windsor - The Newfoundland Association of Technology Industries (NATI) is strongly considering Grand Falls-Windsor as the location for their new office. This will be a partnership between NATI and EXCITE. The target date is May 2005.

Investment Promotion Program – On behalf of the EXCITE Corporation Stan has formally requested that International Trade Canada facilitate a one-day course on “Investment Promotion” for municipality elected officials and for volunteer members of regional economic development boards in Grand Falls-Windsor. The objective of this program would be to communicate the national strategy for investment attraction and to encourage local economic development groups that work with all municipalities in Newfoundland and Labrador to co-ordinate their international marketing efforts in partnership with the national strategy.

The Town Manager\Clerk suggested that we issue a press release on our objectives in terms of these Trade Missions and invite the Premier to lead our group to Atlanta and meet with companies there.

Updates

Chamber of Commerce – The Trade Show is sold out and the parties involved have resolved the issue of the canteen.

EVEDC – They are advertising for two (2) new positions to be sponsored under the JCP (Job Creation Partnership) to work in Tourism and Heritage.

EVTA – Their Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 12th at 7:00 P.M. at the Mount Peyton Hotel. An Election of Officers will take place at this time.

Centennial Celebrations – A media conference was held today (April 4th) to announce events for Founder’s Day and the sale of tickets.

Motion

Courtney\Oake

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Public Works and Planning

The following report was presented by Councillor Griffin.

Targa Rally

Chief Constable Terry Eisenhour gave an update of the meeting held with Targa Officials. Safety is a main concern and is always given a lot of attention as part of the planning process. This is the longest route in this rally and to maintain safety along the route will require approximately 130 marshals. Terry Eisenhour is the Town's contact and all inquiries should be directed through him to insure proper flow of information.

The Committee recommends that Terry continue his work with Targa Officials. Copies of the enclosed letter will be sent to all businesses and institutions, within the rally area, informing them of the proposed schedule. The Committee also recommends that the attached Resolution be approved.

Proposals for Land on Harris Avenue

The Town received two (2) proposals for the disposal of a piece of land on Harris Avenue between the Exploits Valley Mall and CBC. Both proposals offered the Town \$30,000.00. One offer is a used car lot with rental space, the other was a clothing store with extra rental space.

The Committee recommends that the land be sold to Bill and Jackie Evans to relocate their clothing store as well as create other rental space. The price for the land will be \$30,000.00 plus HST, survey and legal fees. Building design will also be approved by Council and all necessary landscaping and site paving will be part of the overall approval.

Correspondence – Dr. Sharad G. Mandavia

The Committee discussed the correspondence from Dr. Mandavia concerning water and sewer service for the former Morrow property.

The Committee recommends that staff discuss the proposal with Dr. Mandavia and report back to the Committee.

G.C.R. Tire – Trans Canada Highway

Staff contacted G.C.R. Tire concerning privacy fencing to eliminate unsightly storage space abutting residential property. The Manager stated that when weather permits, he will review the area with Town Staff to discuss possible solutions.

Recycling

Staff contacted a supplier of garbage trucks concerning prices for split trucks and trade values of our existing vehicles. No information has been received to-date. When we get the necessary information, we will discuss with Multi-Materials Stewardship Board to determine their financial contribution.

Salvation Army Daycare – Circular Road

The notice to operate a daycare at the Salvation Army Church on Circular Road was advertised in the local paper and notices sent to adjacent property owners. No objections were received.

The Committee recommends approval of this request.

Snowclearing – Recent Storm

The Committee discussed operations related to the recent snowstorm.

The Committee recommends that staff prepare a report for discussion at the next Committee Meeting.

Motion

Griffin\Parsons

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor King.

Taxi Regulations

Council addressed a letter from a taxi driver who wants to have a taxi business.

Motion

Griffin\Courtney

Be it resolved that Mr. Drake's application be refused and the Taxi Regulations be reviewed by the Finance and Administration Committee. This motion carried by a vote of 5-2 with Councillors Parsons and Eisenhauer-O'Reilly voting negative.

Cataract Hockey Club

The Mayor welcomed Paul Glavine and his Committee to Council Chambers. Bob Hedges presented a financial report for the teams season. The revenue sharing with the league is still not being adhered to, but the Club is pursuing the matter. They have worked on reducing costs and will

be in a better situation than after the first year. They are looking forward to getting all their issues worked out over the summer.

Newfie Night

There was considerable discussion regarding which community group would be involved in the Newfie Night special event. It was agreed that staff meet with the Green Machine Hockey Club to discuss.

Exploits Regional Services Board – Water Conservation

The Town Manager\Clerk reviewed the Water Conservation By-Law draft which is being considered by all towns serviced by the Exploits Regional Services Board. It was agreed that this will be addressed by the Public Works and Planning Committee and a recommendation made to Council.

Business Hall of Fame

It was agreed that Councillors Jim Courtney, Janice Eisenhauer-O'Reilly and Deputy Mayor Bob King would attend the ceremony inducting Mr. Boyd Cohen as a laureate into the Newfoundland and Labrador Business Hall of Fame on May 12th, 2005 in St. John's.

Motion

King\Eisenhauer-O'Reilly

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Exploits Regional Services Board

The following report was presented by Councillor Griffin.

Adoption of Minutes

It was moved by Fred Mills, seconded by Jerry Dean to accept the Minutes from March 7th, 2005. The motion carried.

Business Arising

The Purchasing Officer has made the request for proposals for removing the incinerators. The options for removal will be brought into the next Exploits Regional Services Board meeting.

Disbursement Report

It was moved by Mike Griffin, seconded Fred Mills that the disbursement report totaling \$21,251.54 be accepted. The motion carried.

Operations Report

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

Water Reports for the first quarter of 2004 and 2005 were highlighted. It showed that despite an increase in 2005 in water usage of 8.2% there was an increase in finished water quality, decrease in overtime and an overall decrease in unit cost of water, mainly through the use of SternPAC.

The issue of water conservation was discussed. A report from Mike Pinsent was presented. It highlighted the increase cost of water and water conservation trends throughout Canada. It was noted that most municipalities of our size have water metering and outdoor watering ban as their main incentive for water conservation. The staff recommends that the Exploits Regional Services Board embark on an advertising campaign and institute a lawn-watering schedule. The Operations Manager will get pricing on advertising materials and the Town Manager\Clerk of Grand Falls-Windsor will obtain pricing on the cost of meters and do a draft by-law for outdoor water usage. The Town Engineer noted that he will be having an engineering student, and that the Exploits Regional Services Board may be able to use him to develop some of the education programs.

A credit of \$4,000.00 was issued from Federal Equipment for the deficiency of not having a hydraulic angle on the landfill bulldozer.

The Exploits Regional Services Board, Towns of Bishop's Falls and Botwood met with PBO and MMSB to discuss some concerns in a commercial cardboard recycling program. They felt satisfied with the results of the meeting and will endorse a September 1st ban on commercial cardboard at the landfill.

New Business

New Bay Road is in need of patching. It was moved by Mike Griffin, seconded by Jim Samson that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor would include \$20,000.00 of pavement in its paving tender, for New Bay Road, to be paid by the Exploits Regional Services Board. The motion carried.

It was noted that Harris Rice's father passed away and the Exploits Regional Services Board would get a card to be signed by the Exploits Regional Services Board.

The next meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M., Monday, May 2nd, 2005 at Bishop's Falls.

Adjournment

It was moved by Grant Hemeon, seconded Jerry Dean that the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 P.M.

Motion

Griffin\Oake

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Finance and Administration

The following report was presented by Councillor Oake.

Fire Department – Year End Report

The Committee reviewed the Fire Department Year End Report outlining the Department's activities for the year. Fire emergency calls for 2004 were 159 compared to 146 in 2003, an increase of 8.9%. In addition, 203 inspections of residential, commercial and Government properties were undertaken. The Committee was pleased with this report and requested that in addition to the information presented, membership information also be included.

Municipal Police – Year End Report

The Committee reviewed the 2004 Year End Report with comparative figures for 2003 for the Municipal Police Department as part of our Performance Measurement System. The Committee was pleased with the volume of work and output for the Municipal Police Force.

Animal Control – Year End Report

The Committee reviewed the 2004 Year End Report with comparative figures for 2003 for the Animal Control Service. The Committee was pleased with the performance of the Animal Control Service.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour report for week 13. Week 13 showed a significant increase in Public Works due to the snowstorm. In addition to the labour expenses, approximately \$15,000 of unbudgeted expenditures was incurred as a result of the use of private contractors. Overall, figures year-to-date are in line with the current years budget and the previous year.

Cash Collections

The Committee reviewed the cash collections for March 31st, 2005. Receivables at this time were significantly higher than March 31st, 2004 due to the office being shut down for two (2) days. Due to the snowstorm, the discount date was extended to April 7th, 2005. Collections for this period appeared to bring total receivables in line with last years collections.

Sanger Memorial Park

The Committee reviewed year-end statement of receipts and disbursements for Sanger Memorial Park. This facility is operated by ERMA but owned by the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor. Revenue for the year was \$49,800 and expenses were \$48,968 for a surplus of \$832.

Request for Water Exemption

The Committee received a request for water exemption for a property currently being renovated.

The Committee recommends that the policy be adhered to and that this request be denied.

Taxi

The Committee received a request for a taxi license from a local operator.

The Committee recommends that this issue be discussed at the Committee of the Whole.

Motion

Oake\Parsons

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Salmon Festival

The following report was presented by Councillor Parsons.

Soft Drink Sponsorship

The Committee reviewed proposals for soft drink sponsorship.

The Committee recommends that this be awarded to Browning Harvey for a three (3) year period commencing in 2005.

On Sale Date

The Committee discussed the announcement and on sale date for this years concert. Pending the outcome of some final details, the Committee will finalize this date at a later time.

Festival Entertainment

The Committee reviewed the line-up for this years concert and discussed additional acts to be added. There was also some discussion on talent for Stadium dances, Family Day and Newfie Night.

The Committee recommends that staff pursue finalizing this years entertainment.

Sunday Night Concert

The Committee discussed the feasibility of hosting a Sunday Night Gospel Concert as per the request from a local Church.

The Committee recommends that this be approved subject to this group making their own arrangement for sound and light and paying all incremental costs associated with the event.

Media

The Committee discussed proposals from the media and recommends that this be finalized at the next meeting.

Patron

The Committee discussed a list of potential candidates for patron of this year's Salmon Festival. Details of this will be finalized at a later meeting.

Newfie Night

The Committee received a request from a local group to participate in Newfie Night.

The Committee recommends that this be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Vendors

The Committee reviewed the current structure of vendor fees. Revenue from this source is approximately \$12,000-\$15,000. The Committee was concerned that a flat fee structure would not be equitable to all vendors and would result in loss of revenue to the event.

The Committee recommends that the current structure be maintained.

Motion

Parsons\King

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councillor Courtney expressed concern that with the current fee structure for vendors, the Town was vulnerable to abuse.

Councillor Parsons explained that the Committee had a lengthy discussion on this matter and felt that the percentage rate structure was preferred.

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor King requested Public Works investigate a water build-up on Main Street East. He also asked that the Victoria Street sewer system study be concluded and released. The Director of Engineering agreed to look into this matter.

Councillor Courtney requested that Public Works investigate traffic on Cromer Avenue particularly around Pinsent Drive. He also requested that the Finance and Administration Committee review the Municipal Police schedule in light of the rash of break-ins around Town.

Councillor Eisenhauer-O'Reilly acknowledged that this week was National Volunteer Week. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged with the Family Resource Centre. She also encouraged the Town to take part in Municipal Awareness Week on May 9th. It was agreed staff would investigate the cost of getting a Centennial flag.

Councillor Griffin reported on the Centennial Committee activities. He requested that Parks and Recreation consider storing the sets for the Musical Tribute in the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium.

Councillor Oake requested that the letter from residents of Kenmore Drive be addressed by the Public Works and Planning Committee.

Councillor Parsons requested that staff investigate businesses on Pondview Drive for car wrecks outside fences and several unsightliness.

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, May 10th, 2005. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Walwin Blackmore
Mayor

M. Pinsent
Town Manager\Clerk