

MEETING #288

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 31ST, 2005

PRESENT: Mayor: Walwin Blackmore
 Deputy Mayor: Robert King
 Councillors: Jim Courtney, Janice Eisenhauer-O'Reilly,
 Barry Oake, Fred Parsons
 Staff: J. Saunders, Director of Engineering
 D. Nichols, Director of Parks & Recreation
 B. Griffin, Director of Finance

ABSENT: Councillor: Michael Griffin
 Staff: M. Pinsent, Town Manager\Clerk
 G. Hennessey, Economic Development Officer

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #287 of Tuesday, May 10th, 2005.

Motion

Oake\Courtney

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #287 of Tuesday, May 10th, 2005 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

In response to a question from Councillor Eisenhauer-O'Reilly, Council was advised that the Town Manager\Clerk was arranging the advertising of the Water Conservation By-Law and that a meeting with Abitibi Consolidated had not yet been arranged.

In response to a question from Deputy Mayor King, the Director of Engineering advised that Public Works and Planning would be meeting with the applicant for a small engine repair facility on Grenfell Heights.

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Oake presented the disbursement report in the amount of \$112,678.49.

Motion

Oake\Parsons

Be it resolved that the disbursement report in the amount of \$112,678.49 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.

Economic Development Officer's Report

Prospecting Report – The Economic Development Officer has contacted more retailers and the list is attached. He will continue to identify and contact prospective retailers in the hopes of having them consider Grand Falls-Windsor as a potential home for their business.

Convention Committee – This Committee met on Tuesday, May 2nd. It was set up to identify potential trade shows, sporting events and conventions for Grand Falls-Windsor. The Committee is made up of local hotel representatives, Chamber of Commerce, Exploits Valley Tourism Association, EVEDC, retail sector representatives and the Director of Parks & Recreation. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 26th.

Centennial Cup 10K Road Race – The date of Sunday, August 7th has been selected for the first Centennial Cup 10K Road Race. A Committee consisting of Colin Power of the local Running Club, Councillor Jim Courtney, Mim Hornell of the Exploits YMCA and the Economic Development Officer has met several times to begin the process of organizing and promoting the Race. Rogers Television and the Town are sponsors of this Race and the Committee is identifying other sponsors as well as a route for the Race and a training program for potential runners. The next meeting is in late May.

Portable Floor Ice Decking – The Economic Development Officer is continuing to prepare the application for funding for the ice decking (portable floor). He has a quote from one company and is awaiting a second quote and will meet with the Director of Parks & Recreation to complete the application based on other needs for the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium to host conventions, trade shows, etc...

Aur Resources – A meeting will take place on May 16th with the Manager of the Duck Pond Mine. Also attending this meeting will be representatives of the Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce, Exploits Valley Economic Development Corporation and a representative of the Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development (mining sector). This meeting will identify any services that local business may be able to offer to the mine.

Focus Groups – The next focus group was held on Wednesday, May 4th. The transportation sector was the group questioned. A report on the results of that focus group is attached. Councillor Courtney will meet with this group in the next couple of weeks to report on the steps Council has and will take to address their concerns.

Stan Singh's Report

Stan discussed the Trade Mission we will be hosting here from June 16th-18th. Information Technology companies from Atlanta and Washington will send up representatives to visit our site and discuss opportunities. His report is attached to these Minutes.

As well, Stan explained the General Electric model and included a copy of the model for Council. He has also included a list of companies coming here for the Trade Mission and two companies he is waiting for confirmation on.

Updates

EVEDC – Executive Director Dave Curran is retiring at the end of June. They are currently accepting applications for his position.

EVDA – Ninety percent (90%) of the old office (Tourist Chalet) has been moved to the new location. They are targeting the May 24th week-end to open.

Centennial Celebrations – The Committee has hired Bob Gilbert as the Major Events Manager. He will oversee all the activities of the Committee and assist in fundraising, among his many other responsibilities. They are meeting today (May 16th).

EVTA – The Economic Development Officer will write the Tourism Association to encourage them to lobby their members to extend the tourist season beyond Labour Day. They are hoping more businesses will remain open into late September and even early October and take advantage of tour groups still visiting our area.

Motion

Courtney\Oake

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

Parks, Recreation and Special Events

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

Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium Renovations Update

The Committee discussed some of the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium Renovations Project Outstanding Work Issues. The remaining outstanding Work Issues will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Memorial Grounds Maintenance & Repair List

The Committee discussed the detailed Memorial Grounds Maintenance and Repair List presented by the Director.

The Committee recommends that Items #1, 2 and 3 be passed on to Public Works and that items 4 to 10 be completed as presented.

Business Application Request

The Committee discussed a Business Application Request that was referred from Public Works due to the request for the business to be operated on Parks & Recreation property.

The Committee recommends that this request be denied.

Correspondence – Exploits Regional Curling Club

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Exploits Regional Curling Club with respect to obtaining a grant to assist with the Junior Curling Program. It was noted that the Department was able to provide some financial assistance to the Junior Curling Program this year.

The Committee recommends that the Club's correspondence be included for consideration under the Grants to Community Groups Program during the 2006 Budget process.

2005 Tournaments & Special Events List

The Director presented the Committee with a revised Special Events and Tournaments List of activities involving the Town facilities and staff.

Canada Day Celebrations

The Director informed the Committee that the Town has received a 2005 Canada Day Grant in the amount of \$3,875.00. This is an increase of \$1,325.00 from the budgeted amount of \$2,500.00.

The Committee recommends that the increased funding be utilized towards the fireworks display.

The Committee discussed a proposal for the 2005 fireworks display in the amount of \$12,000.00 from Fireworks FX inc.

The Committee recommends that this proposal be accepted.

Centennial Celebrations Labour & Materials Cost Estimate

The Committee reviewed a detailed Centennial Celebrations Labour and Cost Estimate as presented by the Director.

The Committee recommends approval of the presented Cost Estimate.

First-Time Skaters Free Registration Program

The Director presented the Committee with the 2004\05 First-Time Skaters Free Registration Program reports. Exploits Valley Minor Hockey Association received a subsidy for 42 skaters in the amount of \$8,304.00 and the Sparkling Blades Figure Skating Club received a subsidy for 36 skaters in the amount of \$6,480.00. A total of 354 skaters with a total subsidy of \$72,232.00 have participated in the Program over the last five (5) years.

Community Composting Update

The Director informed the Committee that staff have commenced preparation of the community composting site on Scott Avenue. The site is expected to begin operation within the next three (3) weeks after the appropriate community composting awareness information sessions have been completed.

Meeting with the Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Soccer Association

Mr. Pelley representing the Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Soccer Association joined the meeting at 1:15 P.M. Mr. Pelley presented an overview of the Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Soccer Association and the two (2) main objectives of his presentation were to obtain increased funding and facility improvement from Council. In the area of funding the group requested additional funding to bring them up to levels of funding currently provided to other minor sports groups in Town. With respect to facilities areas of concern included the need for a new clubhouse, players benches, bleachers, scoreclock and more field maintenance and clean-up. The Association is also concerned with the amount of lost time to the Minor Soccer Program due to other events on Centennial Field. The Association noted that they have the largest registration of all minor sports and the feel that increased funding and facility improvements are a necessity for Minor Soccer to continue to operate such as successful program.

Mr. Pelley was excused from the meeting at 1:55 P.M.

The Committee discussed the concerns presented and recommends that the request for increased funding be included for consideration in the 2006 Budget process. The Committee also recommends that the Director prepare a cost estimate for the various facility improvements requested. The Director was also requested to obtain information with respect to other community's Minor Soccer Program group's funding, facilities rental fees, etc... and report the result back to the Committee.

The Committee noted that the 2005 summer is a very busy one for the Parks & Recreation Department but the Department will do its best to provide the best maintenance and clean-up as possible throughout the summer.

Motion

Eisenhauer-O'Reilly\Courtney

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

Councillor Courtney requested that the Committee report on the cost of providing a subsidy to other groups and the enrollment of these groups, as well as the rates charged participants.

Councillor Parsons requested the actual amount of time lost by the Minor Soccer due to events at Centennial Field.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor King.

CN Property

It was agreed that staff would proceed to get all environmental information on the CN property. Council will evaluate the plans for the land and decide on how it will be developed with consideration to integrating existing streets and infrastructure.

Community Coalition

Karen Beresford, Sue Mercer, M. Bungay and Myra Dean attended on behalf of the Family Resource Centre. Karen Beresford made a presentation to Council outlining its ten (10) year history in Grand Falls-Windsor. At present, they have funding from the Federal Government but it is limited. They are also experiencing space limitation which restricts the scope of the programs they are offering to children and parents. They expressed an interest in becoming tenants of the former CN Bus Depot on Main Street.

Corduroy Brook – Request for Additional Funding

It was agreed that Corduroy Brook Enhancement Association would be allocated \$2,500.00 for the HRDC grant application contingent upon the application being successful.

Box Office Hours and Cost

There was considerable discussion on how tickets would be sold to events in the Stadium. It was agreed the box office hours be extended as per the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

Co-operative Merger Priorities

It was agreed that the amended terms of reference for the Co-operative Merger will be approved and forwarded to the Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs.

ERMA

Councillor Parsons was excused due to a perceived conflict of interest.

It was agreed that the Town Engineer would assess the pavement on the way to the Salmonid Interpretation Centre and advise Council on the cost involved before making a decision on allocating funding.

Motion

King\Eisenhauer-O'Reilly

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated with the ERMA item being removed and voted on separately. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councillor Parsons was excused due to a conflict of interest.

Amendment
Courtney\Oake

Be it resolved that the amendment motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Motion
Oake\King

Be it resolved that the ERMA item be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The Director of Engineering advised Council that the cost is approximately \$26,000.00 and the Mayor stated he had discussed this with MHA Ray Hunter.

Public Works and Planning

The following report was presented by Councillor Parsons.

Traffic Problems – Cromer Avenue

The Committee discussed the concerns with traffic congestion on Cromer Avenue near Tim Horton's. There are several things that can be done to reduce this problem.

The Committee recommends that staff meet with the owner to discuss this issue to improve traffic flow.

A & B Salvage – Pondview Drive

The Committee discussed a proposal from A & B Salvage to construct a new garage at the present site and remove the existing building.

The Committee recommends approval of this request provided the existing site is cleaned up, the site is properly fenced, the lot is developed according to regulations and all cars are to be parked inside a fenced area.

Correspondence – Propane Services

The Committee reviewed correspondence from Propane Services requesting an Offer of First Refusal on a parcel of land adjacent to the land they are presently developing.

The Committee recommends that this Offer of First Refusal be granted until January 2007. The land will not be sold unless there is a development plan.

Newfoundland Power Easements

The Committee reviewed the Easement Acknowledgement document as submitted by staff and recommends it be approved.

Penney Paving – Request for Asphalt Plant

The Committee discussed this request in detail and recommends that conditional approval be granted based on the following:-

- Permit is for ADM Plant producing 50 tonnes per hour.
- Penney Paving agrees to provide the Highliner Inn with acceptable water if their well becomes contaminated due to operation at their site.
- Penney Paving will provide dust control as required.
- Permit is temporary and for 2005 only.
- Permit will be revoked if noise from the operation is affecting the existing businesses and homeowners.
- Permit will be revoked if odour from the operation is affecting the existing businesses and homeowners.
- Permit can be revoked by Council at any time if the operation is having a negative impact on surrounding property owners.
- Permit must be renewed each year (Council approval is required).

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 12 Request

The Committee discussed issues raised by the Legion during an inspection of the Memorial Grounds.

The Committee recommends that a demolition order be issued for the rear section of the old school that is partially demolished, as well as an order to have the extension of the remaining structure brought up to an acceptable standard. The existing entrances to the Memorial Grounds will continue until a problem arises with the owners.

Rear Lots – Snow Crescent

The Committee reviewed pictures of the slope at the rear of properties on Snow Crescent. Residents have asked the Town to stabilize the bank where required. These slopes were constructed as part of the lot developments. The land is either on the individual lots or Crown Land.

The Committee recommends that the Town not take responsibility for these slopes and the stabilization of these would be the responsibility of the respective homeowners.

Correspondence – Knight Of Columbus, P. J. Connors Council

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Knights of Columbus, P. J. Connors Council requesting a club license.

The Committee recommends approval of this request.

Correspondence – E.V.H School, Maple Division

The Committee discussed the correspondence from E.V.H. requesting Grenfell Heights be upgraded earlier than presently scheduled due to the High School being located at Grenfell Intermediate in the fall of 2005.

The Committee reiterated the decision of Council at the last meeting that the capital for this year would not change and this request would be considered under the capital for 2006. It also is worth noting that Council sets its capital program either late fall or early winter and when approved it is difficult to add a project valued at \$400,000.00.

Recycling

The Director of Engineering met with John Scott of Multi-Materials Stewardship Board to discuss the upgrading of the Town's garbage trucks to "split" trucks to accommodate curbside collection of fiber. Mr. Scott did not see any difficulty with Multi-Materials Stewardship Board covering the cost associated with this upgrade.

The Committee recommends that staff proceed with the application for funding to proceed with this project.

Request for Business - #89 Main Street

The Committee discussed a request from Paul Shea to open a small engine repair shop at #89 Main Street. This area is a mix of commercial and residential uses.

Under the new Town Plan, this area of Main Street will be strictly residential, therefore the Committee recommends this request be denied.

Ditch – Rear of Lots on Thomas Street

The Committee discussed the issue of the ditch and concerns of residents on Thomas Street.

Any work in this area would be a capital expenditure and the Committee recommends it be included for consideration in the capital request for 2006.

Correspondence – Roger Young\Mary Verge

The Committee discussed correspondence from Roger Young and Mary Verge requesting assistance with backfill on the lot they purchased on Edwards Place. When this was sold, the costs associated with backfilling the lot was the responsibility of the purchaser.

The Committee recommends the request be denied but the Town would direct waste backfill from its operations to fill land outside the areas that was necessary to construct the complex.

Motion

Eisenhauer-O'Reilly\Courtney

Be it resolved that this report would be adopted as circulated with the Main Street item being removed and voting on separately. This motion carried by a vote of 4-2 with the Mayor and Councillor Parsons voting Nay.

Councillor Courtney advised that the ownership of the former school on Lincoln Road be determined before proceeding with demolition. He also requested staff keep an eye on the asphalt plant for any problems.

Amendment

Parsons\Courtney

Be it resolved that application for a small engine repair center on Main Street be denied. This motion carried by a vote of 5-1 with Councillor Eisenhauer-O'Reilly voting Nay.

Councillor Eisenhauer-O'Reilly supported the application citing similar development in the same area.

Councillor Parsons expressed concern over noise and the potential for growth which would upset the neighbourhood.

Salmon Festival

The following report was presented by Councillor Parsons.

Entertainment

The Committee reviewed the entertainment line-up. Most events are now finalized. The Committee will release this information once all acts have been finalized.

Tents

The Committee reviewed a request to purchase tents for Centennial Field. It was noted that these tents would have use at other recreation events in addition to the Salmon Festival.

The Committee recommends that three (3) tents be ordered at a cost of \$10,000.00.

Bar Prices

The Committee discussed bar prices for this year's Salmon Festival. This issue will be addressed at a further meeting.

Newfoundland Aquaculture

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association (NAIA) concerning involvement in this year's Salmon Festival.

The Committee recommends that staff meet with this group to work out details.

Newfie Night

The Committee discussed correspondence from two (2) groups requesting involvement in Newfie Night.

The Committee recommends that the Director of Parks and Recreation along with the Chairman arrange a meeting with these groups and report back to the Committee.

Security

The Committee discussed proposals for security. There was some concern with increased cost and the Committee recommends that staff discuss this with the security providers. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Ground Transportation

The Director of Finance advised the Committee that the company supplying ground transportation would not be able to provide this service this year.

The Committee recommends that staff investigate further options.

Placemats

The Committee reviewed a request from the Heritage Society regarding placemats for this year's Salmon Festival and recommends that this request be approved.

Motion

Parsons\King

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

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Courtney.

Resolution GF-W 2005-149

WHEREAS, under the authority of Section 63 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act and the Subordinate Legislation Revision and Consolidation Act, the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor is not included in the Schedule for the Occupancy and Maintenance Regulations; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor formally request the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs to have the Town included in the Schedule of the Occupancy and Maintenance Regulations under the Urban and Rural Planning Act.

Motion

Courtney\Oake

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2005-149 be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Motion

Courtney\Oake

Be it resolved that the Economic Development Officer participate in the TARGA Marketing Program. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Motion

Parsons\Eisenhauer-O'Reilly

Be it resolved that the original conditions of the agreement as proved by Council be adhered to in the area referred to as Courtney's turn. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Director of Engineering circulated a report which showed that participation in the Hazardous Waste Day had increased dramatically. Councillor Eisenhower-O'Reilly recommended this be reported in the Town Crier.

Correspondence from a resident of Weston Place regarding snowclearing was referred to the Public Works and Planning Committee.

Deputy Mayor King informed Council that there is a problem with garbage accumulating around the Caribou Road cemetery. He also advised that the Tourist Information Centre on the Trans Canada Highway was now open and he requested a letter of congratulations be sent to former MHA Roger Grimes on his retirement.

Councillor Courtney requested that the area across the Abitibi bridge be cleaned up. The Director of Engineering has addressed this with Abitibi. He also requested that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor meet with the former Honourable Roger Grimes.

Councillor Oake expressed concern over the planned cuts to the cuts to the Business Program at the College of the North Atlantic in Grand Falls-Windsor. Council will follow up on this with the Provincial Government.

Councillor Parsons noted that Founder's Day was scheduled for June 11th, 2005.

Mayor Blackmore informed Council that he had attended the Newfoundland and Labrador Business Hall of Fame and a letter of congratulations will be sent.

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, June 21st, 2005. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Walwin Blackmore
Mayor

B. Griffin
Deputy Town Clerk