

**Cornwall, Prince Edward Island
Council Minutes**

February 18, 2009

Cornwall, Prince Edward Island

The regular meeting of Cornwall Town Council was held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, February 18, 2009.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Patrick MacFadyen.

ATTENDANCE & REGRETS:

Present were: Mayor Patrick MacFadyen; Deputy Mayor Charles Easter; Councillors Kent Lannan, Marlene Hunt, Ernie Gallant, Irene Dawson, Parker Beer; Administrator, Kevin McCarville; Administrative Assistant, Stephanie Cairns and four members of the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councillor Gallant moved, Councillor Dawson seconded,

the agenda as circulated prior to the meeting be the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED 2009-02-1589

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL:

Councillor Lannan moved, Deputy Mayor Easter seconded,

the Minutes of January 21, 2009 be approved with the following change: under the heading UTILITY, replace the word "installed" with "replaced" in the third paragraph.

MOTION CARRIED 2009-02-1590

BUSINESS ARISING:

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

PLANNING BOARD - DEPUTY MAYOR CHARLES EASTER

The report was included in the Council package.

The Town's lawyer will be sending a letter to the owner of an alleged dog kennel located at 24 Sobey Drive.

A public meeting was held on February 12th to discuss several proposed amendments to the Zoning & Subdivision Bylaw.

UTILITY - COUNCILLOR IRENE DAWSON

A meeting was held between the Town and the Dept. of Environment officials on February 3rd to review sampling frequency for our water system and to discuss proposed zones for the Town. Challenges facing the Town in servicing development in York Point and sampling at the two lagoons were discussed as well.

Staff will be meeting with our engineers to discuss options for reducing operating costs at the Cornwall and North River lagoons, upgrades to the Ferry Road pumping stations, methods for checking flow meter accuracy and several minor operational issues.

TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY - COUNCILLOR MARLENE HUNT:

The next Committee meeting will be Tuesday, March 10th at 3:15 pm.

Councillor Hunt noted the Street Light Policy will be reviewed and that Trius will be hosting an Open House within the Town in the next few weeks to discuss benefits of using transit.

COMMUNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE - COUNCILLOR PARKER BEER

The Humane Society and RCMP reports were included in the Council package.

Councillor Dawson suggests the Town issue dog tags to residents within the Town by means of a student and/or grant. She adds this candidate would go door-to-door issuing tags to residents that own dogs. These tags are free of charge and are good for as long as they own their dog.

Council agrees the RCMP have made a presence within the Town since the new year.

PARKS & RECREATION - COUNCILLOR KENT LANNAN:

The report was included in the Council package.

Turf Field issues from 2008 school usage were addressed at a meeting with the Executive Director of the PEISAA.

A wage scale for casual employees has been reviewed.

The Committee is making a recommendation to the Finance Committee that an additional \$18,500 be added to the reserve account for continued trail work. The reserve account would include money received in 2008 from a Provincial grant, as well as unused money allocated in the 2008 Parks & Recreation Budget.

The Committee discussed the pool as well as programs held at the Ferry Road Centre. A long range plan on the direction of programming needs to be established.

Sunrise Cove parkland will be a natural park space. Deputy Mayor Easter commends Councillor Lannan on keeping this location a natural park space.

The 2009 trail development plans will be completed by the next recreation meeting. The Committee agreed trails will remain ungroomed during the winter season until the trail system is completed and a maintenance plan implemented.

Snowfest will be February 26th to March 1, 2009. Flyers will be distributed by February 20th, 2009.

The Cap Site will be relocating to the Town Hall in the near future.

Hiring has been completed for the recent competitions. The successful candidates are as follows:

Building Maintenance, Terry Jenkins, effective February 9th, 2009;

Parks & Recreation Foreman, Terry Wolczuk, effective March 2nd, 2009.

Parks and Recreation staff are creating work plans for 2009.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION - COUNCILLOR ERNEST GALLANT

Councillor Gallant moved, Councillor Dawson seconded,

Council allocate the additional 2009-2010 New Deal Funding (\$21,606.00) to the Cornwall Lagoon Project.

MOTION CARRIED 2009-02-1591

Lisa Murray has accepted the one year term position as Financial Coordinator.

Councillor Gallant moved, Deputy Mayor Easter seconded,

Be it resolved that the 2009 budget for normal Town operations in the amount of \$2,662,200.00 be adopted as the General Account Budget for the Town of Cornwall for the 2009 year.

Sidewalks/Street Lights

Councillor Hunt does not support this budget and finds it to be unbalanced towards debt reduction at the expense of projects to improve the health and safety to residents. It has been three years since sidewalk construction within the Town has been approved. Councillor Hunt lists a number of sidewalks required within the Town, including MacArthur Drive. Councillor Hunt adds a sidewalk on MacArthur Drive is extremely important as children from the Ferry Road Centre as well as other local day cares and seniors walk on this street. Councillor Hunt notes her disappointment for the lack of support for a sidewalk on MacArthur Drive. The Province agreed to cover \$60,000 for a share in sidewalk construction on MacArthur Drive that links the Ferry Road Centre with the APM Centre. Councillor Hunt adds sidewalks and street lights are not frills but necessities. The RCMP agrees street lights assist with safety. The street light budget is unacceptable considering Maritime Electric's rates as well as community growth.

Deputy Mayor Easter reminds Council the Provincial Government is refusing to fund storm sewer placement on MacArthur Drive at this time, therefore the sidewalk project could only go ahead if Cornwall paid for the sewer installation which the Town is not prepared to do at this time.

Councillors Gallant, Dawson, Beer, Lannan, and Deputy Mayor Easter voted for the motion.

Councillor Hunt abstained.

MOTION CARRIED 2009-02-1592

Councillor Gallant moved, Deputy Mayor Easter seconded,

Be it resolved that the Municipal Property Tax Rate for non-commercial properties for 2009 be set at 46 cents per \$100.00 assessment; and

the Municipal Property Tax Rate for commercial properties for 2009 be set at 81 cents per \$100.00 assessment; and

the Municipal Property Tax Rate for bonafide farm properties be rebated at the rate of 26 cents per \$100.00 of assessment for farm buildings.

MOTION CARRIED 2009-02-1593

2009 WATER/SEWER UTILITY BUDGET

Councillor Dawson moved, Councillor Gallant seconded,

Be it Resolved that Council accept the operating budget in the amount of \$870,050.00 for the Cornwall Water and Sewer Utility Corporation and be adopted for the year 2009.

MOTION CARRIED 2009-02-1594

2009 WATER/SEWER UTILITY RATES

Councillor Dawson moved, Councillor Gallant seconded,

Be it Resolved that Council approve the Cornwall Water and Sewer Utility Corporation rates for 2009 as follows:

1. Unmetered water rate shall be \$238.00 per unit per year;
2. Sewerage rate shall be \$212.00 per unit per year;
3. Metered water rate shall be: a consumption charge of 66 cents per cubic meter (minimum \$238.00 per year) plus a meter base charge listed;

2" Meter \$174.36/year
1 & ½" Meter \$108.12/year
1" Meter \$84.12/year
¾" Meter \$66.12/year
5/8" Meter \$60.24/year
4. Vacant serviced lots be charged \$35.00 per year for sewer and \$40.00 per year for water.

MOTION CARRIED 2009-02-1595

Councillor Dawson advises the Utility rates have remained unchanged since 1995 but will most likely increase in 2010.

Councillor Lannan congratulates all Committees and staff for their hard work on the 2009 budget.

COMMUNICATION - MAYOR MACFADYEN

Mayor MacFadyen reports the Opportunity Assessment: Integrated, Community-Based Health and Social Support Centre report has been completed and a copy will be distributed to Council.

Work on the Sustainability Plan is ongoing. A public meeting will be held in the near future. Mayor MacFadyen looks forward to Council's participation.

Mayor MacFadyen attended a public meeting to discuss school closures. He adds he fully supports an addition being built on Westwood School to house children in kindergarten.

Mayor MacFadyen reminds Council to submit their Committee reports for the upcoming newsletter to Ronda MacPhee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Easter comments on updates on the Town website.

Councillor Dawson encourages Mayor and Council to attend the upcoming Spring Into Reading (SIR) graduation ceremony which will be held on Monday, February 23rd at 6:00 pm in the Cornwall Library.

Councillor Hunt reports the Cornwall and Area Watershed Group submitted an application to the Provincial Government for funding. Councillor Hunt thanks Mayor MacFadyen for helping to establish this group and thanks the volunteers for their time and commitment to this project.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

PATRICK MACFADYEN
MAYOR

KEVIN MCCARVILLE
CAO