

**Cornwall, Prince Edward Island
Council Minutes**

November 21, 2007

The regular meeting of Cornwall Town Council was held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, November 21, 2007.

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 Marlene Hunt, Kent Lannan, Parker Beer, Ernest Gallant, Irene Dawson; Administrator, Kevin McCarville; Recording Secretary, Stephanie Cairns and four members of the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councillor Dawson moved, Councillor Gallant seconded, that the agenda as circulated prior to the meeting be the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED 2007-11-1492

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 17th, 2007 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL:

Deputy Mayor Easter moved, Councillor Dawson seconded, that the Minutes of October 17th, 2007 be approved as circulated with the following changes:

On page 1538 remove the sentence "He suggested group(s) who occupy the building pay the operating costs" and replace with "Presently groups who occupy the building are paying a rental fee and the Town is paying costs above that amount."

Deputy Mayor Easter would like to see this practice reversed and give the renters a grant and have the renters look after operating costs as this would be an incentive to turning the heat and lights off when the building is not being used as they would enjoy the savings realized."

On page 1539, after the words "Councillor Dawson was certain when the agreement was signed with the Eastern School District there would be no cost to the Town when the Eastern School Board occupied the Turf Facility" to add the following "Councillor Dawson raised this issue for clarification."

MOTION CARRIED 2007-11-1493

Mayor MacFadyen advises Council and staff to be accurate with comments as Council Minutes are available to the public. Mayor MacFadyen adds residents questions/ comments will be heard after the meeting is adjourned, therefore not being recorded.

Councillor Gallant would like to see residents comments continue to be recorded on Council Minutes.

Mayor MacFadyen confirms he will adjourn the meeting this evening before opening the floor for public input. Council will further discuss this issue at a Committee of Council meeting .

BUSINESS ARISING

Councillor Gallant reports on receiving information re installing a sliding wall between the Council Chambers and the adjacent room. Kevin spoke with N46 Architecture, who advised it would be difficult to remove the existing wall due to structural issues. Councillor Gallant would like to see staff continue to work on this.

PLANNING BOARD - DEPUTY MAYOR EASTER

Deputy Mayor Easter reports Planning Board met on November 13th, 2007.

Rezoning Request

Deputy Mayor Easter reports on the application the Town received from Cornerstone Baptist Church to rezone a portion of Parcel 245225 from A1 to PSI, including a meeting where Planning Board met with the members of the Cornerstone Church Committee.

Storm Water Management Plan

Deputy Mayor Easter reports Planning Board has completed the Storm Water Management Plan and is bringing forward a resolution later this evening.

Sunrise Cove Subdivision

Deputy Mayor Easter reports there were a few updates in the Sunrise Cove Subdivision noted in the Planning Board Minutes.

Property Maintenance Bylaw

Deputy Mayor Easter advises Planning Board has been asked to review the Property Maintenance Bylaw. Deputy Mayor Easter advises staff will compile a list of 'repeat offenders' and notices will be sent earlier in the year in an effort to lessen the problems which occur from these properties.

Signage

Deputy Mayor Easter reports there are various signs within the Town without permits. This is an issue Planning Board will continue to work.

Deputy Mayor Easter moved, Councillor Lannan seconded, the application to rezone a portion of PID # 245225 located on the Cornwall Road be denied.

Discussion.

Deputy Mayor Easter notes the request is to have part of PID #245225 rezoned from A1 to PSI which would create 'spot' zoning which is not encouraged within the Town. As well, the Town's Official Plan states one of the Town's priorities is to support Agricultural and protect it from encroachment.

Councillor Gallant has mixed feelings about this issue. He suggests having a public meeting to ask for residents input.

Councillor Hunt agrees this is not the proper location but would like to see this organization remain within the Town.

Councillor Dawson requests clarification on the correct procedure for calling a Public Meeting.

Councillor Dawson asks if this creates spot zoning within an agricultural zone, Deputy Mayor Easter replies yes.

Mayor MacFadyen adds the Town needs to look into future development within the Town. As well, this might not be the best location today, but 10 years from now it possibly could be.

Councillor Dawson adds she wants to see this institution stay within the Town and supports growth and future development within the Town. Councillor Dawson adds she values our farmers and agricultural land. Councillor Dawson inquires into other possible locations available for the Church.

Councillor Lannan adds the Town has an Official Plan and Bylaws that Council should abide by and reminds Council this is creating 'spot' zoning which the Town does not encourage.

MOTION DEFEATED

Councillors Hunt, Beer and Gallant voted against the motion

Councillor Lannan, Deputy Mayor Easter voted for the motion

Councillor Dawson abstained.

Deputy Mayor Easter moved, Councillor Dawson seconded, that Council hold a public meeting to receive comments on the proposed rezoning of Parcel # 245225.

MOTION CARRIED 2007-11-1494

Deputy Mayor Easter moved, Councillor Lannan seconded, Council adopt the 2006 Storm Water Master Plan as prepared by ADI Ltd. and amended by the Planning Board.

Councillors commented on the quality of the document noting it was difficult to read.

MOTION CARRIED 2007-11-1495

Deputy Mayor Easter announced Janice Harper, Planning and Development Officer for the Town resigned effective November 2nd, 2007.

UTILITY - COUNCILLOR IRENE DAWSON

Councillor Dawson advises the next Utility meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 26th at 4:30 pm.

New Deal Funding

Councillor Dawson reports the Utility is expected to receive the second installment of New Deal funding prior to year end. This, combined with a final payment from the developer of Sunrise Cove should allow the Utility to reduce our line of credit from \$300,000 to \$150,000.

Utility Budget

Councillor Dawson advises Utility is well within budget projections for the year. It's anticipated there will be an operating surplus between \$30,000 and \$40,000. Greater than anticipated water and interest revenues combined with less than anticipated expenditures in interest, vehicles costs and professional fees account for the projected surplus.

Overdue Utility Customers

Councillor Dawson notes the Utility has given about 70 customers until November 26th to settle their overdue accounts. Service will be suspended to those customers who do not respond to the notice.

Madison Heights

Councillor Dawson advises the Utility has yet to pay the developer of Madison Heights for extending the water and sewer services on Keri Drive in 2005. Payment will be withheld until PID 245944 is deeded to the Town as per the Subdivision Agreement.

TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY - COUNCILLOR MARLENE HUNT:

Emergency Measures Plan

Councillor Hunt reports a draft Emergency Measures Plan for the Town has been prepared and was distributed to all Councillors. The proposed agreement with the Red Cross has been forwarded by e-mail as well.

Councillor Hunt moved, Councillor Beer seconded, Council approve the Town of Cornwall Emergency Measures Plan dated November 12, 2007.

Deputy Mayor Easter inquires if this plan would require any costs from the Town. Councillor Hunt advises there will be no charge.

After housekeeping items discussed. It was clarified the Agreement with the Red Cross will be voted on separately at a future meeting.

MOTION CARRIED 2007-11-1496

Sidewalks

Councillor Hunt reports the Committee has started discussions on 2008 budget items and intends to develop a three (3) year plan for sidewalk construction. It was noted the Town's 2008-2009 New Deal Funding has been allocated to sidewalks.

Electric Costs

It was noted lighting for Sunrise Cove and Hillside Meadows will add about \$2000. per year to the Towns street lighting budget, assuming no increase in electricity rates.

Paths

The Committee has an interest in bike paths for the Town. Staff have been directed to follow up with discussions with the Department of Transportation and Public Works. The Parks and Recreation Committee will also be consulted on this initiative.

Public Transit

Councillor Hunt feels public transit is important to Cornwall residents and would promote growth within the Town.

Councillor Hunt moved, Councillor Beer seconded, WHEREAS the Town of Cornwall supports and is interested in a public transit system in the Town of Cornwall

and

WHEREAS the cost of operating such a system is prohibitive to the Town joining a regional system at this time

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Cornwall will explore the possibility of a publicly funded regional transportation system when the Provincial Government provides substantial financial support for operating costs.

Councillor Dawson adds she spoke to five residents today re: public transit. They all agree public transit is a good idea but wouldn't necessarily use the service if available. Councillor Dawson adds when the residents were asked how much they were willing to see taxes increase to support public transit system in Cornwall, all five residents responded by saying their taxes are already high enough.

Councillor Lannan thanked Councillor Hunt for her work and dedication in attempting to bring public transit to Cornwall.

MOTION CARRIED 2007-11-1497

Mayor MacFadyen notes he's impressed with Councillor Hunt working with Council and bringing forward a motion that received full support from Council.

COMMUNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE - COUNCILLOR PARKER BEER:

Humane Society Report

Humane Society monthly report was circulated.

RCMP Report

RCMP monthly report was circulated.

Cornwall Civic Centre

Councillor Beer reports that recognizing decisions on the Civic Centre are necessary to allow Council to plan several years into the future, it is the Committee's commitment to make recommendations to Council on the future of this facility not later than the April 2008 Council meeting.

The issue of ownership, annual commitment of the Town to the facility and agreements with the current tenants will be among the items addressed.

Deputy Mayor Easter is disappointed the Committee is not going to make any recommendations until April 2008. The 2008 Budget will be completed without knowing the future of the Cornwall Civic Centre.

Cornwall Town Hall

Councillor Beer advises the Committee continues to believe we should have staff in the Town Hall when the Library is open. Staff schedules will be adjusted to facilitate the additional Library hours now in effect.

York Point Community Centre

Councillor Beer notes the Committee will bring recommendations to Council in December re: the future of the York Point Community Centre.

Habitat for Humanity

Councillor Beer advises pursuant to an August 30, 2007 request from Habitat for Humanity the Committee is recommending the Town donate a building lot to facilitate the first Habitat for Humanity home in Cornwall. The parcel of land is the lot fronting on Seymour Drive, adjacent to the Civic Centre. It is zoned R1 and is serviced with water and sewer.

Councillor Beer moved, Councillor Dawson seconded, the Town of Cornwall donate Parcel 755900 to Habitat for Humanity conditional upon a home being constructed on this property in 2008.

Discussion,

Councillor Lannan inquires when the Town received the letter, noting he was made aware of the request this afternoon which doesn't leave much opportunity to do research and make a decision.

Councillor Lannan adds Habitat for Humanity is a wonderful organization and does tremendous work. He adds any questions he has are not negative about the organization, it's being able to justify to residents how Cornwall donates approximately \$30,000 to one family while perhaps other families are struggling to pay for recreation programs or water and sewer.

The lot is assessed at \$27,500 and is approximately one third of an acre. Councillor Lannan advises in the short notice he had he did as much research as possible. He adds the family is very deserving, however, it's being able to justify to other residents within Cornwall how we donate \$30,000 to one family rather than \$1000 to 30 families.

Councillor Lannan and Deputy Mayor Easter question the Civic Centre's future as this vacant lot could be a significant component if future development occurs at the Cornwall Civic's Centre.

Mayor MacFadyen advises this is the only R1 building lot owned by the Town.

Councillors Beer, Dawson, Gallant, Lannan, Hunt voted for the motion.

Deputy Mayor Easter voted against the motion.

MOTION CARRIED 2007-11-1498

PARKS & RECREATION - COUNCILLOR KENT LANNAN:

Turf Facility Update

Councillor Lannan reports the last booking was November 12th, 2007 for the Potato Bowl. The playoff games on Saturday and Sunday were very successful. Parking was difficult for the final game on Monday but no complaints have been received.

Year End Usage Report:

Total Hours Rented 1286 hrs.

No Charge Rentals 269 hrs.

Total Revenue generated \$49,067.00

Eliot River Rambler Club Usage 479 hrs.

Councillor Lannan advises the Town is still working on getting a corporate sponsor and hopes to receive feedback before the end of November.

Events Update

Halloween Event- 200 plus attendees

- Great Feedback from participants

Youth Dance - 53 Youth

- Mostly grades 4-6

Upcoming Events

Christmas Tree Lighting -December 6

Christmas Concert - December 17

Breakfast with Santa - December 15

Sponsorship Recognition

There will be recognition for the Cornwall Save Easy for their overwhelming contributions to ongoing Town events which will include recognition in the newsletter, a plaque, and a public thank you at the Christmas concert.

Staffing

The Assistant Recreation Coordinator and Program Leaders competition closes on November 23rd.

Trails

Councillor Lannan reports the Committee continues its discussions to develop a trail system which would see all parts of the Town being connected by either trail or sidewalk. The costs to develop this trail system is approximately \$100,000.00. The Committee will create a plan to send to Council on financing these costs. It was noted trails will be less expensive if the project is completed at one time rather than in phases.

MRIF Phase 2 (BALL FIELDS)

The Infrastructure office has requested additional information as well as letters of support for our project. This has been gathered and forwarded . We are hoping to receive feedback on our application by month end.

Riverpointe Estates Subdivision Update

Councillor Lannan advises as part of the subdivision agreement and in exchange for parkland the developer is required to provide the Town with \$2,500.00 for the sale of each lot. The total amount will be \$35,000.00 which we are to receive by February 2010. This money must be used for recreational purposes. The Committee has had discussion and is planning to use it towards trail development .

Cornwall Ball Club Letter

Councillor Lannan advises a letter was received from the President of CAMBA in reference to the \$3,000.00 grant the Town has been providing for the past number of years. The Association had been told in March 2007 that this would be the last year they would be receiving the grant. The Committee is preparing information on what is provided by the Town to each Association, and then a meeting will be held with the executive of the Association.

Other

It was noted children can register for a program, without paying, while they are waiting for approval from Kids Sport.

Councillor Dawson echoes Councillor Lannan's comments re the wonderful support from the Cornwall Save Easy for their overwhelming donations and support for Cornwall events. Councillor Dawson suggests nominating them for the ATV Maritimer of the Week, and if not, the Committee create a Community Involvement Recognition Award.

Deputy Mayor Easter thanks Councillor Lannan for the work he has put into the Recreation Committee. In regards to River Point Estates he feels the 10% payment in lieu of parkland is low and suggests the policy on land dedication needs to be reviewed.

Councillor Gallant comments on the Ceilidh held at the Civic Centre noting it was poorly organized. There were only about 6 attendees. Councillor Gallant adds he would like recreation to perhaps help plan new events.

Councillor Lannan advises the Town was approached by an individual wishing to use the Civic Centre to host the Ceilidh. The Town donated the hall at no charge. As well, two Parks and Recreation staff volunteered their time at the event.

Councillor Dawson comments on the letter received from the President of CAMBA, Councillor Dawson is asking the Parks and Recreation Committee to revisit this issue. Councillor Dawson feels this group isn't getting as much support from Council as other recreation committee's are getting from the Town.

Councillor Lannan advises the Committee has looked at the different recreation groups within the Town and feels they are treated equally.

Councillor Hunt acknowledged she feels it's been a difficult year for the ball club after losing two fields to the turf field.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION - COUNCILLOR ERNEST GALLANT

Councillor Gallant reviews the Financial Statements.

Councillor Gallant advises the Committee is projecting a surplus for 2008.

There will be a Finance meeting on Monday, November 26th at 5:30 pm.

COMMUNICATION - MAYOR MACFADYEN

Mayor MacFadyen reports he met with Minister Doug Currie re a medical facility within the Town.

Mayor MacFadyen advises the Town has received a Thank you from East Wiltshire School noting their appreciation for use of the Turf Fields.

Mayor MacFadyen advises he attended the FPEIM and after seeing several presentations Mayor MacFadyen may be appointing a Committee responsible for Communities in Bloom.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm by Mayor MacFadyen on motion of Councillor Dawson and Hunt.

PATRICK MACFADYEN
MAYOR

KEVIN MCCARVILLE
ADMINISTRATOR