

December 8, 2005

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Yarmouth was held in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall on Thursday, December 8th, 2005.

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the playing of O'Canada.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

_____ Mayor Charles Crosby
Deputy Mayor Martin Pink
Councillor Esther Dares
Councillor Clifford Hood
Councillor Byron Boudreau
Councillor Murray Judge
Councillor Wally Strickland
Greg Barro, Town Solicitor
Jeff Gushue, C.A.O.
Arthur MacDonald, Town Planner
Linda Surette, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY Councillor Strickland, SECONDED BY Councillor Boudreau that the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOVED BY Councillor Boudreau, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland that minutes of meetings of November 8th, 10th and 29th be approved with the following amendment:

November 8th - PAGE 3409 - Joint Heritage Advisory Committee ...
remove the words "*dangerous and*"...

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

GREEN POLICY

_____ MOVED BY Councillor Dares, SECONDED BY Councillor Hood, and carried that the Green Policy, Appendix “A,” be accepted and implemented by staff.

Discussion followed regarding the acceptable species of greenery and the fact that much of the authority is in the hands of the Administrator (Parks Supervisor).

IT WAS AGREED that this matter would be referred back to staff for further clarification.

AIRPORT AGREEMENT

_____ MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland, that the Airport Agreement, Appendix “B,” between the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, the Municipality of the District of Argyle and the Town of Yarmouth, be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS TO PENSION COMMITTEE

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED by Councillor Dares that the following appointments to the Pension Committee be approved:

Council Appointee	Deputy Mayor Pink
Public Works Appointee	Ray DeWaepeaere
Fire Department Appointee	Rick Quesnel
Town Hall Appointee	Arthur MacDonald
Director of Finance	
Jeff Gushue, C.A.O.	

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDMENTS TO BUILDING CODE ACT

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares that the amendments to the Building Code Act be referred to the Solicitor for his comments.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

MUNICIPAL LAW SYMPOSIUM

Information was received regarding the Municipal Law Symposium for Elected Officials to be held February 9th and 10th, 2006, in Halifax.

MOVED BY Councillor Dares, SECONDED BY Councillor Boudreau, that approval to attend this session be given for any interested Council member.

MOTION CARRIED

VON ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Correspondence from the VON was considered requesting a Council representative to sit on the Advisory Committee.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares, that Councillor Judge sit on the VON Advisory Committee as Council's representative.

MOTION CARRIED

RDA PLANNING SESSIONS

The C.A.O. advised Council that the South West Shore Development Authority is planning a Public Consultation Session with community group representatives and citizens on Saturday, January 7th, 2006, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Nova Scotia Community College Lecture Room, and encouraged Councillors to participate.

LUNENBURG COUNTY TRUCKERS ASSOCIATION

Correspondence was considered from the Lunenburg County Truckers Association regarding the new fees for quarries and pits and new regulations. The Department of Environment has requested a questionnaire be completed to assist with the creation of new regulations for all pits and quarries. The Association has requested an extension of the deadline and a meeting with officials early in the new year.

MOVED BY Councillor Dares, SECONDED BY Councillor Hood, that Council support the position of the Truckers Association and forward correspondence to the Department of Environment requesting an extension of the December 15th deadline.

MOTION CARRIED

NOVA DEVELOPMENTS RE PORT FEE

Correspondence was considered from Nova Developments Limited to the Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce regarding the idea of a “port fee” to fund vital transportation infrastructure and links to Southwestern Nova Scotia. Discussion followed regarding the importance of stakeholders coming together on this issue.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland that this correspondence be received and placed on file.

MOTION CARRIED

MUNICIPALITY OF YARMOUTH RE LANDFILL

Correspondence was considered from the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth regarding the possibility of allowing for separated residential waste to be delivered to the Yarmouth landfill year round to be billed back to the respective municipal units.

Following considerable discussion,

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Boudreau that Councillor Dares, Councillor Hood and the C.A.O. meet with the municipal units on this issue and report back to Council.

MOTION CARRIED

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED

TOWN CRIER

_____ Correspondence was received from David Olie, Town Crier, updating Council on his activities over the past year.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland that the C.A.O. investigate the cost of a new Town Crier costume and report back to Council at the January meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

MARTHA CASSIDY

Correspondence was read from Martha Cassidy expressing her concerns regarding streets and sidewalks as well as the need to improve the quality of sound for the Council meetings on Eastlink. Mrs. Cassidy also suggested that the engines of Town vehicles should be turned off when not in use, rather than idling by the side of the road.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Boudreau, that correspondence be forwarded to Martha Cassidy addressing her concerns and that the C.A.O. investigate if a policy exists on idling of Town vehicles.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY Councillor Boudreau, SECONDED BY Councillor Judge that the sound system in the Council Chambers be examined for possible improvements.

MOTION CARRIED

LLOYD WALLIS

Correspondence was considered from Lloyd Wallis expressing his concerns over the lack of sidewalks on Brunswick Street extension.

MOVED BY Councillor Dares, SECONDED BY Councillor Hood, that correspondence be forwarded to Lloyd Wallis, with a copy to Town Engineer, Dave Ernst, advising that the Public Works Department does have a priority list of sidewalks and that this area will be looked at and weighed on its merits.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Dares requested that Council be given the opportunity to view the priority list.

FCM

_____ Correspondence was considered from FCM regarding the impact of an early election on federal transfers for municipalities. It was noted that at issue is the status of a two-year, \$800 million transit fund as well as the transfer of the first installment of gas tax money to municipalities in those jurisdictions where agreements have been signed; however, upon the passing of Bill C-66, the Treasury Board is expected to approve the program parameters and then contribution agreements with each jurisdiction will have to be negotiated, which could take some time. It was noted, however, that the funding itself is assured.

Mayor Crosby indicated he would investigate why a new FCM President has been appointed and report back to Council.

SOUTH WEST HEALTH

Correspondence was considered from Addiction Services advising their program was the recipient of two international awards for excellence in providing outstanding quality service. There were more than 200 submissions from across North America.

MOVED BY Councillor Boudreau, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares that correspondence be forwarded to Addiction Services congratulating them on their awards.

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE

STARR'S ROAD/BURTON AVENUE

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Judge that street construction including traffic light installation on Burton Avenue be completed as per the Town Engineer's recommendation.

MOTION CARRIED

ATLANTIC TRACTORS RE WATER LINE

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Boudreau that cost sharing be approved to install an 8" water line on Cottage Street to service Atlantic Tractors & Equipment property, with the Town of Yarmouth supplying and installing the water line, to be funded from the water utility reserve; Atlantic Tractors to assume the cost of digging the trench, supplying and installing the sewer line, refilling the trench and repaving the trench opening, providing the trench is in the road area.

MOTION CARRIED

FUEL FUND

_____ MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland that a cheque in the amount of \$5,000 be forwarded to Rev. Bill Newell to assist the Community Fuel Fund.

MOTION CARRIED

LUB AMENDMENT

MOVED BY Councillor Judge, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland that Part 14.5 of the Land Use By-law be amended to increase the height and size of accessory buildings in the General Commercial (C-2) zone as outlined in the Planner's report.

MOTION CARRIED

DRAFT REGULATIONS - LAKE GEORGE WATERSHED

MOVED BY Councillor Hood, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares that the Draft Regulations for the Lake George Watershed be forwarded to the Minister for his review.

MOTION CARRIED

JOINT HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councillor Dares advised the Heritage Co-ordinator is now working on the Heritage Places Initiative investigating properties identified for inclusion on the website. She advised there are standards and guidelines, and a copy will be obtained for Council's review.

JOINT LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor Dares advised capital priorities were discussed at their recent meeting. The Committee will be working on the budget in January. The Department has applied and received approval for a grant in the amount of \$3,000 for cross-country ski trails at Ellenwood Park. Councillor Dares also advised the Christmas tree lighting was a success, and noted discussions were ongoing regarding the ballfield lights at Veterans Field. The Committee would be looking at this as one of their capital priorities.

TAXI SERVICES

Councillor Hood reported he had received a request from a citizen for the Town to pay for taxi services on New Year's Eve. He advised he would report to the Taxi Committee; however, this would not be in time for this New Year's.

JOINT HOMECARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councillor Hood advised the contract for homecare workers has been agreed to in principle and would hopefully be finalized before Christmas.

YARMOUTH COUNTY TOURIST ASSOCIATION

_____ Councillor Strickland advised that on January 5th, an important meeting will be held with various interested organizations to discuss the short and long-term needs in the Yarmouth area.

MARINERS CENTRE MANAGEMENT BOARD

The C.A.O. advised the additional seating at the Mariners Centre has been installed and the plumbing and electrical work is being done. He also noted the management and staff have been faced with vandalism at the arena and the Board is working on ways to rectify this.

YARMOUTH HOSPITAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Councillor Hood advised the Yarmouth Hospital Charitable Foundation carried out a very successful campaign to raise money for the new MRI machine.

MOVED BY Councillor Boudreau, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland that correspondence be forwarded to the Yarmouth Hospital Charitable Foundation thanking them for their diligence and hard work in raising such a significant amount of funds for the new MRI machine.

MOTION CARRIED

WASTE CHECK

The C.A.O. advised the C.A.O.'s from the three municipal units will be meeting tomorrow with Gus Green and Dave Ernst. He advised a temporary alternative solution will be necessary. The permanent transfer station will not be ready, but options are available and a timely decision will be made.

EXTREME MAKEOVER

Councillor Boudreau advised that a recent episode of Extreme Makeover - Home Edition, featured a fisherman from the USA who lost an arm eight years ago. With the assistance of many businesses and residents of Yarmouth, many items were donated towards the making of the show. Dan Devine, owner of Novi Boat Brokers, donated a fully-decked out boat. In addition, other businesses and residents donated various items including traps, electronics, etc. Councillor Boudreau expressed sincere thanks to all those who took part in this worthwhile cause.

TENDERS

The C.A.O. advised tenders were received for the supply of a 2006 1 ½ ton truck chassis complete with dump body for the Compost Facility.

MOVED BY Councillor Dares, SECONDED BY Councillor Judge, that the contract for the supply of a 1 ½ ton truck be awarded to the lowest tender from Motor Mart Ltd., in the amount of \$46,965.00 plus HST.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY Councillor Judge, SECONDED BY Councillor Strickland, that the contract for grinding asphalt shingles be awarded to the lowest tender from Halifax C&D Recycling Ltd. in the amount of \$19,072.00 plus HST and the contract for the grinding of waste wood be awarded to the lowest tender from Verboom Grinders, in the amount of \$23,700.00 plus HST.

MOTION CARRIED

HEALTH CARE WORKERS' RECOGNITION

The C.A.O. advised he has had discussions with Barb Johnson, Communications Co-ordinator with the District Health Authority, regarding the recognition of health care workers and their contributions to our community. It has been suggested that a Canada Health Day be held at the Hospital Cafeteria in May to recognize these workers. It was also suggested that a Mayor's Tea be held on that day as well to show Council's appreciation for their efforts and hard work.

HOLIDAY WISHES

Mayor Crosby wished the residents of Yarmouth a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year. He noted the New Year's Levee would be held January 1st, 2006, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Town Hall.

APPROVAL OF THE INVOICES

MOVED BY Councillor Strickland, SECONDED BY Councillor Pink,
that the invoices as okayed by the various chairpersons be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

IT WAS AGREED the next regular meeting would be scheduled for January 12th,
2006.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER