

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 9, 2014

Present: Chairperson Stanley MacDonald; Vice Chair Blake Adams; Councillors Marvin MacDonald, Eric Gavin, Carol Ferguson, Darren MacKinnon and Davis Gallant. Administrator Bev Shaw.

Regrets:

Meeting to order:

Chairperson MacDonald called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The agenda was approved with following additions: Email list for sewer utility customers, attendance at Rustico meetings. *Moved by B. Adams, seconded by D. Gallant and carried.*

Minutes

The December 12, 2013 regular council meeting minutes and January 6, 2014 Public Information session notes were reviewed for errors and omissions. On a *motion by B. Adams, seconded by D. Gallant and carried* the minutes were approved.

Business arising from minutes:

- Bev to check with Bantam AAA team management regarding season pass in return for donation.
- Davis to check on streetlight standard welding.
- To arrange meeting in late January for policy review.
- Tax concession policy review to be ready for February meeting if possible.
- Community website to be checked for media reports. Darren suggested a banner sign be placed on Community welcome sign indicating website address.

Financial Business:

Carol reviewed the financial reports for December 2013. December revenue: general \$134,600.44; sewer \$1,072.07. December expenses: general \$93,710.28; sewer \$103,045.47; Bank balances at the end of December - general \$99,284.39; sewer \$15,835.47. Copies of budget report to December 31/13 circulated to Council. It was *moved by M. MacDonald, seconded by B. Adams and carried* that financial report be approved.

To check on Administration sundry and professional fees.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson's report

Stanley's written report was circulated. Zach from the Graphic mentioned that he put a video on YouTube of the Jan. 6th town public meeting.

Administrator's report

Written report circulated to Council. Business permit issued to Kendall Gallant, Tri County Marine for a car wash at 501 Main Street.

Reports from Departments

Development & Tourism - Blake reported the Planning Board won't be meeting again until after January 20th as Planner Phil Wood is unavailable and he hopes to be prepared to table the Tax Concession Policy at the February meeting.

Sanitation/Streets/Properties - Davis reported that the Co-op experienced a sewer issue but it was a private property matter. He's been monitoring the sidewalks watching for any chipping or edging but the cylinder attachments to the blower seem to be working. Bev to check with Dale re rock pick in windshield of maintenance truck.

Fire Protection - Chief Blair Perry submitted a written report saying that in December 9 calls were answered with 3 medicals, 1 false alarm, 1 flue fire, 1 fire investigation, 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 workshop fire and 1 snowmobile accident. The snowmobile accident resulted in fatality which was very difficult for the department members but was handled professionally. The year end showed no property losses during 2013. Marvin reported that he attended the department annual meeting and Chief Perry was re-elected, Deputy Chief - Ron Phillips, Captain # 1 - Jason Greenan, Captain # 2 - Blain Buchanan, Lieutenant # 1 - Davis Gallant, Lieutenant # 2 - Rodney MacWilliam, Treasurer - Jeff Price and Secretary - Carol Gillis.

Recreation report - Tylan's written report plus schedule for Up West Winterfest circulated to Council. New Year's Levee went well with about 30 - 40 people in attendance. Good Neighbour award presented to Charlene and Marlene Perry; and Citizen of the Year award went to Frances Dewar. Tylan supplied some preliminary information on the volunteer appreciation night which Council discussed in length. **Moved by B. Adams, seconded by M. MacDonald** that the Recreation Department proceed with this event in late February with a budget of \$1500, to contact O'Leary Legion to be venue with expectations of 200 people, to have lots of publicity and see that all community volunteers are invited, to collect photos to do a slide show. **Motion carried.** Other details - try to determine numbers through RSVPs, perhaps inviting 1 or 2 representatives from each volunteer group but of course no one to be turned away at the door, include a storm date in plans, adults only as this will permit the legion to perhaps make some money from the bar.

It was mentioned that Council would provide some sponsorship for hockey tournaments that Tylan is planning in conjunction with the rink's end of season.

Police Report - Written RCMP report for December circulated. The RCMP members spent 165 hours on O'Leary policing business with 9 calls for service. Provincial statutes - 4 non-moving traffic violations and 2 speeding violations. Five criminal background checks completed. No response from RCMP Cst. Scott Lundrigan re ATV information session.

Stanley stated that he'd like to see the ADIC board reactivated and requested a copy of the last minutes. Darren indicated that he is still interested in serving as liaison to council on this board and no one was sure of Kevin Maynard's status. It was agreed that Bev draft a letter to Kevin to determine his desire to continue on board and would he wish to assist in finding new board members.

Town Status

WHEREAS the Community of O'Leary is currently providing services of a town;

WHEREAS town status may have a positive impact on economic development initiatives and financial opportunities;

WHEREAS as a town special council meetings can be called with less notice and expense;

WHEREAS as a town annual budgets can be approved by Council instead of residents;

BE IT RESOLVED that O'Leary Community Council apply to the Provincial Government of PEI to change municipal status to a town.

Moved by Blake Adams, seconded by Carol Ferguson. Motion Carried.

Transportation West request

Moved by D. MacKinnon, seconded by D. Gallant and carried that the Community of O'Leary donate \$600 to Transportation West which will provide signage on 3 of their buses.

Affordable Housing Resolution

WHEREAS, a stable and secure housing system that creates and maintains jobs and allows for a range of living options is essential to attracting new workers, meeting the needs of young families and supporting seniors and our most valuable citizens;

WHEREAS the high cost of housing is the most urgent financial issue facing Canadians with one in four people paying more than they can afford for housing, and mortgage debt held by Canadians now standing at just over \$1.1 trillion;

WHEREAS housing costs and, as the Bank of Canada notes, household debt, are undermining Canadians' personal financial security, while putting our national economy at risk;

WHEREAS those who cannot afford to purchase a home rely on the short supply of rental units, which is driving up rental costs and making it hard to house workers in regions experiencing strong economic activity;

WHEREAS an inadequate supply of subsidized housing for those in need is pushing some of the most vulnerable Canadians on to the street, while \$1.7 billion annually in federal investments in social housing have begun to expire;

WHEREAS coordinated action is required to prevent housing issues from being offloaded onto local governments and align the steps local governments have already taken with regard to federal/provincial/territorial programs and policies;

WHEREAS, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has launched a housing campaign, "Fixing Canada's Housing Crunch," calling on the federal government to increase housing options for Canadians and to work with all orders of government to develop a long-term plan for Canada's housing future;

WHEREAS FCM has asked its member municipalities to pass a council resolution supporting the campaign; and

WHEREAS, cities, towns and communities in Prince Edward Island have continuing housing needs that can only be met through the kind of long-term planning and investment made possible by federal leadership;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Community Council of O'Leary, PE. endorses the FCM housing campaign and urges the Minister of Employment and Social Development to develop a long-term plan for housing that puts core investments on solid ground, increases predictability, protects Canadians from the planned expiry of \$1.7 billion in social housing agreements and ensures a healthy stock of affordable rental housing for Canadians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Employment and Social Development, Members of Parliament representing Prince Edward Island, the Minister of Community Services and Seniors, the Minister of Finance, Energy and Municipal Affairs, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Moved by M. MacDonald, seconded by D. MacKinnon that this resolution regarding Affordable Housing, be adopted. ***Motion carried.***

Volunteer Appreciation Night

Dealt with during the Recreation Department report.

New Year's Levee costs

Moved by B. Adams, seconded by C. Ferguson and carried that the Community of O'Leary donate \$1000 to the Maple Leaf Curling Club in appreciation of their hosting the New Year's levee.

Other business and correspondence:

Stanley suggested that Future Tech West temporary employee be tasked with creating an email list for the Community's sewer utility customers. It was felt that this may be a privacy issue and since Municipal Affairs and IRAC weren't totally supportive that past practice of including a request with the bills be followed again this year. It was suggested that FTW employee may be able to assist with the volunteer appreciation night.

To check with North Rustico on meeting dates so that we may visit to see how their two meetings per month process is working.

Moved by B. Adams, seconded by D. Gallant and carried that Council adjourn to committee of the whole (closed door session) at 8:00 pm.

Moved by B. Adams, seconded by E. Gavin and carried that regular meeting resume at 8:45 pm.

Council directed that Recreation Director's overtime of 8 hours be used before the end of January and that this practice of eliminating overtime accumulation be continued. The same practice to apply to Maintenance Person.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm on a **motion by B. Adams, seconded by C. Ferguson and carried.**