MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL
December 10, 2007

Minutes of a meeting of Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater, held in the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 60 Pleasant Street, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia on Monday, December 10, 2007, commencing at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Mayor Carroll Publicover presiding. Those in attendance: Deputy Mayor David Walker; Councillors Jim Bell, Beverlee Brown, Kevin Marlin, Bill McInnis, and David Mitchell. Also present were Ken Smith, Chief Administrative Officer; Harland Wyand, Town Engineer; Doug Covey, Director of Finance; Eric Shaw, Director of Planning; Carol Pickings-Anthony, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture; and Sandra Lowe, Executive Assistant.

ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO AGENDA

07-279 Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater accept the December 10, 2007 Town Council agenda as circulated. Motion Carried.

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF

HEATHER MACKENZIE-CAREY, REMO COORDINATOR

Ken Smith, CAO, introduced Heather MacKenzie-Carey as the new REMO Coordinator for the regional organization. Mr. Smith noted Ms. MacKenzie-Carey's varied experience in the Health Care Industry as an emergency practitioner, educator and consultant.

Of particular interest, Mr. Smith noted her expertise regarding Biological Emergencies (ie: Pandemic Influenza).

Mayor Publicover welcomed Ms. MacKenzie-Carey to her new role as REMO Coordinator.

CHRIS MEISTER, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIST

Director of Finance Doug Covey introduced the Town's newest staffer, Chris Meister. Mr. Meister has recently started working as the Town's Information Technologist. Mr. Meister has over twenty years experience in the electronics and information technology fields.

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Meister to the Town's employ, and wished him success in the position.

CORRESPONDENCE - INFORMATION

BRIDGEWATER & AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - SUPPORT FOR CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT

A letter dated November 9, 2007 was received by Council from the Bridgewater and Area Chamber of Commerce expressing support of the efforts of the Citizens for Public Transit to bring affordable public transportation to the South Shore.

BLUENOSE COASTAL ACTION FOUNDATION - SUPPORT FOR CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT

A letter dated November 28, 2007 was received by Council from the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation (BCAF). Brooke Cook, Executive Director, wrote in support of Citizens for Public Transit in providing affordable and sustainable transportation which would link the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and the Towns of Bridgewater, Lunenburg, and Mahone Bay.

SERVICE NOVA SCOTIA AND MUNICIPAL RELATIONS - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - UNSM AND PROVINCE

A letter dated November 15, 2007 was received by Council from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) and Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations (SNSMR), along with a Memorandum of Understanding between the two parties. The letter advised that the Memorandum built upon an MOU entered into between the UNSM and the Province in 2005, which was based on Guiding Principles to help shape the relationship and allow the two parties to work more cooperatively together. It was noted that the revised MOU moves SNSMR and UNSM further along this path and contained a number of key financial and governance provisions.

KIN CANADA - MESSAGE OF SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

A letter dated November 12, 2007 was received by Council from Kin Canada advising of Kin Canada's annual "Message of Support" campaign.

CORRESPONDENCE - ACTION

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY - PROCLAMATION OF AWARENESS MONTH - JANUARY 2008

A letter dated November 1, 2007 was received by Council from the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia advising that Alzheimer Awareness Month was taking place in January 2008, and requesting Council's support in the form of proclaiming January as Awareness Month in Bridgewater.

07-280 Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that

WHEREAS there are over 14,000 Nova Scotians who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that there are nearly 500,000 Nova Scotians who are impacted by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, a number that is expected to nearly double by 2031; and

WHEREAS the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia is committed to alleviating the personal and social consequences of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and to promoting the search for the causes and cures;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater hereby proclaim the month of January 2008 as Alzheimer Awareness Month in the Town of Bridgewater. Motion Carried.

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY - REQUEST TO LOBBY MLA REGARDING AMENDMENT TO PROVINCIAL SMOKE-FREE PLACES ACT (PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN CARS FROM SECOND HAND SMOKE)

A letter dated November 27, 2007 was received by Council from the Canadian Cancer Society urging Council to speak with the local MLA to support to enactment of an amendment to the *Provincial Smoke-Free Places Act* which would protect children in cars from second-hand smoke.

07-281 Moved by Councillor Marlin, seconded by Councillor Brown that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater request MLA Carolyn Bolivar-Getson's support of an amendment to the *Provincial Smoke Free Places Act* to provide protection from second-hand smoke to children in cars. Motion Carried.

BRIDGEWATER TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED - FREE PARKING IN DECEMBER ON KING STREET

A letter dated December 4, 2007 was received by Council from Bridgewater Town Centre Development Corporation Limited requesting Council's consideration in providing free parking at parking meters along King and Pleasant Streets for the month of December.

Ken Smith, CAO, noted that the request was received later than usual due to a change in directors. Further, he recommended that Council provide approval for parking *each and every* December until Council suspends the authorization by motion of Council.

Councillor McInnis stated that staff are taking advantage of the 'free' parking at meters. Further, he felt that if free parking benefitted businesses in the downtown, free parking should be instated for the entire year, not just December.

07-282 Moved by Deputy Mayor Walker, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater approve the request of the Bridgewater Town Centre Development Corporation Limited and allow free parking at meters for patrons in the downtown for the month of December, 2007, and each December thereafter until suspended by a motion of Council. Those in Favour: Mayor Publicover; Deputy Mayor Walker; Councillors Bell, Brown, Mitchell and Marlin. Against: Councillor McInnis. Motion Carried.

REPORT OF THE TOWN ENGINEER

BRIDGEWATER AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - TRAFFIC DISRUPTION - HIGH STREET AND KING STREET

A letter dated December 4, 2007 was received by Council from Vernon Cornish, President, Bridgewater and Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Cornish's letter expressed concern regarding road repairs on High Street and King Street and the disruption to residents and businesses in the areas.

Town Engineer Harland Wyand explained that it had been hoped that High Street would be completed by the end of November or first of December. However, due to delays and winter

weather, gravel would be placed to make High Street passable and paving will be done in the spring. Looking forward, such incidents could be avoided if approval of capital projects was done prior to passing of the budget, Mr. Wyand noted.

Regarding King Street, Mr. Wyand said that it had run a couple of weeks longer than expected due to some unexpected rock which slowed progress. King Street was kept open to allow access to businesses.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION OF THE WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SOLID WASTE BY-LAWS - RESTRICTION OF TRANSPORTATION OF SOLID WASTE

Town Engineer Harland Wyand reviewed the document received by Council from the Waste Management Committee. Mr. Wyand said that the Waste Management Committee had received information from staff that, even with the reduction of the tipping fees for landfillable and construction and demolition waste, the waste anticipated to return to the Lunenburg Regional Community Recycling Centre is not being realized. He advised that solid wastes that are generated in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and the Towns of Bridgewater, Lunenburg, and Mahone Bay are still being hauled to another landfill outside of the jurisdictional boundaries, which results in a negative impact to the Waste Management Committee's budget through less realized revenue to help offset cost as well as the inability to meet the 10,000 ton "put or pay" threshold contained in the agreement between the partner units and the Municipality of Chester. If the 10,000 ton threshold is not realized, the four partner units will be required to pay an additional amount (difference between 10,000 tons and tonnage shipped to Chester). Additionally, the shipment of this waste to landfills outside the Committee's jurisdiction negatively impacts on our diversion credits.

Mr. Wyand noted that a similar legislation had been passed by HRM, and it had been appealed but upheld in the Court of Appeal.

Councillor Bell, Waste Management Committee member, stated that the Waste Management Committee is losing thousands of dollars due to C & D waste going outside jurisdiction, unsorted. He said that it is costing the Town's residents 'big dollars'.

07-283 Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor McInnis that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the Waste Management Committee and amend the Town's Solid Waste By-law (Chapter 127) to restrict transportation of solid wastes outside jurisdictional boundaries, as presented in Document 07-319, and proceed to second reading of the by-law at a Council meeting to be held on January 28, 2008, and authorize the CAO to publish all public notices pursuant to Section 168 of the *Municipal Government Act*. Motion Carried.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE MUSEUM COMMISSION - FLOORING - MUSEUM HERITAGE GALLERY

A proposal was received from Barb Thompson, Director, DesBrisay Museum, advising that because of long-term wetness and the drop in heat during roofing construction, it is necessary to replace the

flooring in the Heritage Gallery.

The Bridgewater Museum Commission recommended that laminate flooring be installed in the gallery at a cost of approximately $11,000.

Discussion ensued regarding the costs to maintain the museum, and the considerable capital costs expended recently for the museum.

07-284 Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor McInnis that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the Museum Commission and approve an unbudgeted expenditure of approximately $11,000 plus GST to pay for the installation of laminate flooring in the Museum gallery. Those in Favour: Mayor Publicover; Deputy Mayor Walker; Councillors McInnis, Brown, and Marlin. Against: Councillors Bell and Mitchell. Motion Carried.

UPDATE - YEAR-TO-DATE OPERATIONAL BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

A memo dated November 30, 2007 was received by Council from Doug Covey, Director of Finance, providing income/expense statements for the seven months ending October 31, 2007 and highlights of the variance analysis.

Council members were asked to direct any questions arising from this financial report to the Director of Finance.

BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COORDINATOR

Carol Pickings-Anthony, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture advised of a proposed initiative to partner with the Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection, the Town of Lunenburg, and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg to secure a Physical Activity Coordinator. Ms. Pickings-Anthony advised that the purpose was to encourage activity through this physical activity initiative. The Town of Bridgewater's share of the cost would be $5,000 for three years, with an option to renew thereafter.

07-285 Moved by Councillor Mitchell, seconded by Councillor Brown that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater intends to enter into a three-year contract to develop a comprehensive physical activity strategy and coordinate the work with the Nova Scotia Department of Health Promotion and Protection, the Town of Lunenburg, and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, with an annual commitment by the Town in the amount of $5,000/year for three years. Motion Carried.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Councillor Bill McInnis, member of the Active Transportation Committee reviewed his correspondence to Council dated December 6, 2007. He stated that the Town had committed $10,000 to the Active Transportation Committee to fund a connectivity study for the Town. The

proposals were more than budgeted, so the Committee is requesting additional funding from the Town.

The study's core components will cost $33,630 (including HST), with additional components bringing the total to $46,854. In addition to the Town's $10,000 contribution, the office of Health Services and Promotion have granted $22,000, and South Shore Health has donated $4,000. This leaves a shortfall of $10,854 which the Committee is asking the Town to fund through the Gas Tax Rebate Program.

Director of Planning Eric Shaw concurred, noting that the plan qualifies under the guidelines of the Gas Tax Rebate Program.

07-286 Moved by Councillor McInnis, seconded by Councillor Brown that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater approve an unbudgeted expenditure of $10,854, from the Town's Federal Gas Tax Revenue funds. Those in Favour: Mayor Publicover; Deputy Mayor Walker; Councillors McInnis, Brown, Mitchell and Marlin. Against: Councillor Bell. Motion Carried.

NEW YEAR'S LEVEE

Councillor Kevin Marlin invited all to attend the New Year's Levee being held on January 1, 2008 beginning at 10:00 a.m. He commended the Museum staff for planning this event, which will be held at the Fire Hall (Dominion Street) and would feature champagne, refreshments, and entertainment.

NEW BUSINESS

BROOKSIDE CEMETERY COMMISSION - CAPITAL REQUEST

A memo dated December 5, 2007 was received by Council from David Walker, Chair, Brookside Cemetery Commission requesting Council's consideration in curbing the street that borders the Donnellan property (corner of Victoria Road and York Street), and inclusion of this item in the 2008/2009 budget.

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING (MODL AND TOWN / MODL, TOWN, AND LUNENBURG COUNTY LIFESTYLE CENTRE SOCIETY)

It was noted that the Memorandums of Understanding were reviewed at a Special Briefing Session held on Thursday, December 6th.

With respect to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg (Section C), highlights include that the site and facility be considered as one item. Regarding Section 2, the property would revert back to the BDA if this project is not completed.

Regarding the MOU between the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, the Town of Bridgewater, and the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre Society, it was highlighted that Sections 3 and 4 ensure

adequate insurance so that all parties, including both municipal units, are protected.

07-287 Moved by Councillor Marlin, seconded by Councillor McInnis that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and the Town of Bridgewater, as presented in Document 07-300B, with non-substantive editorial changes as required. Motion Carried.

07-288 Moved by Councillor Marlin, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, Town of Bridgewater, and Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre Society as reflected in Document 07-300A, with non-substantive editorial changes as required. Motion Carried.

SUNDRY

ACCOUNTS - MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2007 - $1,097,014.65

A list of the accounts for the month of November, 2007 was provided to Council for information purposes.

ECI MEDICAL - REQUEST TO DELAY ACTION ON TAX ACCOUNT

A letter dated December 5, 2007 was received by Council from ECI Medical Technologies Inc. requesting a delay in any further action on its tax account. Keith C. Boulter, President, advised that a detailed repayment plan would be arranged on or before January 15, 2008.

07-289 Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater agree to the request in ECI Medical Technologies Inc.' letter dated December 5, 2007 (Document 07-333) and instruct staff to defer establishing a new repayment plan until January 15, 2008.

07-290 Moved by Councillor Marlin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater amend Motion 07-289 to delete "to defer establishing a new repayment plan" and replace it with *"to delay action on ECI's tax account"*. Motion to amend Carried.

07-289a Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater agree to the request in ECI Medical Technologies Inc.' letter dated December 5, 2007 (Document 07-333) and instruct staff to delay action on ECI's tax account until January 15, 2008. Motion Carried.

SALVATION ARMY KETTLES (COUNCILLOR BROWN)

Councillor Brown encouraged Council and the public to become involved in the Salvation Army Christmas appeal by attending one of the familiar 'kettles' this year. More volunteers are needed to continue this worthwhile appeal.

ADJOURNMENT

07-291 Moved by Councillor Marlin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that the December 10, 2007 Town Council meeting hereby be adjourned (time: 7:25 p.m.).

Sandra J. Lowe, Executive Assistant

Carroll W. Publicover, Mayor