

**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL
February 8, 2010**

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, February 8, 2010, commencing at 6:00 p.m., with Mayor Carroll Publicover presiding. Those in attendance: Deputy Mayor David Walker; Councillors Jim Bell, Patrick Hirtle, Bill McInnis, David Mitchell, and Greg Ritcey. Also in attendance were Ken Smith, Chief Administrative Officer; Harland Wyand, Town Engineer; Dawn Keizer, Director of Finance; Eric Shaw, Director of Planning; Carol Pickings-Anthony, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture; and Sandra Porter-Lowe, Executive Assistant.

ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO AGENDA

It was requested that the following changes be made to the agenda of February 8, 2010:

- Delete the 6:20 p.m. delegation. Major James Fera, Commanding Officer, 14 CES/143 Construction Engineering SQ CES will appear at the February 22, 2010 Town Council meeting; and
- Add "Town of Bridgewater Website - Survey Regarding Highway Sign" under Sundry.

10-025 Moved by Councillor Ritcey, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater accept the February 8, 2010 Town Council meeting agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

DELEGATIONS

PAUL BELLIVEAU, LUNENBURG COUNTY LIFESTYLE CENTRE SOCIETY

Paul Belliveau appeared before Council to provide an update to Council with respect to the proposed Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre. Mr. Belliveau advised that, with the assistance and partnership of the Town, the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, and the provincial and federal levels of government, the Centre was close to becoming a reality.

Mr. Belliveau advised that the Lunenburg County Multi-Purpose Centre Corporation was now officially set up and operational. He stated that the Corporation was responsible for the construction and, ultimately, the operation of the facility. The Corporation's Board of Directors include himself (Chair), Greg Amos (Vice-Chair), Andrew Kimball, Susan Cochrane, Mayor Don Downe, Councillor Don Zwicker, Mayor Carroll Publicover and Deputy Mayor David Walker.

The Corporation has taken over contracts with the professional fundraisers (RBR), the architects (Lydon Lynch Diamond+Schmidt), and has hired Siew Secord to manage the finances, and Karen Tulkens as a Campaign Assistant.

Mr. Belliveau confirmed that no work on the site will be completed until the components of the facility are finalized, along with the actual location of the facility on the site. A meeting will be held later this month with the Architect to receive preliminary drawings and a Class "C" budget.

The project has moved to the point where a Project Manager is required. A Call for Project Management has been completed recently. The cost of a Project Manager over the span of the project will be approximately \$471,000 plus HST.

Mr. Belliveau noted the project is in the “quiet phase” of fundraising. “Family”, consisting of members of the corporation, volunteers with the project, municipal and Town Council members and some staff, have been or will be approached shortly and encouraged to personally contribute financially to the project.

Mr. Belliveau stated that more regular updates will now be provided through the media and the Corporation’s website since there was now actual information to provide. It was noted that excitement for the project continues to grow as details are released about the proposed Centre.

In closing, Mr. Belliveau thanked Council for its support in the past, and its anticipated continued support going forward.

10-026 Moved by Deputy Mayor Walker, seconded by Councillor McInnis that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater approve \$471,732 plus HST for Project Management Services for the Lunenburg County Multi-Purpose Corporation, less costs incurred this fiscal year for Project Management Services; and that the pre-budget approval be for the fiscal years 2010-2011, 2011-2012, and 2012-2013 as required for Project Management Services. Motion Carried.

BRIDGEWATER’S BIRTHDAY

FREE FAMILY SKATE - FEBRUARY 14, 2010

A free Family Skate will be held on Sunday, February 14 in honour of Bridgewater’s 111th Birthday. Free hot chocolate will be available for those attending.

COUNCIL REPORT

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION - COUNCILLOR BILL MCINNIS

Councillor Bill McInnis chairs the Public Service Commission (PSC), and provided a report of the Commission to Council. Councillor McInnis explained that the PSC was a separate corporate body operating the water utility for the Town. Although the PSC is owned by the Town, it operates as an independent body with its own source of revenue and applicable expenses.

The mandate of the PSC is to provide potable water for residents of the Town, both residential and commercial, and also provides water and fire protection through a system of hydrants and sprinkler services.

The Commission consists of five members, all of whom are appointed by Town Council in accordance with regulations established by *An Act Respecting the Public Service Commission of*

Bridgewater. Operation staffing consists of Finance Department staff, Engineering Department Staff, Water Treatment Plant staff, and Public Works Department staff. Additionally, a portion of salaries and benefits for 12 positions in the Town's Administration Department and 10 positions in the Town's Public Works Department are funded through PSC.

The annual operation and maintenance budget is approximately \$2.8 million; and capital budgets can range anywhere from \$100,000 to \$1 million or more, depending upon the nature of the capital work required.

In 2002 the PSC built a 'state of the art' water treatment facility. The water is treated and distributed throughout the Town by way of a series of watermains and lift pumps. The facility has the capacity to generate 18,000 cubic meters per day. The average daily flow for 2009 was 7,304 cubic meters, with a total of 2,666,021 cubic meters being produced for the year.

The water supply for Bridgewater is comprised of three lakes: Hebb Lake, Milipsigate Lake, and Minamkeak Lake. The daily safe yield of water from the lakes is approximately 57,000 cubic metres per day.

Councillor McInnis outlined challenges for the PSC going forward: maintenance of the high quality water we now have at a reasonable cost (replacement of older transmission lines; and upgrading of treatment plan); and replacement and/or repair of dams which are over 100 years old (upgrades will likely cost \$5 million or more).

In closing, the speaker explained that the cost to the Town's residents for potable water is a great bargain at today's rates, with an average water bill for a family being \$90 - 100 every three months. Having such a safe, high-quality drinking water in large volumes provides a great peace of mind to our citizens.

PLANNING ITEMS

STAFF REPORT - OPTIONS FOR PERMITTING ADULT ENTERTAINMENT USES IN BRIDGEWATER

Director of Planning Eric Shaw reviewed his report, noting it presented some ways to better address adult entertainment issues. The definition outlined in his report was provided for clarity. Mr. Shaw stated that the definition was not from our Land Use By-law, but had been developed by the Town of New Glasgow, and could be used as a reference point. Should Council wish to move forward regarding this issue, it will be necessary to adopt a definition.

The Town of Bridgewater currently uses a broad definition of 'places of entertainment'. There is very little regulation for adult entertainment in the town. If an application was received, a permit would have to be issued under our current policy. The Town has not faced this issue as yet but it is something Council may wish to look at.

Council may consider developing a new specialized zone for adult entertainment uses; however, this option might be more appropriate for a larger municipal unit.

The second option would be to allow adult entertainment uses in a specific zone by development

agreement. As an example, New Glasgow uses 'highway commercial' to keep adult entertainment uses out of the downtown, etc. A development agreement process takes approximately four to five months, and any appeals are heard by the Nova Scotia Utilities and Review Board. A development agreement is a very inclusive process with lots of input from citizens.

Third, Council may wish to permit adult entertainment uses in a specific zone, by site plan approval. This might be less inclusive regarding public input; however, it would be less time-consuming and would be subject to policy set out by Council. Council would hear any appeals, and it would typically be a three to six week process.

Mr. Shaw suggested that the Industrial Zone may be the best zone for Council's consideration. It covers Bridgewater Business Park and Bridgewater Marine Terminal.

The Director of Planning advised he was looking for some direction from Council. Once Council determines which direction or option it would prefer, more detailed amendments to the Town's current planning documents could be prepared by staff.

It was noted that this matter would be added to a future Briefing Session for further discussion.

STAFF REPORT - DRIVEWISER PROGRAM

Leon de Vreede, Sustainability Planner, advised that, through the ICSP process, staff had investigated ways to reduce transportation vehicle fuel consumption. An energy audit in 2008 suggested that the Town pursue anti-idling and environmentally-efficient driving education. The Town has qualified for funding and partnership through the Canadian Idle-less program. It is recommended that Town continue to build on these initiatives.

Staff has been approached by Clean Nova Scotia and encouraged to enrol in the Nova Scotia Drive Wiser program. To register for the program, the goal of which is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the Town would have to submit a letter of intent. Human and financial costs for running the program are generally low, and the Town would have to complete two of six possible actions:

- develop an idle-free policy for municipal properties;
- display idle-free signs on municipal buildings;
- facilitate a carpool program for municipal employees;
- run a municipal staff mileage competition for personal and/or fleet vehicles;
- host a DriveWiser presentation for staff;
- partner with several community businesses to host the Drive Wiser display at their business location(s).

10-027 Moved by Councillor McInnis, seconded by Councillor Ritcey that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of Planning staff and enrol in the DriveWiser's Active Communities program including, but not limited to, the following actions:

- develop an idle-free policy for municipal properties;
- display idle-free signs on municipal buildings;

and further, that staff submit a Letter of Intent based upon this resolution. Motion Carried.

REPORT OF THE TOWN ENGINEER

RIVERFRONT RENAISSANCE PROJECT - FLOATING FOUNTAIN

Harland Wyand, Town Engineer, advised that the Engineering Department had been working with the supplier of the floating fountain, Irri-Plus, to refine the options for the floating fountain which was publically tendered. The original tender had been turned down due to it being significantly over budget.

The Town had to obtain special permission from Nova Scotia Power and the Department of Labour to install the higher-voltage fountain. A higher voltage fountain results in significant savings in power consumption and operating costs.

The Town sole sourced this fountain for the following reasons: all permits were specific to this model; retendering would not allow time to meet the March 31, 2010 deadline; and changing supplier may require obtaining new approvals from various government departments, thus jeopardizing the deadline.

The Engineering Department recommended that the supply and installation of the floating fountain be awarded to Irri-Plus. It was noted that there would be a price increase if the floating fountain was not ordered by February 15, 2010.

10-028 Moved by Councillor McInnis, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the Engineering Department and award the supply and installation of the floating fountain to Irri-Plus in the amount of \$66,800.06 plus HST. Motion Carried.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION OF THE JOINT TRANSIT COMMITTEE - SERVICE MODEL

A letter dated January 28, 2010 was received by Council providing an update regarding the Joint Transit Committee's recommendation regarding a service model. The letter outlined the Committee's wish to use an approach that can gradually lead to a build-up in service, and that works with existing services in Lunenburg County.

It was noted that Council had previously approved a model as presented in the Public Transit Feasibility Study prepared by iTRANS/HDR), so if Council wished to support the model presented by the Joint Transit Committee in its most recent correspondence, it would be necessary to reconsider and defeat the motion currently on the books.

10-029 Moved by Councillor McInnis, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council

for the Town of Bridgewater reconsider motion 09-280 approved on December 14, 2009, as follows:

“That Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater authorize staff and the Joint Transit Committee to continue in a collaborative effort towards developing a regional transit operation and to proceed with a detailed routing analysis, governance, and costs based on Model D (as laid out in the Public Transit Feasibility Study prepared by iTRANS/HDR) over the next six months, through the allocation of TRIP (Transit Rural Incentive Program) funds, with the costs to be shared equitably between the partner units.”

Motion Carried.

Original Motion back on the floor for a new vote:

09-280 Moved by Councillor Mitchell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater authorize staff and the Joint Transit Committee to continue in a collaborative effort towards developing a regional transit operation and to proceed with a detailed routing analysis, governance, and costs based on Model D as laid out in the the Public Transit feasibility study prepared by iTRANS/HDR over the next six months, through the allocation of TRIP (Transit Rural Incentive Program) funds, with the costs to be shared equitably between the partner units. Motion Defeated.

10-030 Moved by Councillor McInnis, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the Joint Transit Committee to pursue a hybrid / Lunenburg County model, integrating fixed services with on-demand services and allocate TRIP funding for a detailed analysis and an action plan subject to participation of other partner municipal units. Motion Carried.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BRIDGEWATER MUSEUM COMMISSION - CITIZEN APPOINTMENT

A letter dated January 18, 2010 was received by Council from the Bridgewater Museum Commission recommending the appointment of David Weagle to the Commission for a term ending March 31, 2013.

10-031 Moved by Councillor Ritcey, seconded by Councillor Hirtle that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the Bridgewater Museum Commission and appoint David Weagle as a citizen appointee, for a term effective immediately and ending March 31, 2013. Motion Carried.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE REMO ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 2010/2011 BUDGET

A letter dated January 20, 2010 was received by Council from the REMO Advisory Committee, recommending Council's approval of the 2010/2011 REMO budget in the total amount of \$84,631.94. The Town's portion of that budget would be approximately \$11,620.

10-032 Moved by Deputy Mayor Walker, seconded by Councillor McInnis that Town

Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the REMO Advisory Committee and approve the 2010/2011 REMO budget as presented in Document 10-027. Motion Carried.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE - PRE-APPROVAL OF 2010-2011 CAPITAL PROJECTS

A memo dated January 25, 2010, was received by Council from the Director of Finance. Dawn Keizer reminded Council that a fast-tracking procedure had been approved by Council in March 2008 which would allow for early approval of some capital items to allow operational implementation in the case of time constraints or occupational health and safety concerns.

One item requires fast-tracking this year: the purchase of a used half-ton 4 x 4 truck to replace a public works vehicle that is out of service and too costly to repair.

10-033 Moved by Councillor Hirtle, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater pre-approve the purchase of a used ½ ton 4x4 truck in the amount of \$15,000. Motion Carried.

THIRD QUARTER 2009-10 FINANCIAL REPORT

Director of Finance Dawn Keizer reviewed the 2009/2010 Third Quarter Financial Report. She noted that, although a small surplus was being projected at this time, many changes can occur in the next several months.

Ms. Keizer provided an overview of significant variances in the Third Quarter Report.

RFP 2009-05 - PARK FURNISHINGS

A memo dated February 1, 2010 was received by Council from the Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture. Eight proposals were received for the supply of park furnishings. After reviewing the proposals, the Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture recommended the award of the proposal to Paris Equipment Manufacturing Ltd.

10-034 Moved by Councillor Mitchell, seconded by Councillor Hirtle that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture and award the proposal for Park Furnishings to Paris Equipment Manufacturing Ltd. at a cost of \$15,308.79 including HST. Motion Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY - FEBRUARY 15, 2010 - FLAG RAISING (DEPUTY MAYOR WALKER)

Council previously proclaimed February 15, 2010 as National Flag of Canada Day in the Town of Bridgewater. Deputy Mayor Walker had, at that time, suggested that a flag raising be held at the Town sign. Deputy Mayor Walker noted that he had since visited the Town sign site, and due to

the snow and ice, it was not an ideal location. At a recent Briefing Session, he had suggested that a flag-raising could be held at another location. He now advised he would contact the local elementary and high school to see if one of the schools might be interested in partnering with the Town to hold a flag-raising in observation of National Flag of Canada Day. Mayor Publicover thanked the Deputy Mayor for his initiative on this matter.

SUNDRY

HIGHWAY SIGN

Councillor David Mitchell advised that the Town's Marketing Committee had been working to develop a new highway sign. A draft design has been completed and the Committee is now inviting input from residents. Councillor Mitchell advised that residents could visit the Town's website (www.bridgewater.ca) to provide comments regarding the proposed design.

ADJOURNMENT

10-035 Moved by Councillor Ritcey, seconded by Councillor Mitchell that the February 8, 2010 Town Council meeting hereby be adjourned. (Time: 7:25)

Sandra Porter-Lowe, Executive Assistant

Carroll W. Publicover, Mayor