

The Thirty Sixth meeting of the Fourteenth Town Council was held in the Town Hall with the following in attendance:

Mayor Wilbur Sparkes
Deputy Mayor Glenn Littlejohn
Councillor Gerald Greenland
Councillor Dennis Brown
Councillor Bill Seymour

Special meeting commenced at 6:55 p.m.

D.M. Littlejohn gave a budget review for allocation of funds and of comparisons for 2003 - 2004 and provided an explanation of any increases or decreases by department. D.M. Littlejohn noted that since he first became involved 7 years ago, the town budget has went from 2.7 million to 4.1 million.

Councillor Greenland requested that more discussion take place before purchasing a small piece of equipment for the Parks & Recreation Dept. and the Works Dept.

Councillor Melvin Walsh arrived at 7:25 p.m.

A minute of silence was held in honour and respect for Daphne.

Regular meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m.

It was suggested that Daphne's family be written acknowledging her contribution to this town and when the opportunity arises a memorial recognition will be made in her memory.

Concerns arising from minutes of November 18th, 2003.

Councillor Greenland inquired if the Town Manager had checked with the Dept. of Municipal & Provincial Affairs regarding tax issues which relate to quarry operations.

D.M. Littlejohn suggested that a time line be given to identified property owners for the completion to plywood windows and door openings from the recommendations made by the Fire Chief and Control Officer.

Councillor Brown inquired as to whether the Town Manager had any recommendations to make with regard to the approval in principle given to Avalon Coal, Salt & Oil Ltd. for the infilling of two ponds and construction of a wharf.

D.M. Littlejohn advised that the recommendations of the Eastern Regional Appeal Board were included in the letter of approval which was sent to Avalon Coal, Salt & Oil Ltd.

Councillor Greenland updated Council on actions which were taken with regard to a stop work order issued to the Canadian Training Institute.

Copy of an appeal by the Canadian Training Institute to the Regional Appeal Board was tabled.

This appeal is to be placed on file.

An application was received from the Canadian Training Institute, Mr. Arthur Dominix, seeking permission to operate a quarry and heavy equipment training facility on land owned by L.E.D. Corporation situated at Jack's Hill, Country Road, Bay Roberts.

This application was deferred to the Public Works Committee.

D.M. Littlejohn noted that the opening of the Festival of Lights was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Councillor Seymour inquired as to whether there was anything further to report regarding the water line problem experienced at 14 New Found Lane.

Correspondence, dated November 3rd, 2003, from Ms. Laurie Sullivan pertaining to the above noted matter was tabled and then placed on file.

Councillor Seymour inquired if anything further had been received regarding the approval in principle given to Dawe's Concrete Products to operate a gravel and sand quarry 50 meter south of Long Pond, Country Road.

Minutes of November 18th, 2003 were approved.

Letter received from Mr. Darrell Yetman, Coley's Point, regarding ownership of the land on which Mr. Arthur Dominix proposes to operate a training facility.

It was decided that Mr. Yetman be informed that Council's decision in this matter is deferred until more information can be compiled regarding same.

Petition received from concerned citizens with regard to the application of the Canadian Training Institute to operate a quarry and heavy equipment training facility in Jack's Hill, Country Road.

This petition to be placed on file.
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Copy of a letter and pictures sent to Mr. Fred Kirby from Mr. Gerald Kennedy regarding an inspection conducted Mr. Kennedy at the Canadian Training Institute property located at 38-48 C. B. Access Road, was tabled.

This letter to be placed on file.

Letter from Councillor Seymour was presented seeking Council's support in requesting the Dept. of Environment to erect signage disallowing the ongoing dumping of garbage and debris in the country at the end of Butlerville and the clean up of the area in question.

D.M. Littlejohn advised that Mayor Don Coombs has arranged a visit to C.B.N. Towns by Minister Byrne for December 15th. Minister Byrne will be in Bay Roberts at 10:45 a.m. to meet with Mayor Sparkes and Mr. Fradsham regarding waste management in our area. The concerns of Councillor Seymour will be addressed at that meeting.

Letter received from Ms. Jeannette Pottier, Host Committee Chairperson for the Bay Arena Minor Hockey Association Limited, with regard to their hosting of the NLHA Provincial Kick Off to Minor Hockey Week and seeking support through the purchase of advertising space in their souvenir program booklet.

It was moved by D.M. Littlejohn and seconded by Councillor Walsh to sponsor a half page advertisement at a cost of \$50.00.

Motion Carried.

InfoNote received from NLFM regarding a meeting between the Town of Holyrood and Mr. Gerald Lewis, President of NLMEB, Inc. to discuss the Employee Pension Plan. The Town of Holyrood would like for other municipalities to meet in the New Year regarding same.

News Release received from FCM regarding Federation President Herbert Brett joining other Canadian municipal leaders in Gatineau, Quebec for a meeting of the FCM Board of Directors.

Letter received from FCM regarding major policy issues targeted for attention this year. One being, new requirements for permits to operate water systems and the increased costs of same.

Town Manager explained that our operators have to be certified to operate the water system and Pat, Noel and Richard have attended seminars in Gander and Carbonear regarding certification training.

A list of the Board of Directors for the FCM was presented. Mayor Sparkes was asked to cast his ballot of behalf of Council for the filling of the Avalon Director position.

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Notice received from Environment Canada regarding a National Water Use survey.

Notice to be placed on file.

Application received from Mr. Gary Neil requesting permission to build a residential dwelling at 57 Cross Road, Bay Roberts.

It was moved by Councillor Greenland and seconded by Councillor Seymour that permission be given, subject to all other regulatory departments.

Motion Carried.

A report of expenditures for the period covering September, October and November 2003 was tabled.

It was moved by D.M. Littlejohn and seconded by Councillor Seymour that these payables be approved.

Motion Carried.

Copy of letter sent to Mr. David B. Snow by the Dept. of Mines & Energy was presented. It informed Mr. Snow of an inspection carried out at his quarry site located on the South side of Country Road. It stated that a severe water ponding is occurring in this quarry and that the area must be backfilled immediately as it is a safety hazard.

Letter to be placed on file.

Copy of letter sent to Mr. Bob Rice by the Dept. of Mines & Energy was presented. It informed Mr. Rice of an inspection carried out at his quarry site located 0.4 km along Hayward's Road, Butlerville. It stated that a water ponding is occurring in this quarry and that the area must be backfilled immediately.

Letter to be placed on file.

Infonote received from NLFM inviting Council to a Christmas social at their offices on Wednesday, December 17th from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Councillor Perry Bowering arrived at 8:00 p.m.

The Bay Arena Minor Hockey Association Bantam league will be hosting the Irving Cup playoff and are

seeking financial support to help defray the cost for their use of the hospitality room.

It was decided that this request will be turned over to the Finance Committee.

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As per agreement with Mr. Graham Sparkes re: restoration of his land off Hayward's Road.

It was decided that the work would be carried out by Mr. Sparkes himself. This covers the agreement of September 23rd, 1999 which stated that existing topsoil will be removed and stockpiled by the Town prior to removal of aggregates and spread over excavated area at completion of fill removal. The Town will reimburse Mr. Sparkes for carrying out the work for the sum of \$3,000.00. \$1,500.00 will be paid up front and the remaining \$1,500.00 will be paid out after completion of restoration.

Committee Reports

D.M. Littlejohn presented the Budget 2004.

The presentation gave a thorough overview of the financial standing of the Town in 2003. In the last 2 years we have issued 72 residential building permits and 25 business permits. This indicates an average of 35 to 36 new housings starts a year and reflects our continued growth. During the last 4 years we have installed 14.5 million dollars of new water and sewer infrastructure and, upgraded lift stations, constructed a new dam and installed a new chlorination system. We have purchased a new waste disposal compactor and a new state of the art fire truck. The Town does face some challenges in the areas of waste management, water supply and the need for an industrial park. Residential water and sewer rate for 2004 will rise by \$22.00 which is an increase of less than \$2.00 per month. There will be no increase in the present 8.5 mill property tax rate. In 2003 strong action was taken against the 5% of our town's delinquent taxpayers which garnered \$220,000.00 being collected in back taxes. The budgeted total for 2004 is \$4,079,808.00.

It was moved by D.M. Littlejohn and seconded by Councillor Walsh that the 2004 Budget be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

Congratulations for a job well done were extended to the Finance Committee, which consists of Chairperson D.M. Littlejohn, Councillor Brown, Councillor Walsh and Town Manager, Edwin Fradsham.

Councillor Greenland gave a report from the Public Works Committee.

It was decided that the Town Manager would contact the engineering firm informing them to continue with preparations to have a new dam constructed this year at Big Pond, if weather permits.

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Councillor Walsh reminded Council of the community breakfast sponsored by the 50+ Club on Wednesday, December 10th and being held at their club. Also, there will be a Council Christmas dinner sponsored by the Fire Dept. members on Tuesday, December 23rd.

It was moved by D.M. Littlejohn and seconded by Councillor Walsh that the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Motion Carried.

Wilbur Sparkes
Mayor

Shirley Hawe
Acting Town Clerk