

The Fifth meeting of the Fifteenth Town Council of the Town of Bay Roberts took place in the Town Hall with the following in attendance:

Mayor Glenn Littlejohn  
Deputy Mayor Melvin Walsh  
Councillor Clarence G. Mercer  
Councillor Bill Seymour  
Councillor Dennis Brown  
Councillor Walter Yetman  
Town Manager Edwin Fradsham  
Town Clerk Shirley Hawe

Also present; Ms. Lilliam Simmons (the Compass), Fire Chief Clarence Russell, Fireman Robert Seymour, EHJV Stewardship Biologists, Ms. Barbara Campbell & Mr. Jason Foster, Town of Spaniard's Bay representatives, Deputy Mayor Gerald Hiscock, Councillor's, Mose Anthony, Tony Menchions & Town Manager Tony Ryan, and citizen representative, Ms. Patricia George.

Meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Littlejohn called the meeting to order and welcomed all. Councillor Seymour welcomed Ms. Campbell and Mr. Foster from the Stewardship Association of Municipalities.

Ms. Campbell and Mr. Foster gave a presentation on the Municipal Wetland Stewardship Program for Newfoundland and Labrador. This program originated from the North American Waterfowl Management Plan which includes Canada, the United States and Mexico. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1997, a joint stewardship agreement was signed between the Town's of Spaniard's Bay and Bay Roberts to oversee management of the stewardship zone adjoining the two towns. Mr. Foster advised that two new stewardship signs are on order for spring 2006 and a Habitat Management Plan document is being developed which includes recommendations for wetland conservation and best practices and will be presented in the new year. Also, Mr. Foster advised that EHJV has limited funding, however, they can provide direction to towns for sourcing funding from other agencies.

Mayor Littlejohn thanked Ms. Campbell and Mr. Foster for the very informative presentation and also, thanked Ms. George for volunteering on the Joint Management Committee.

### **Adoption of Minutes**

Mayor Littlejohn asked if there were any errors or omissions to the minutes of November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005, which has been circulated with the agenda.

Page 2. Councillor Brown asked for an update on the matter regarding Mr. Robert Whiffen's property at Valleyview Subdivision.

Mayor Littlejohn advised that the excavated site is backfilled and Mr. Whiffen has purchased another building lot on Valleyview Subdivision.

Page 3. Deputy Mayor Walsh asked if the Fire Commissioner has inspected the sprinkler system at Atlantic Grocery Distributors Limited.

Fire Chief Russell advised that no correspondence has been received from the Fire Commissioner's office regarding this matter.

Page 5. Mayor Littlejohn advised that a \$100.00 donation has been made to the Society of United Fishermen for their annual Christmas Party for Special Needs Children.

Page 6. Councillor Mercer inquired as to who the MEO gets direction from.

Mayor Littlejohn advised that the Town Manager gives direction to the MEO and all other employees.

Page 7. Deputy Mayor Walsh asked if the Dept. of Transportation had responded to the request for a reduction in the speed limit on the C. B. Highway.

Mayor Littlejohn advised that Minister Trevor Taylor has agreed to meet with Council regarding upgrading issues for the C. B. Highway.

Page 8. Mayor Littlejohn noted that the Festival of Lights opening ceremonies were well attended and enjoyed by all.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Walsh and seconded by Councillor Yetman that the minutes of November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005, be adopted.  
Motion Carried.

### **General Business**

Mayor Littlejohn noted that the Avalon North Wolverines is extending an invitation to Council for an Appreciation Cocktail Reception at the Search and Rescue building on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Email received from Ms. Laura M. Parsons regarding an issue she has with the Bay Arena's skating schedule.

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Copy of a letter from Mr. G. M. Hussey, Bay Arena Secretary, to Ms. Laura M. Parsons, advising that the restriction on family skating has been removed.

Letter received from Mr. Edward Neil, Bay Arena Chairman, requesting municipal financial support for the arena.

Mayor Littlejohn noted that the annual stipend for the Bay Arena is included in the town budget for 2006 and that Mr. Neil be advised of same.

Letter received from Mr. Tony Morrissey, Mayor, Town of North River, requesting fire protection services from the Town of Bay Roberts.

It was decided that Mayor Morrissey's letter will be placed on file.

Letter received from Mr. Isaac Jacobs and Mr. Jeremy Jacobs requesting permission to open and operate a carpentry business at Eric's Place, Shearstown.

It was moved by Councillor Seymour and seconded by Councillor Mercer that Messer's Jacobs request be referred to the Planning and Development Committee for further review.

Motion Carried.

Plot plan received from Mr. Junior Bullen and Mr. Barry Tucker regarding the development of a subdivision off Love Street Extension, Coley's Point.

It was moved by Councillor Yetman and seconded by Deputy Mayor Walsh that a copy of the plot plan for Love Street Extension be referred to the Planning and Development Committee and the Public Works Committee for further review.

Motion Carried.

Correspondence received from Mr. Paul Deering regarding basement flooding on the property of Ms. Cavell Deering, 372-374 Shearstown Road.

It was moved by Councillor Seymour and Deputy Mayor Walsh that Mr. Deering's correspondence be referred to the Public Works Committee for further review.

Motion Carried.

Letter received from the Conception Bay North Figure Skating Club requesting financial assistance for

the 2006 Regional Skating Championships at the Bay Arena.

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It was moved by Councillor Yetman and seconded by Councillor Mercer that a \$500.00 donation be made and an explanation be given that this is an annual donation to help defray the cost of other activities of the club for the coming year.

Motion Carried.

Letter received from Mr. Everett Farwell regarding government funding for an independent study on cancer.

It was decided that Mr. Farwell's letter is to be placed on file.

Members' Advisory received from FCM advising that Councillor Gloria Kovach is the new FCM president.

Letter received from FCM advising that an FCM election platform will be released on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Letter received from FCM congratulating Mayor Littlejohn on his election as Mayor.

Letter received from Mr. Sean Martin, Executive Director of MAA, requesting that an enclosed copy of the Municipal Assessment Agency Inc. Annual Report 2004-2005, be tabled.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Wetlands**

Councillor Seymour tabled the June 25<sup>th</sup> minutes of the Stewardship Association of Municipalities and advised that the more recent minutes from the Grand Falls-Windsor meeting will be available in a few weeks.

#### **Public Works**

Councillor Seymour tabled the November 30<sup>th</sup> minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting for discussion.

Re: Water and sewer testing, Valleyview Subdivision. It was decided that the test results are acceptable and the Town will take over responsibility for the services installed, however, the one year

warranty period will not commence until the said services are in use. Also, acceptance is subject to an acceptable green space being transferred to the Town.

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Re: Drainage - Ms. Margaret Norman. It was decided that the asphalt ridge will be blocked to prevent water from running down her driveway. This is a temporary solution and the proper curb and gutter will be installed in the spring of 2006.

Re: Drainage - Ms. Ruth Dawe. It was decided that due to the lateness of the year, her concerns will be addressed in the spring of 2006.

Re: Mr. Rodney Snow - Extension of services to his property. It was decided that the railway bed is not town owned property and, therefore, Mr. Snow's request can not be adhered to at this time. Also, a condition of his original building permit was that services would terminate at the public road. However, Council is considering its policy regarding similar situations and if in the future, ownership of the railway bed changes, Council will give further consideration to Mr. Snow's request.

### **Planning & Development**

Deputy Mayor Walsh tabled the December 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes of the Planning & Development Committee.

Re: Arney's Pond Road. The committee recommends that the existing road is on private property thus not a concern of council.

Mr. Max Mercer and Mr. Jim Mercer will be asked to attend the next meeting so as to inform them of the situation and other possible options. Also, it was decided that the taxation of inaccessible land will be referred to the Finance Committee for recommendation.

Re: Delaney's Avenue. The committee recommends sale of the land in four lots with a green space bordering Shearstown Pond. Also, a site visit to be made and a review of the layout with cost recovery in mind.

Re: Parson's Road, Butlerville. The road is not up to Council standards and the committee does not recommend taking over the road. Also, an investigation regarding policies of private to public roads has not been completed.

Director Ron Delaney arrives at 8:10 p.m.

Re: Marina Place. The committee recommends taking over the road.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Walsh and seconded by Councillor Mercer that the Marina Place infrastructure is acceptable and that snow clearing and road maintenance will commence immediately. However, responsibility for water and sewer will not commence until November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, when the warranty period expires. Also, acceptance is conditional on the green space being transferred to the Town.

Motion Carried.

### **Fire Department**

Deputy Mayor Walsh tabled a report from the meeting of the Fire Dept. Executive Committee which covered the issue of fire protection for North River. Also tabled, an update on the status of fire protection payments from the Port de Grave and Bareneed area.

It was moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Deputy Mayor Walsh that the Fire Chief make a recommendation regarding collection of fire protection tax arrears and also, the issue of servicing the Town of North River.

It was decided that the Town Manager will arrange a meeting with the Mayor of North River Council.

Deputy Mayor Walsh extended an invitation to Council, on behalf of the Fire Dept., for a Christmas Dinner at the Fire Hall on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Enforcement**

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that Sgt. George Simmons has made some minor revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding agreement and a meeting may take place next week. Also, the RCMP has some concerns regarding ATV use in the town which will be discussed at the proposed meeting.

### **Economic Development**

Councillor Brown advised that a meeting will take place in the new year to look at establishing long and short terms goals.

## **Tourism**

Councillor Mercer tabled the Tourism Committee meeting minutes of November 21<sup>st</sup> and also, congratulated the committee on winning 1<sup>st</sup> place for best float in the Santa Claus Parade.

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Deputy Mayor Walsh asked that the properties identified for clean up, be kept highlighted in the minutes for future action.

Town Manager advised that a property owner in Coley's Point has been fined \$500.00 and he has a court compliance time limit of six months to have his property cleaned up or other sentencing will be applied.

## **Urban Municipalities Committee**

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that the first meeting of the new UMC Committee will take place on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Deputy Mayor Walsh took the Chair.

## **Finance Committee**

Mayor Littlejohn tabled the proposed union agreement between the Town and the outside workers which covers a three (3) year period ( 2006, 2007 & 2008 ).

It was moved by Mayor Littlejohn and seconded by Councillor Brown that approval be given to the union agreement between the Town and the Transport & Allied Workers Union, Local 855.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Littlejohn presented the 2006 Budget which including the following highlights:

- ? Residential and Commercial Property Tax increase from 8.5 to 8.75 mils
- ? Minimum Property Tax increase from \$250.00 to \$300.00
- ? Water & Sewer connections for new households will increase from \$650.00 to \$1,000.00 which will include the housing permit as well as the water & sewer connection.
- ? Commercial Permit Rates increase from \$150.00 to \$250.00 for properties valued under \$150,000. and for properties valued in excess of \$150,000. an increase from 1/10 of 1% to 1/5 of 1%.

Overall the 2006 Budget will see a minimal increase of 2.5% or \$140,000. over the 2005 Budget.

It was moved by Mayor Littlejohn and seconded by Councillor Brown that the 2006 Budget be accepted as presented.

Motion Carried.

The Finance Committee were congratulated for their efforts in presenting a good and positive 2006 Budget.

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Mayor Littlejohn resumed the Chair.

Mayor Littlejohn advised that Councillor Yetman and Councillor Seymour will be appointed to the Green Committee.

Season's greetings and best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year were exchanged by all.

It was moved by Councillor Seymour and seconded by Councillor Mercer that the meeting be adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Motion Carried.

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Glenn Littlejohn  
Mayor

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Shirley Hawe  
Town Clerk