



SOURIS TOWN COUNCIL AND  
SOURIS SEWER AND WATER UTILITY CORPORATION

MINUTES

Regular Monthly Meeting

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020 @ 7:00pm

Town Hall ~ Council Chambers  
75 Main Street, Souris, PEI

MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS BUT WILL NOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS STILL IN PLACE FOR LARGE GATHERINGS. CAO WILL SET UP COUNCIL CHAMBERS TO SPACE EVERYONE OUT TO ALLOW FOR PHYSICAL-DISTANCING – MEETING WILL BE RECORDED

**A. Call the regular monthly meeting of Council to Order 7: OOPM**

Mayor Dunphy called the meeting to order. All Council were present. Meeting is being video recorded.

**B. Agenda**

**2.1 Approval of Agenda**

MOTION by C. Peters and seconded by C. Leard to approve the Agenda as circulated to Council prior to this meeting. All in favour. Motion carried.

**2.2 Additions to Agenda**

No additions noted.

**C. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

Part VI, Section 23 of the Municipalities Act, which maintains that no member of Council shall derive any profit or financial advantage from his/her position as a member of Council and, where a member of Council has any pecuniary interest in or is affected by any matter before the Council, shall declare his/her interest therein and abstain from voting and discussion thereon.

Councillor Leard has declared conflict with item K as he is a property owner in very close proximity to the proposed development.

**D. Approval of Minutes – April 14, 2020**

MOTION by C. Chaisson and seconded by C. Leard to approve the minutes of April 14, 2020 meeting as prepared by CAO and circulated to Council prior to this meeting. All in favour. Motion carried.

Presentations:

**E. Monthly RCMP Report (April 2020)**

RCMP report was read and reviewed by Council. No representation at meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions.

MOTION by C. T. MacDonald and seconded by C. Chaisson to approve the RCMP report as presented. All in favour. Motion carried.

Business arising from previous meetings:Financial Information**F. General Account Budget Update – March 31, 2020**

For review purposes.

**G. Water & Sewer Utility Account Budget update – March 31, 2020**

For review purposes.

**H. Town of Souris – General Account Payables to be approved – May 8, 2020**

**MOTION** by C. I. MacDonald and seconded by C. Peters to approve the General Account Payables as listed. All in favour. Motion carried.

**I. Town of Souris – Sewer & Water Utility Payables to be approved – May 8, 2020**

**MOTION** by C. Chaisson and seconded by C. T. MacDonald to approve the Water Sewer Payables as listed. All in favour. Motion carried.

**J. General Account & Water Sewer Account Cheques issued during the month of April 2020**

– For review only.

Planning/Development:**K. Public Consultation from Bell for the installation of a 30m high telecommunication tower at 9 Sterns Avenue. This type of development is regulated by Industry Canada. However, they are requesting input from the Town.**

Extensive discussion was held. Council have been hearing a lot of opposition from residents from all throughout the Town but especially from those who live in very close proximity of the proposed tower. Council agrees that this location is not an appropriate location as it is too close to homes. Many concerns have been put forth: including but not limited to: location, health concerns, safety of structure, the look of it, etc. Almost 50 signed statements were received from the public as well in opposition to the location.

Mayor will respond to letter as such and suggest some alternate locations. These could include Lea Crane Blvd, behind the rink and in the Souris Food Park.

**MOTION** by C. T. MacDonald and seconded by C. Chaisson that we send a letter to Bell with our concern with the proposed location and suggest alternate sites. C. Leard abstained from voting due to conflict. All others were in favour. Motion carried.

New Business, Correspondence, Requests and/or Additions:**L. Council Reports:****Mayor JoAnne Dunphy**

- Regular updates regarding COVID-19 received from Public Safety Office
- Regular meetings with Admin
- Many, calls, emails, etc with various government officials

- Lots of media calls regarding COVID-19 concerns, major fire at Bluefin, and RCMP incident May 8<sup>th</sup> involving a suspected armed person.

### Deputy Mayor Kenny Peters

- Report at meeting

### Wanda Bailey

- Reports of a fair bit of garbage along rails to trails, cleaned some up. CAO will ask maintenance guys to pick up.



### Frankie Chaisson

- Would like a letter sent to IWMC to see when they will be open to residential waste. That would help with unsightly premises. Right now people have no where to take it.

*Please keep in mind that some people are very sensitive to strong smells, especially from colognes and perfumes. Let's keep our public meetings SCENT FREE so all can enjoy!*

### Ian MacDonald

- Report at meeting

### Thelma MacDonald

- Report at meeting

### Boyd Leard

- Once COVID-19 settles C. Leard would like to see more emphasis put on EMO. Ours should include something for pandemics/viruses. We should try to form a group of volunteers/committees so it does not all fall on Council and Staff.

**M. Adjournment. @ 7:50PM**

MINUTES Prepared by:  
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## Message from the Mayor. . .

I want to thank Dr. Morrison, Department of Health for their exceptional guidance throughout the Covid -19 pandemic. We have been very fortunate to have such hard working people to prioritize the most important fundamental aspects of our lives into a situation where we can still be safe and still try to lead a life that is certainly different but yet have a daily routine that we can accept.

I want to thank our community for the exceptional adherence of following the recommendations made by Dr. Morrisons office and Department of Health on PEI also our Government for the financial help that has allowed our Island to still function in these uncertain times.

I want to ensure the people of the Town of Souris that we have received all of the concerns and issues that have been brought forward to our office, our council and myself. We have been in contact to Dr. Morrison's office and Department of Health as well as Premier Dennis King with numerous questions and concerns and reports of situations that are concerning to our residents and our community. We are continually working with questions on certain aspects of out of province vehicles and on the safety of our community.

We been sharing all of the information that comes to us from the PEI Health to assist our businesses become complacent to the regulations going forward to have a business open during the pandemic. In addition we are working on the Organizational plans that have to be in place for our Gateway park, skateboard park and tennis courts to be open under the recommendations from PEI Health.

We have provided hand sanitizer, that has been available to us by the EMO of PEI, to businesses in town that are in need of this important part of the fight of Covid-19.

We have been in contact with PEI Newcomers to provide businesses in Souris with recommendations in 5 languages to be posted in their business.

We would like to thank all our front-line workers for their part in keeping our community running in these uncertain times.

This is Nurses Week and we certainly want to recognize the important part they play in our Health care system. The care and compassion that is always shown to our community by our Nurses is so important and certainly makes us all feel more at ease when we are not feeling well. And especially in times when things are so uncertain, we want to thank our Nurses' families for trusting in our community to allow the important job of our Nurses to be able to be done in a safe and compassionate way.

Our community has had a unsettling week. During this time our community members and our first responders have more than shown what living in a strong and tight knit community really means. The Mayor and Council want to thank everyone that helped out in any way during this time to keep our residents safe.