



SOURIS TOWN COUNCIL AND
SOURIS SEWER AND WATER UTILITY CORPORATION

MINUTES

Regular Monthly Meeting

Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 7:00pm

Town Hall ~ Council Chambers ~ 3rd Floor
75 Main Street, Souris, PEI

**MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 3RD FLOOR
PUBLIC IS WELCOME – 3RD FLOOR IS ACCESSIBLE BY ELEVATOR**

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

Mayor Dunphy called the meeting to order with a quorum.

Council present at meeting: Kim Outhouse, Stephanie Mitsuk, Curtis Laybolt, David Jenkins

Absent from meeting: Boyd Leard, Frankie Chaisson

B. Agenda

2.1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION by C. Outhouse and seconded by C. Laybolt to approve the Agenda. 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.

NO CONFLICT DECLARED

D. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2024 and March 27, 2024 Council Meetings

MOTION by C. Outhouse and seconded by C. Jenkins to approve the minutes of March 11, 2024 and March 27, 2024 council meetings. No errors or omissions were noted. All in favour. Motion carried.

Presentations:

E. Monthly RCMP Report – March 2024

Mike Robinson with the RCMP presented their report of calls during the month of March 2024 within the Town of Souris and area.

In all of Kings District there were 575 calls, 44 of which were in the Town of Souris. Overall we have a low crime rate. No serious crimes. Fraud is still one of their largest files. There is a request on the table for a dedicated Fraud Investigation Officer(s) for PEI. They continue to work on traffic safety with regular traffic stops. There is currently an active drug investigation happening within Kings District, but little details can be made public at this time for the protection of the case. Currently Kings

District is short 6 of the 24 positions/members either due to retirement, pending new officers to fill the positions or medical leave. They are actively working to fill those positions with 3 potentially coming in June.

MOTION by C. Laybolt and seconded by C. Outhouse to accept the RCMP report as presented. All in favour. Motion carried.

Business arising from previous meetings:

F. Option analysis for EK Sportsplex - revised scope of work

Further discussion was held on how we should revise this scope of work. Some things to be considered should be: potential of reviving the bowling lanes, putting together a committee moving forward, working with SeaRoots Alliance for the same goals. Working with rink staff, rink board of directors, town council, and other stakeholders.

It was agreed that we move forward with our Option Analysis as planned, so we would have necessary answers to questions.

MOTION by C. Mitsuk and seconded by C. Laybolt that we move forward with our proposed Option Analysis based on this discussion. All in favour. Motion carried.

G. Hiring HR consultant to review salaries and develop policy for annual wage increases.

MOTION by C. Mitsuk and seconded by C. Outhouse that our CAO seek out potential consultant to undertake this review of salaries and develop a policy. All in favour. Motion carried.

Financial Information

H. General Account Budget Update – March 2024

For information only.

I. Water & Sewer Utility Account Budget update – March 2024

For information only.

J. Town of Souris – General Account Payables \$1,869.13 be approved – as of Apr 5, 2024.

MOTION by C. Mitsuk and seconded by C. Outhouse to approve the General Act. payables as per the list provided. All in favour. Motion carried.

K. Town of Souris – Sewer & Water Utility Payables \$334.06 to be approved– as of Apr 5, 2024.

MOTION by C. Mitsuk and seconded by C. Jenkins to approve the WS Act. payables as per the list provided. All in favour. Motion carried.

L. General Account & Water Sewer Account Cheques issued during the month of March 2024. –

For review only.

Development: (approved by development officer as per section 1.4 of our development bylaws)

- Lee & Carol Aitken, 5 Prince Ave, 8’x12’ addition to house
 - Morris Creamer, 22 Knights Ave, 16’x24’ storage building
 - Veronica Laidlaw, 17 Breakwater St, demo house and rebuilt new with attached garage
- All will require Provincial building permits and this requirement is included in their development permit.

Development requiring Council approval:

M. Request to extend Development Permit for Harbourview Training Centre Assisted Living Facility. A Permit was issued January 2023, but to date construction has not commenced. They anticipate construction will start this spring/summer. Planning Advisory Board to review and recommend.

MOTION by C. Outhouse and seconded by C. Laybolt to approve the extension of the Development Permit. All in favour. Motion carried.

N. Development Application from Andre Malguzzi to build a detached 24'x36' garage on PID101139, 50 Main Street. Planning Advisory Board to review and recommend.

Item N. will be carried forward as more information is required to proceed with review.

Town of Souris Bylaws required to be added and/or updated:

As per the Municipal Government Act (MGA) all PEI Municipalities are required to adopt or amend specific mandatory bylaws. These include but are not limited to: (Drafts of these bylaws have been prepared and are attached for review.)

O. ACCESS TO INFORMATION BYLAW – DRAFT FOR REVIEW ONLY

P. OTHER BYLAWS FOR CONSIDERATION AND/or UPDATES: (CAO is working with Municipal Affairs Senior Officer on Drafts of these for review by Council)

- REMUNERATION
- GRANTS
- BORROWING
- FEES
- TAX RATE GROUPS
- UTILITY
- PROCUREMENT

New Business, Correspondence, Requests and/or Additions:

Q. Housing shortage and potential development of vacant lots/houses.

Councillor Laybolt brought up concerns about the shortage of housing in our Town and the potential for some vacant lots/houses to be made into housing. In particular the old RCMP houses in Souris on Union Avenue and LaVie Avenue. It is a shame to see them sitting empty when so many people are without adequate housing. Should we consider looking at a vacant property bylaw like the City of Summerside? Maybe this would incentivize people into restoring them or possibly selling them. We should talk to CBDC Eastern PEI to see what incentives or initiatives they may have to promote development.

R. Request for support from Transportation East.

MOTION by C. Mitsuk and seconded by C. Laybolt that we donate \$500 towards Transportation East. This service will be helpful to those in need of transportation. To/from doctor appointments, services, etc. All in favour. Motion carried.

S. Request from Baseball PEI 16U National Female team for sponsorship to attend nationals in Saskatoon. Request came from Adriana MacKinnon of MacKinnon's Pt Rd..

MOTION by C. Mitsuk and seconded by C. Jenkins to provide a \$200 sponsorship to Baseball PEI 16U National Female team. All in favour. Motion carried.

T. COUNCIL REPORTS:**Mayor JoAnne Dunphy**

- Rural Fire District Meeting
- Budget preparation and public meetings to review and adopt.
- SeaRoots Alliance presentation
- Meeting with RCMP to discuss some concerning issues brought to me from residents.
- Seaglass planning meeting.
- Attended inauguration event at UPEI for Dianne Griffin
- Volunteer recognition event planning meeting.
- Easter Egg Decorating Event hosted by the Town
- Planning Advisory Committee meeting

Deputy Mayor Boyd Leard

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Kim Outhouse

- Mar 12 - Souris Curling Club meeting
- Mar 18 - Public Budget meeting
- Mar 21 - SeaRoots Alliance presentation
- Mar 26 - National Volunteer Week Collaboration meeting
- Mar 27 - Closed Council meeting
- Mar 27 - Public Budget meeting
- Meeting with RCMP

Stephanie Mitsuk

- Seaglass meeting
- Public Budget meeting
- Souris Harbour Authority Meeting
- SeaRoots Alliance meeting
- RCMP meeting

Curtis Laybolt

- March 18 - Public Budget meeting
- March 21 - SeaRoots Alliance presentation
- March 27 - Closed Council meeting
- March 27 - Public Budget meeting

Frankie Chaisson

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David Jenkins

- Planning Advisory Committee meeting
- Silver Threads Club meeting
- RCMP meeting

U. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting by C. Outhouse at 8:17pm

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

Your cooperation is appreciated!



MINUTES Prepared by:
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