



SOURIS TOWN COUNCIL AND  
SOURIS SEWER AND WATER UTILITY CORPORATION

MINUTES

Regular Monthly Meeting  
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020 @ 7:00pm

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

**MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**IT WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, HOWEVER, DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS STILL IN PLACE FOR LARGE GATHERINGS NO MORE THEN 15 PEOPLE CAN BE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT ONE TIME.**

**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 with a quorum. All Council present.

**B. Agenda**

**2.1 Approval of Agenda**

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

**2.2 Additions to Agenda**

NO Additions were 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 Boyd Leard declared conflict with Item F as he is a property owner within close proximity to the proposed tower.**

**D. Approval of Minutes – May 11, 2020**

**MOTION by C. Peters and seconded by C. T. MacDonald to approve the minutes of May 11, 2020 Council meeting as prepared by CAO and presented to Council prior to this meeting for review. No errors or omissions were noted.**

Presentations:

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

A written report was presented to Council summarizing the previous months activities and calls. We will soon have new corporal; Cpl Robert Gallant is moving here from Grand Prairie. C. Leard asked about Alert Notices and how they work (in reference to recent gun/shooter incident). Sgt. Gunn explained that the incident in question did not warrant a public alert notification as they had the

suspected gunman isolated. They did not feel there was a direct threat to public, residents close to the property were notified personally. They had the house where the gunman was completely surrounded. RCMP thanked the Souris Fire Department for their invaluable help to keep the area blocked off. Mayor Dunphy asked about Ferry travelers in regard to COVID restrictions. Sgt. Gunn told us they have an officer at the Ferry each time it docks. They are there more for backup as the highway and health officials do the screening of travelers. They have received several reports of out-of-province plates. They have laid at least two charges to people for not-isolating when they should be. Warmer weather means more young people out and about.

**MOTION by C. T. MacDonald and seconded by C. Peters to approve the RCMP report as presented to Council. Thank you to Sgt. Gunn for meeting with us and keeping us up to date. All in favour. Motion carried.**

#### Business arising from previous meetings:

- F. 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.**

**Input was sent following our May meeting as recommended by Council. A response was received and will be reviewed at meeting for further discussion.**

Discussion was held. Council has heard from many residents and all oppose of this particular location. Council would like to set up a meeting with Bell representatives to see if another location would even be considered. The four we suggested were deemed to be not suitable due to the location. CAO will try to set up a meeting with Bell very soon.

#### Financial Information

- G. General Account Budget Update – May 31, 2020 – reviewed for information purposes.**
- H. Water & Sewer Utility Account Budget update – May 31, 2020 - reviewed for information purposes.**
- I. Town of Souris – General Account Payables \$17,027.03 to be approved – June 5, 2020**  
**MOTION by C. Peters and seconded by C. Leard to pay the A/P as listed in the amount of \$17,027.03.**  
 All in favour. Motion carried.
- J. Town of Souris – Sewer & Water Utility Payables \$6,366.68 to be approved – June 5, 2020**  
**MOTION by C. Peters and seconded by C. Chaisson to pay the A/P as listed in the amount of \$6,366.68.** All in favour. Motion carried.
- K. General Account & Water Sewer Account Cheques issued during the month of May 2020**  
 – For review only.

#### Planning/Development:

- L. CAO received a few development permit applications. Two for yard fences over 4' and one for a Mini-barn. For info only.**

#### New Business, Correspondence, Requests and/or Additions:

**M. Patching and Paving Tender for 2020**

**MOTION** by C. Chaisson and seconded by C. Leard to approve the tender received from Chapman Bros. Const. for Patching and Paving for the Town for 2020. No other tenders were received. All in favour. Motion carried.

**ADDED: Souris Lions Club requesting financial assistance for upgrades to the Community Gardens.**

**MOTION** by C. T. MacDonald and seconded by C. I. MacDonald to donate \$500 towards these upgrades. All in favour. Motion carried.

**ADDED: Request by some tenants at the Souris Beach Gateway Park for reduced Lease rate for 2020 due to expected reduced business due to COVID-19**

**MOTION** was made by C. Leard and seconded by C. Peters to provide 50% off the first of two payments made. Which would equal 25% of the entire season. Discussion was held. C. Chaisson felt it was not fair to the taxpayers of Souris to reduce the lease rate, our budget is based on collecting a certain amount and without it the dollars will have to be cut somewhere else. A vote was held: 4 voted yes (I.MacDonald, T.MacDonald, Bailey, Leard) 2 voted no (Peters, Chaisson). Motion was approved with a 4-2 vote. Motion carried.

**N. Council Reports:****Mayor JoAnne Dunphy**

- Regular updates regarding COVID-19 received from Public Safety Office
- Regular meetings with Admin and Events Coordinator
- Spoke with media regarding Bell tower and other issues
- I would like to Thank our CAO and Maintenance Staff for keeping our essential services running during COVID-19. As well as our Events Dept and our Bookkeeper who were working hard from home.
- FPEIM Monthly meeting

**Deputy Mayor Kenny Peters**

- Report at meeting
- Thank you to Mayor and staff for all they have been doing in relation to COVID-19

**Wanda Bailey**

- Report at meeting

**Frankie Chaisson**

- Asked about sidewalk on MacPhee. Feels it should be a priority especially now with new provincial housing development.



*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**

- Received many calls regarding Bell tower

**Boyd Leard**

- Beach rentals.
- EMO plan needs to be reviewed.

**O. Adjournment.**

**MOTION** by C. Peters to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm

Request to reconsider rental rates:

Several of the tenants from the Gateway Park have expressed concern over being able to pay their rent this summer. They are asking Council to reconsider a reduced rent for 2020. They expect it will be a much shorter season with a lot less traffic.

We have also had requests from Evergreen and the Yoga Studio to waive their rent for May, we waived it for April as they were unable to open. The Yoga Studio was permitted to reopen June 1 and Evergreen is also planning to open this month.

MINUTES Prepared by:  
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