



SOURIS TOWN COUNCIL AND
SOURIS SEWER AND WATER UTILITY CORPORATION

MINUTES

Regular Monthly Meeting

MONDAY MARCH 9, 2020 @ 7:00pm

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

*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!
Your cooperation is appreciated!*

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS:

SWEARING-IN OF COUNCILLOR BOYD R. LEARD. MR. LEARD WON THE BY-ELECTION HELD MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER SHELLEY LAVIE WILL HAVE MR. LEARD READ AND SIGN THE OATH OF OFFICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 80 OF THE *MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT* R.S.P.E.I. 1988, CAP. M-12.1.

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

MAYOR Dunphy called the regular monthly meet for March to order with a quorum at 7:00pm.

B. Welcome to our newest Councillor Boyd R. Leard

Mayor, Council and Admin welcome our newest Councillor Boyd Leard.

C. Agenda

2.1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION by C. T. MacDonald and seconded by C. I. MacDonald to approve the Agenda as prepared and circulated prior to this meeting. All in favour. Motion carried.

2.2 Additions to Agenda

No additions were noted.

D. 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.

E. Approval of Minutes – February 10, 2020

MOTION by C. Peters and seconded by C. T. MacDonald to approve the minutes without any errors or omissions, prepared by CAO, for February 10, 2020 Council meeting. All in favour. Motion carried.

Presentations:**F. Monthly RCMP Report (February 2020)**

RCMP officer Chris Gunn presented monthly report to Council. He reported one snowmobiler was charged with impaired driving. Darrell McMullen from NS will be replacing Howard Fitzpatrick, hopefully this spring, he is waiting to sell his house in NS. We will have 6 constables in Souris.

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

Business arising from previous meetings:**G. By law Enforcement – Donna Johnson of PEI Bylaw Enforcement to be appointed as Bylaw Enforcement officer for the Town of Souris.** Donna's proposal was submitted prior to the date required on our RFP, but due it was directed to the wrong email location. *An error on our end, not hers.*

The proposal met all our requirements and she was here to discuss. Copy attached.

MOTION by C. Bailey and seconded by C. Peters to accept the proposal from PEI Bylaw Enforcement to provide bylaw enforcement services to the Town of Souris 1 day per week for the next year with an option to renew. All in favour. Motion carried.

Financial Information

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR BUDGET SHEETS FOR 2020-21 OVER THE NEXT WEEK OR SO. We are required to host a special budget meeting open to the public prior to the end of March. !

Budget sheets were distributed to Council. Council were urged to work with staff to complete over the next few weeks.

H. General Account Budget Update

Budget was reviewed for period ending February 29, 2020

I. Water & Sewer Utility Account Budget update

Budget was reviewed for period ending February 29, 2020

J. Town of Souris – General Account Payables to be approved.

MOTION by C. Peters and seconded by C. I. MacDonald to pay the A/P in the amount of \$15,896.85 as per list provided. All in favour. Motion carried.

K. Town of Souris – Sewer & Water Utility Payables to be approved.

MOTION by C. I. MacDonald and seconded by C. Leard to pay the A/P in the amount of \$36,535.93 as per list provided. All in favour. Motion carried.

L. General Account & Water Sewer Account Cheques issued during the month of Feb 2020 – For review only.

Planning/Development:

M. Application to Operator a Business in Souris called “The Gel Bar” from Shyla Sheehan at 15 Church Avenue. (gel nails). The proposed property is currently located in a commercial zone with other businesses operating from this property. There is adequate parking and she has noted in her application what her intent is for signage.

MOTION by C. Peters and seconded by C. Leard to approve the business application from Shyla Sheehan to operate a business from 15 Church Avenue doing gel nails. Known as “The Gel Bar”. Her intent for signage is on the façade of the building.

All in favour. Motion carried.

New Business, Correspondence, Requests and/or Additions:

N. Tuna Cup Challenge request for sponsorship. General Event Information and Sponsorship opportunities are provided in documents attached.

MOTION by C. I. MacDonald and seconded by C. Leard to donate \$200 to the 2020 Tuna Cup Challenge event to be held in North Lake this fall. All in favour. Motion carried.

O. Souris Public Library – Hours will change April 1, 2020. We will have the same number of hours; it will just be distributed slightly different over the same four days. This change is based on staff and branch usage statistics.

Tuesdays: 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays: 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Fridays: 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

P. Invitation from Communities in Bloom to participate in 2020 competition.

MOTION by C. I. MacDonald and seconded by C. T. MacDonald that we decline the invitation to participate in the 2020 Communities in Bloom Competition. It was felt that it requires too much work and we have limited volunteers and staff available. All in favour. Motion carried.

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

- Feb 11 - Walk in Silence
- Feb 11 - Meeting with Harbour Authority
- Feb 14 - Information meeting with Lawrence MacAulay on the Canadian Center for Climate Change
- Feb 17 - Family day at Souris Ski Club
- Feb 19 - Meet and greet with Peter Bevan Baker
- Feb 26 - Meeting with By Law Officer
- Feb 26 - Attended Souris Lions Club Information Meeting
- Feb 28 - Beach Boardwalk committee meeting
- Mar 2 - Voted and attended the count for the by-election. Thank you to all who got out to vote to fill our vacant seat on council. Congratulations to our new Councillor Leard
- Mar 3 - Island Nature Trust community consultations on Beaches and Shoreline erosion and impact
- Mar 4 - Annual Meeting with Rural Fire District Committee
- Mar 5 - 2020 Eastern PEI Chambers Awards in Vernon River
- Mar 6 – Mermaid Tears Sea Glass Meeting

Deputy Mayor Kenny Peters

- Meeting with Fire Dept officers to prepare 2020-21 Budget
- Rural Fire District Meeting March 4th
- Regular meetings with CAO and Admin Staff

Wanda Bailey

- Wednesday February 19th, attended a meet and greet with Peter Bevan Baker at the Souris Legion with the Mayor 7 – 9 pm

Frankie Chaisson

- Report at meeting

Ian MacDonald

- Report at meeting

Thelma MacDonald

- Met with Donna Johnson of PEI Bylaw Enforcement to discuss contract.
- Annual Health Foundation meeting
- 72 Hour Preparedness Presentation
- PEI Credit Union's Women's Day Event
- Working with CAO and developers for Seniors Housing Development

Boyd Leard

- Sworn in as Councillor March 9, 2020

R. Adjournment.**CAO Report:**

- By-election planning/organizing/follow up documentation to the Province, etc. We had 254 people vote out of 867 eligible voters. B.R. Leard won this seat with 127 votes.
- Claim #3 submitted to ACOA for Boardwalk Project (max contribution of \$240,000). Various meetings in regard to this project. It is 90% complete with just a few minor things left. Signage, access ramp and landscaping. We are also hoping to add a small seating area/deck behind the two newer shacks at the west end of the park.
- Souris District Rural Fire Dues meeting was held March 4th. No rate increases were proposed. They will remain at \$35, \$60, \$90. Meeting went well, no members of the public attended.
- Liz is working with Excel Accounting to update and streamline our G/L Accounts in order to better organize our financial statements. It has been a lot of work on Liz's part, but it is coming along quite nicely. You will notice differences in your budget updates.
- Donna Johnson of PEI Bylaw Enforcement has begun her service with us. We will sign a one-year contract with an option to renew. Copy of her proposal is attached for your information.
- Breakwater St. Lift Station Gas Tax Project is moving along well. A Request for Tenders has been advertised. The deadline to submit is March 20, 2020. Souris Harbour Authority have agreed to swap land from the existing corner of MacPhee & Breakwater to the opposite corner of MacPhee &

- Breakwater. Further details to be determined. We will be having a survey done of the required land.
- The Treatment Plant Upgrades Project is also moving along. Our engineers are working on final designs. We are waiting response from the Mi'kmaq Re their consultation for the project. Projected construction commencing July 2020.
- It will be an extremely busy summer for our staff, especially our maintenance staff, once these two projects are underway. We may need to consider extra help for them when putting our budget together.
- We have submitted various applications for wage subsidy funding for student summer workers. Gateway Park, Historium, & Maintenance Dept.
 - Spring is near which means we will be hiring back some of our seasonal staff soon.
 - SHAI have requested the Town's support in their efforts to get approval for both funding and permits to have a seawall constructed along the lower bank of Breakwater Street between the Bayview Lodge and CTMA. This would be a great asset to the Town as it would protect our infrastructure (street, sidewalk, park, main sewer lines, etc.) It would be built with materials dredged from the harbor saving them trucking costs. It is proposed this reclaimed land, once dried, would be useful for parking, etc.
 - JoAnne Roche will be returning from long-term medical leave followed by a few months of ease-back to full-time Special Events/Admin April 1, 2020.
 - Now that we have a better picture of what the cost will be for our treatment plant upgrades and the lift station replacement MRSB are finalizing our application to IRAC for a water and sewer rate increase. This rate increase is required due to the ongoing deficit and additional costs projected for our upgrades. Any proposed rates will be reviewed by Council and the public prior to IRAC approval.
 - A 72 Hour preparedness presentation was hosted by the Town (on request of Councillor T. MacDonald) for seniors to learn about being better prepared in the event of an emergency. The Office of Public Safety put on the presentation. The turn-out was very small. We need to do more to make people realize the importance of being prepared. We also need to get more people involved as volunteers on our EMO committee so that if we do have to activate, we have people committed to helping out.
 - Attended community consultations Re Shoreline Erosion and Environmental Impacts hosted by Island Nature Trust in Fortune. It was well attended with a diverse group of shareholders around the table. Shell fishery, tourism, wildlife, municipal, etc.
 - Attended the EK Chamber Awards Dinner with Mayor Dunphy. Two winners from Souris include The fiddling fisherman and CATC. A well-attended and well-organized event held in Vernon River, PEI.
 - Attended the information meeting in St. Peters re the new UPEI Canadian Centre for Climate Change facility to be built in St. Peters Bay.

MINUTES Prepared by:
 Shelley M. LaVie
 Chief Administrative Officer
 Town of Souris
town@sourispei.com