

**Town of Montague  
Regular Council Meeting  
Town Chambers  
Oct. 9, 2007 – 7:00 pm**

**Calling to Order:**

Mayor Pat McGowan called this meeting to order 7:00 pm.

**Attendance:**

Mayor Pat McGowan, Councillors Bernie Crawford, Peter Doucette, Robert Benoit, Marian Robertson, John MacFarlane, CAO Andrew Daggett, Rev. Scott Hillard, and about 5 members of the public.

**Prayer:**

Pastor Scott Hillard offered prayer to start the meeting.

**Opening Remarks: Mayor Pat McGowan**

Mayor McGowan welcomed everyone in attendance. She mentioned that she attended a meeting with the Active Living Alliance where the Canada Games Challenge was discussed and attending a meeting and a tree planting ceremony with Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson. Mayor McGowan also attending a meeting regarding the location of MRHS, attending the Annual Peace Officers Service, two meetings with the RCMP, a special ceremony at Government House to honour 17 Firemen for exemplary service, and meetings with members of TCAP and the Curling Club. Mayor McGowan also mentioned meetings with prospective business owners about moving to Montague, a meeting with ECO-PEI to see how Montague can create a more efficient use of energy, and she stated that Council should meet to decide whether or not we are going to put up the Christmas lights this year.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Robertson to approve the agenda.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:**

There were no disclosures.

**Adoption of Minutes:**

Moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Doucette to accept the minutes of Sept. 10, 2007 with amendments.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

**Business Arising From Minutes:**

**Meeting with Darlene Rhodenizer -**

Councillor MacFarlane questioned whether this had been addressed and when the meeting was scheduled to happen. CAO Daggett explained that she had been contacted

about speaking to Council regarding the Capacity Building Fund, but that the meeting was pending her return from vacation.

**Wood Islands Hill survey -**

Councillor Doucette questioned whether this had been addressed. CAO Daggett explained that he had contacted TPW for the name of the firm that completed the previous survey and was still awaiting a reply.

**New Business:**

**Halloween Curfew –**

Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor Crawford to impose the Halloween Curfew as per Nuisance and Noise Bylaw.

Aye: JM, BC, PD Nay: MR, RB

*Motion Carried*

**Planning Board Recommendations–**

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Doucette to allow a variance for Whelan Realities Ltd to erect two more units on property PID 199661 as it is an extension of a non-conforming use upon a site occupied by such use.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

**Approval to Pay Invoices:**

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Doucette to pay the General Accounts Payable for \$14,246.29.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

Councillor MacFarlane requested the administrator to check about a W&S billing for \$578.89 under the General Accounts Payable.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Benoit to pay the Water and Sewer Accounts Payable for \$4825.07.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

**Correspondence:**

**1. Letter from Barry Jenkins re: the condition of Locust and Elm Streets and some of the properties thereon –**

Council instructed CAO Daggett to gather information on the estimated cost of paving Locust and Elm Streets and inform Mr. Jenkins what would be happening.

**2. Letter requesting support for the “Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence” –**

Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor Crawford to send a letter of support and \$100, and to make space available at the Town Hall and the Fire Hall for distribution of material.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

Mayor McGowan agreed to write the letter.

- 3. A letter from “Fitness Brats & Boot Camp Boys” requesting financial assistance for their programs -**  
Councillor Doucette agreed to arrange to have Ledean Cairns-MacLeod come and give a presentation or to meet with Committee of the Whole.
- 4. Invitation to participate in the “Scope of Practice” Focus Groups, two of which are being held in Montague.**  
Councillor Doucette or Councillor Robertson to attend.
- 5. Letter from John Francis, President of the 2009 Canadian Ringette Championships, being held April 6-11, 2009, requesting permission to relocate a series of games from the City of Charlottetown to the Town of Montague to be played at the new Wellness Centre.**  
Councillor Doucette to contact Mr. Francis and assure him that they can play in the Wellness Centre.
- 6. A request from the Correctional Services of Canada to proclaim Nov. 18-25, 2007 as “Restorative Justice Week”.**  
Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor Robertson to declare a proclamation making Nov. 18-25, 2007 Restorative Justice Week 2007.  
*Motion Unanimously Carried*

Mayor McGowan to check into getting a guest speaker.

- 7. E-mail from “Tour de PEI 2008” requesting an impact letter from the Council.**  
Councillor MacFarlane and CAO Daggett to write letter addressing all issues surrounding Montague’s participation in the 2007 Tour.  
  
Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor Benoit to add the additional items as 10.11 and 10.12.  
*Motion Unanimously Carried*
- 8. Request for corporate support from Georgetown -**  
Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Doucette to assist Georgetown and purchase 4 season passes (to the Junior “A” Abbies) in the spirit of regional cooperation in this worthwhile venture.  
*Motion Unanimously Carried*

**Delegations and/or Special Speakers:**

Barry Beck addressed Council regarding his son, Rick Beck’s new building and his own (Beck’s Furniture) and the fact that there is a water main on Locust Street. He would like Council to consider extending water service from Locust Street through to his building, thereby servicing Rick’s, his own, and the fishermen. He would like this done

ASAP. Councillor MacFarlane asked Mr. Beck if he was aware of the Phase II Water Extension Project, which when completed will service the entire area. Mr. Beck was not aware of the Town's plans. Councillor Benoit said he would try and organize a Water and Sewer meeting within the next week to address this issue.

**Councillor Reports:** Councillors gave their monthly reports in the following order with the following resolutions and/or motions:

**a) Councillor Robertson**

Councillor Robertson spoke to Council about attending the following meetings and/or events: Active Alliance; closing of the "Community Garden"; Oktoberfest; the MRHS meeting; and the Communities in Bloom awards ceremonies in Moncton, NB where Montague received 4 out of 5 "blooms". She also made note that Montague received high praise from the CIB judges for the exemplary cleanliness of the Maintenance Building and complimented the Maintenance staff for their efforts.

Moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Crawford to enter into the 2008 Communities in Bloom contest.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

**b) Councillor MacFarlane**

Councillor MacFarlane spoke to Council about attending the following meetings and/or events: Peace Officer's Memorial Service; Heritage Rivers meeting; and Oktoberfest. He gave compliments to Councillor Robertson and her CIB committee for the fine work done during the Communities in Boom contest and thanked Janet MacLeod for her article on such. Councillor MacFarlane also reminded everyone that the week of Oct.6<sup>th</sup> is Fire Prevention Week.

**c) Councillor MacFarlane (for Deputy Mayor Mabon)**

Councillor MacFarlane gave a brief report for Deputy Mayor Mabon who was working. He stated that the museum would soon be closing but that some of the staff would still be there until the end of November. The Economic Development Committee had recently met and would be meeting again in the near future. He also stated that there had been "good reviews" regarding the crosswalk lights (by the Post Office) except that some people thought they might be "too high". Councillor MacFarlane also stated that Deputy Mayor Mabon is also still following up on the "Senior's College" idea.

**d) Councillor Crawford**

Began by mentioning "Fire Prevention Week" and reminding people of fire safety. He mentioned that "Oktoberfest" was good, but that it was very difficult to get people to attend and participate/perform and that we need to develop a strong volunteer base to help out with future events. He clarified that the CIB judges only look at the general Town beauty, not necessarily the

individual properties, which was almost a separate competition. Councillor Crawford then mentioned the Animal Control Officer and the fact that he has been very busy in his first few weeks of duty. He also stated that he had been in contact with the RCMP regarding the vandalism and rumoured drug issues on which Council had been informed and that the RCMP were aware of these issues and were working on them.

Moved by Councillor Crawford, seconded by Councillor Benoit to send a letter to the Attorney General, the Hon. Gerard Greenan, thanking him for installing the street level drug unit and requesting that he increase the budget to allow for more positions.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

Councillor Robertson mentioned for clarification that there will be prizes next year for the CIB contest.

**e) Councillor Doucette**

Councillor Doucette started his report by thanking the other Councillors for mentioning all the meetings he had attended. He then thanked the Oktoberfest Committee for what they accomplished with very few volunteers. He particularly made special mention of Jack Slade and thanked him and Sandy Clark for providing musical entertainment. Councillor Doucette thanked the Fire Dept. and the Town for entering teams in the first Annual Violence is Preventable golf tournament which raised about \$4100 for this cause. He also stated that the Wellness Centre Fundraising Committee would be meeting with the Montague Town Council and the Councils of the surrounding communities in the near future. Councillor Doucette then mentioned the semi-annual FPEIM meeting coming up and some of the topics that would be on the agenda for that meeting. He also mentioned that the IT Investigation Committee had discovered that the infrastructure is already in place to have a “wireless network”, and that there are plans in the works to have the Department of Tourism use the infrastructure, their “registration portal”, and their “authentication software” to make Montague one of the areas where secure wireless service is available. Councillor Doucette also noted a meeting with ECO-PEI and how he felt that their report on global warming and GHGs fit nicely with his intentions to contact the Provincial and Federal Governments about relocating public servants such that they worked out of offices closer to home. He stated that too many public civil servants drive to work in Charlottetown when they could do the same work from an office in Montague or the surrounding area, thereby saving the emissions from driving to and from the city every day, and keeping more money within the local communities. Councillor Doucette also made mention of the issues surrounding the Town extending its infrastructure outside of Town boundaries, and the fact that there is presently no method by which to mediate these issues in an equitable manner. He also expressed his concern over the nitrate situation and the fact that there are still a number of septic systems

being installed that may cause problems with the central water system in the future.

**f) Councillor Benoit**

Councillor Benoit gave his report as follows: Monthly Report  
Good evening your Worship, fellow Councillors, C.A.O. Daggett and members of the Gallery.

Over the last month I attended meetings regarding our Water and Sewer accounts. I am happy to say that we have gathered over 75% of the accounts that were in arrears and have taken action or have had liens applied to others. With such long overdue accounts, some dating back as far as nine years, I feel that this is a huge accomplishment for our Water and Sewer Commission. Another such meeting I had attended was the South East Environmental meeting. It was discussed that we need to get our Watershed back again here in Montague. I have called a number of people and it was sadly to my surprise that a lot of them don't want to partake in it again because of other commitments. But I will keep on trying because in order to get a grant for our watershed we need to apply before the end of 2007 in order to receive funding for our river clean-up.

Also this Wednesday night there will be an open to the public Meeting at Perrin's here in Montague starting a 7pm regarding the nitrate studies that have been going on for the last 2 years in our Montague River System. I truly hope that Council as well as all of our citizens Partake in this very important meeting. The release of all samples will be given by Andrew Trivett, a U.P.E.I Professor who is also chair of the South East Environment Committee.

And finally on my report I would like to say as part of the Octoberfest Weekend I had the opportunity to host once again a dart tournament as part of the festivities. I am proud to say that I along with my partner came out on top as winners of this year's third annual Octoberfest Mixed Dart Tournament. As well this year, like the other years before, we were able to donate half of the proceeds back to charity.

That`s my report for this month Your Worship, I thank you.

Councillor Benoit stated that some of the proceeds from the dart tournament were donated to former Bylaw Officer Bill Sutton, who is recovering in hospital, and his family. He also stated that the work on the new bridge was proceeding well, and that a meeting with Transportation personnel had confirmed that the temporary bridge was intended only as a temporary bridge and would be very expensive to keep in the long term.

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Crawford that the temporary bridge be removed once the new bridge is opened.

*Motion Withdrawn*

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Crawford that Council supports the removal of the temporary bridge by the Province on completion of the new bridge.

*Motion Withdrawn*

Councillor MacFarlane questioned whether a motion needed to be made since the bridge would be removed with or without it. Councillors Doucette expressed his dismay over the fact that Council had been misinformed at some point and lead to believe the bridge could be anything but temporary. This sentiment was also repeated by Councillor Crawford who added that he was disappointed that some people apparently knew that the bridge was temporary and yet let the discussion continue to the waste of everyone's time. Mayor McGowan stated that the Waterfront Chairperson, Jim Johnson, had contacted her and said they had hired an independent engineer to assess the temporary bridge, and that engineer had stated "I wouldn't touch it... it won't last". Councillor Doucette requested clarification about an alleged e-mail to the Waterfront Commission directors in which the Waterfront Chairperson suggested that the Mayor had instructed him "not to pursue the option of keeping, or not keeping, the temporary bridge" and that it was not in their mandate. Mayor McGowan stated that she had asked the Chairperson, after a meeting where the findings about the temporary bridge had been explained to the Commission, "why would you pursue it at this point when we know that the temporary bridge is temporary". Mayor McGowan also stated that the Waterfront was an incorporated body and that they had the freedom to act as such, something she had advocated for years. However, "when it comes to something like the bridge in the Town, that was not part of the mandate of the Waterfront Board". She assured Council that they "have never been told what to do", there was no letter coming from Council expressing what they should do, and that Council is very supportive of everything that they do. There was some confusion from many on Council as to why the Waterfront had pursued keeping the temporary bridge, but the understanding of Councillor MacFarlane was that they had taken this on as a project on their own and were compiling information to give to Council.

**Public Comments/Concerns:**

None.

Councillor Crawford stood to wish Mayor McGowan and her husband, Dusty, a Happy Anniversary on behalf of Council as this was their anniversary day.

**Adjournment:**

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Crawford to adjourn.

*Motion Unanimously Carried*

This meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

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Andrew Daggett  
CAO

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Pat McGowan  
Mayor