

**Town of Montague
Regular Council Meeting
Town Chambers
Jan. 14, 2008 – 7:00 pm**

Call to Order:

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

Attendance:

Mayor Pat McGowan, Deputy Mayor David Mabon, Councillors Bernie Crawford, Peter Doucette, Robert Benoit, Marian Robertson, CAO Andrew Daggett, approximately 12 citizens and 2 members of the media.

Prayer:

Pastor Marc Doiron offered prayer for Council and the meeting.

Opening Remarks: Mayor Pat McGowan

Mayor McGowan opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and wishing them a Happy New Year. She mentioned how pleased she was with the new bridge and that it will look even better once the other bridges are removed. The official opening for the bridge was held Monday, Dec. 17th with the Hon. Ron MacKinley and the Hon. Carolyn Bertram in attendance along with other dignitaries and special guests. The Mayor stated that the Moonlight Skate, originally scheduled for New Year's Eve, 5-7 pm, had to be cancelled due to weather and would be held on February 3rd with live entertainment. The New Year's Levee went well but it also followed a snow storm. She thanked the Maintenance personnel for a job well done during the inclement weather. The Mayor then appointed the Water and Sewer Corporation for 2008 and made note that some of the other portfolios had been changed to better distribute the workload.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Robertson to approve the agenda with the additional item from Councillor Doucette.

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-01).

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:

There were no disclosures.

Adoption of Minutes:

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Robertson to adopt the minutes of Dec. 10, 2007.

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-02)

Business Arising From Minutes:

First reading of Mayor and Councillors' Honourarium Bylaw.

Councillor MacFarlane expressed some concern about the structure of the proposed bylaw and felt that there should be something in place to guarantee repayment in the event of non-service.

Councillor Doucette expressed that he thought that would be more of an administrative issue than a policy issue and that the CAO could draft a letter for Council members to sign in the event of early payment.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane to table the motion. No seconder.

Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor Benoit to have first reading of Bylaw 2008-01, the Mayor and Councillor Honourarium Bylaw.

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

Motion Carried. (08-03)

On the question, Deputy Mayor Mabon stated that he would be voting against the motion because it allows for a member of Council to be paid up to a year in advance. He felt you should only be paid up to what had been earned. Councillor MacFarlane again stated he felt there should be something in place to cover in the event of non-service.

New Business:

None.

Approval to Pay Invoices:

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mabon to pay the General Accounts Payable for \$23,785.41.

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-04)

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Benoit to pay the Water and Sewer Accounts Payable for \$12,058.71.

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-05)

Correspondence:

1. **A letter from Autumn Tremere on behalf of Darlene Rhodenizer, Provincial Manager for the Canada-PEI Infrastructure Secretariat, asking for “written confirmation from the Town of Montague regarding the 75% proponent share of the approved project cost and the requested amendment”.**

Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that:

Whereas, the need for recreation and culture are of primary importance in our community and region, and

Whereas, the provision for recreation, community and cultural services to the residents of our community is essential to the future growth and development of Montague, and surrounding communities, and

Whereas, the support for community recreational facilities is currently financially supported by the federal and provincial governments, making for a one third partnership for the development of such, and

Whereas, anticipated costs have risen since initial construction estimates were provided to the Montague and Area Wellness Centre Committee, communities in the region and the town of Montague, such that an amendment needs to be presented to all funding partners, to financially support the anticipated increase, and

Whereas, the town of Montague appreciates, supports and encourages the partnerships that have been created in the region, especially Brudenell for reaching its financial obligations as a community, and all other surrounding communities, and unequivocally endorses the work of the Montague and Area Wellness Centre Committee, it's chairman, and all sub-committees to achieve the construction of the Wellness Centre facility, and

Whereas, the Montague and Area Wellness Centre Fundraising Committee has achieved the required 75% of the anticipated share of the necessary municipal contribution required to proceed to the next phase in the construction of the facility, necessary for the 2009 Canada Summer Games, and that all communities in the area have indicated a commitment to financially contribute to the regional facility, therefore

Be It Resolved, the Town Council of Montague,

- seek agreement amending the current financial support required to meet anticipated increased costs with all funding partners, and
- unequivocally appreciates, supports and encourages the continued partnership with surrounding communities in the region, and
- endorses in the strongest possible terms the invaluable contribution the Montague and Area Wellness Centre Committee, it's chairman, sub-committees, board members and other community volunteers have made in support of the creation of the regional facility, and
- upon agreement of all funding partners to the necessary financial amendment, previously referred to, instructs Coles Associates to seek invited tenders for the construction of the Montague and Area Wellness Centre, immediately, and in conclusion,
- Thank all resident of Montague, Brudenell, Cardigan, Lorne Valley, Valleyfield and Lower Montague, as well as, all members of the unorganized areas throughout the region, where fundraising efforts are to begin immediately, for their financial contributions, dedication and support, as we all embark on the construction and development of a regional facility, of which we all can be proud.

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-06)

2. **A letter from the Office of the Attorney General in response to Council's letter regarding the Street Level Drug Unit.**
For information only.
3. **E-mail from the Island East Board requesting support for an advertising booklet.**
Will be added to the Budget deliberations.

4. **A letter from Peggy Arsenault acknowledging ACOA's acceptance of our funding application.**
Deputy Mayor Mabon to address in his report.
5. **A letter from CBCL regarding the *Wellfield Protection Plan* and the invoice for such.**
For information only.
6. **A thank you from Ellen Panting for Council's contribution to her attendance of the 2007 Miss Canada Pageant.**
For information only.

Delegations and/or Special Speakers:

1. **Nadine MacLeod (Fitness Brats and Boot Camp Boys) has a presentation to make to Council.**

Ms. MacLeod was not present at the time of the "Special Speakers" but arrived just prior to Councillor Doucette's report. Her presentation was given before Councillor Doucette's report but is included here for simplicity.

Ms. MacLeod is requesting funding assistance for her programs. She feels that body image is an underlying problem leading to many of the issues faced by youth, especially girls, and she is structuring her programs to help develop good body image. Ms. MacLeod is requesting \$1000 funding assistance from Council to help her with her programs.

Mayor McGowan informed Ms. MacLeod that her request will be considered during Budget deliberations.

Deputy Mayor Mabon questioned to whom any equipment purchased would belong and where it would be stored. Ms. MacLeod stated that the equipment would belong to, and be stored at, the Montague Intermediate School.

2. **Rick Gibbs would like to address Council regarding the proposed MRHS property and a possible ROW across PID 194274 (letter enclosed).**

Mr. Gibbs stated that he did not intend to be obstructionist in any way with regards to a ROW he has over the property which Council intends to transfer to the Province to allow construction of the new Montague Regional High School (MRHS). He provided Council with a letter in which the following points were made:

- a. He would like to see the preservation of "green space" and hopes that this can be accomplished by all parties acknowledging and understanding the importance of such. He suggests that Council only transfer to the Province sufficient property to build the school and leave the remaining property as green space.
- b. He would like to see the Province develop a "trail" system for the students to walk to school so that they are not walking across private property. This trail system could also be used by residence in the area.

- c. He would like to see further development limited in the area of the new MRHS and the Wellness Centre.
- d. He feels that the development of the new MRHS can be done well, but only if development standards are understood and proper “long term” planning is completed before construction.

3. Danny Clements would like to address Council about the impact of the MRHS construction on him and the neighbours.

Mr. Clements addressed Council regarding his concerns about the proposed new MRHS development and made the following points.

- a. He feels that it would be a good idea to keep the wells presently located on the property proposed to be turned over to the Province “just in case”.
- b. He worries about contamination if the property is cleared.
- c. He mentioned that he has problems with teenagers crossing his property now and is concerned about increased problems in the future (litter, loss of privacy, etc.).
- d. He would like to be included in the planning process or at least have their concerns heard.

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

a) Councillor Crawford

Began by mentioning that his portfolio had changed some this year and that he looked forward to gaining new knowledge. He commented on the Christmas Tree Fest and how well it went. Councillor Crawford stated that the float was not utilized as much in the past year as it would be in the coming year as there will be a parade over the new bridge this summer. Councillor Crawford mentioned that in the past year he had developed a good repertoire with the Fire Department and the RCMP and that we had been quite successful in Animal Control. He stated that while the Animal Control Officer, Mark Oliver is out of the province his duties will be taken over Iain Carnegie. Councillor Crawford said that Summer Days will be even better this year since it is his second time and he has a much better grasp of what must be done. He then thanked everyone, especially Councillor Doucette, for all their help in the past year and thanked Councillor Doucette for all his work on the Wellness Centre Committee.

b) Councillor Doucette

Councillor Doucette’s report is attached as Appendix “A”.

Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor MacFarlane:

Whereas, economic, community and social development are fundamental to the growth of rural communities across Canada, and

Whereas, Montague is very fortunate to have a formalized committee structure to create development in our community, namely the Montague Economic Development Committee and the Montague Waterfront Development Committee, and

Whereas, a study was undertaken by the consulting firm of CBCL Limited in 2004 to identify development opportunities in our town and create an implementation strategy to realize these development opportunities, and

Whereas, the streetscapes project and Montague Bridge are nearing completion as part of the opportunities identified in the 2004 CBCL study, and

Whereas, a number of additional opportunities have been researched and identified by the above study, therefore,

Be It Resolved, the Town Council of Montague, request a meeting be held consisting of the Montague Economic Development Committee, the Montague Waterfront Development Committee and the Montague Town Council, to prioritize opportunities as suggested by the 2004 CBCL study, in order to formalize a development strategy, identify projects and commit to implement those identified, during the 2008 calendar year to realize “the goal of this Development Opportunity and Implementation Strategy is to guide downtown development to enhance the Town’s already attractive community, heritage assets and waterfront areas as well as create economic growth for the immediate and long term future.”

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-07)

Deputy Mayor Mabon and Councillor MacFarlane to coordinate the meeting.

c) Councillor Benoit

Councillor Benoit’s report is attached as Appendix “B”.

d) Councillor Robertson

Councillor Robertson started her report by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and then went on to address the meetings and events she had attended. These include: the New Year’s Levee, Wellness Centre meetings, MRHS meetings, the bridge opening, and several other Council meetings. She stated that she was encouraged for the Wellness Centre and thanked Chairman Merrill Scott and Fundraising Chair Dr. Dave Hambly for all their hard work. Councillor Robertson expressed the need for volunteers to help out with Communities in Bloom and then had the pleasure of handing out Christmas Lighting awards to Harry and Sandra Annear, Carolyn and Grace Gillis, John and Geraldine Perrin, and Robert and Ann Boehner. She also thanked Kent’s Building Supplies for giving the gift certificates awarded to the winners.

Moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Crawford to put a listing in the CIB flyer (for approx. \$250) and to take the money from the Beautification budget.

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-08)

Councillor Robertson expressed her sympathies for the Bathurst community and the families affected by the tragic accident. She reported that, as of yet,

she has had no success with organizing anything in conjunction with the 2009 Canada Games Challenge.

e) Councillor MacFarlane

Councillor MacFarlane's report is attached as Appendix "C".

f) Deputy Mayor Mabon

Deputy Mayor Mabon began his report by wishing all a Happy New Year. He stated that the new Museum book will be launched February 23rd and that the registration for the "Senior's College", for which there has been very good interest, would be held January 17th. Deputy Mayor Mabon also said that Montague is a great place to live and we should all try to make it better.

Public Comments/Concerns:

Lorne Cudmore – commented that parking is occurring on the corner of Gaul Street and Down East Crescent and that it makes it very hard to see if anything is coming when walking or driving in that area. He also stated that the bottom of John Beer Drive appears to be an unofficial "Town dump" where people are throwing grass cuttings, tree limbs, and other yard waste. He is hoping something can be done about it. The CAO is to check on who owns the property in question.

Dr. Dave Hambly – thanked the Council for their kind words and updated Council by saying that he Fundraising Committee had been working very hard and had raised over \$160,000 during the Christmas holidays. He said that his committee had been working very closely with the communities and thanked the volunteers and those that had been helping out. Dr. Hambly recognized Gary Fraser, Graham Jones, and Louis Callaghan for their help in their respective communities. They are still looking for volunteers to help with fund raising and they now have pledge forms available.

Merrill Scott – clarified some remarks from Councillor Doucette's report in that the tender documents for the Wellness Centre are not ready yet and probably will not be for at least a couple of weeks.

Information for Council/CAO Report:

As presented to Council in writing. There were no questions on the reports.

Mayor McGowan thanked Councillors Doucette and Robertson for the judging of the Christmas Lights contest. She also requested that Councillors give notice of motion for motions brought forward at the Council meetings. Councillor Doucette inquired as to whether that was for any motion or just motions dealing with financial matters. Mayor McGowan stated that it would be good to have it for any motion other than those dealing with emergencies.

There was some discussion about what authority should be used to govern the "rules of order" for the meetings and it was noted that the Federation of PEI Municipalities had adopted Bourinot's Rules of Order and the Town had used them in the


past. It was thought that all members of Council should be provided with a copy of whatever they decide to use and that there should be a couple of meetings to familiarize Council as to what can, and cannot, be done.

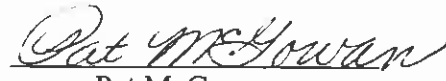
Adjournment:

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

Motion Unanimously Carried (08-09)

This meeting was adjourned at 9:24 pm.


Andrew Daggett
CAO


Pat McGowan
Mayor