

**Town of Montague
Regular Council Meeting
Town Chambers
Jan. 11, 2010 – 7:00 pm**

Call to Order:

Mayor Richard Collins called this meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed the gallery.

Attendance:

Mayor Richard Collins, Deputy Mayor David Mabon (7:13), Councillors Marian Robertson, Peter Doucette, Janice MacBeth, Peggy Whitlock, John MacFarlane, CAO Andrew Daggett, Merrill Scott, Rhonda MacLeod, Rick Gibbs, George Koke, and two media.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-01)

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:

There were no disclosures.

Adoption of Minutes:

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Whitlock to adopt the minutes of the December 14, 2009 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-02)

Delegations, Special Speakers and Public Input

Merrill Scott – Mr. Scott updated Council on the progress of the Wellness Centre. He stated that the road sign was to be installed Jan. 14th, the wood furnace was being started Jan. 12th, the Library lighting was to be adjusted Jan. 12th, and that the upstairs bathrooms were complete with the exception of toilet paper holders and similar items.

Mr. Scott also stated that he would like to see a sidewalk installed from Gaul Street to the Down East Mall.

Steve Sharratt – Mr. Sharratt questioned the employment status of Benji Stevens at the Wellness Centre. Mayor Collins stated that he is presently working and, as far as he knows, Mr. Stevens will have the option to remain at the Wellness Centre after a Facility Manager is employed. CAO Daggett reiterated that it would be Mr. Stevens' decision what he wants to do once the Manager is hired.

Business Arising From Minutes:

1. **Request from the Waterfront Development Corporation for the Town to budget \$27,000 and provide a letter of support for their “Dock Repair and Replacement” application to the Island Communities Fund.**

No decision was made on this item last month until a meeting could be held with the WFDC. Councillor MacBeth has met with the WFDC Board. There is also an outstanding bill that is requested to be paid by the Town.

Moved by Councillor MacBeth, seconded by Councillor Doucette to send a letter of non-financial support to the Waterfront Development Corporation since the budget has

not yet been finalized.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-03)

Deputy Mayor Mabon arrived at this time (7:13).

Councillor MacBeth also brought forward a bill from Kings County Construction for work completed in 2008. The WFDC has requested that the Town pay this bill. The same request was denied in March of 2009 and the bill was sent back to the WFDC at that time.

Moved by Councillor MacBeth, seconded by Councillor Doucette that, based on the fact that there is no documentation to support payment of the bill, it is to be sent back to the WFDC.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-04)

New Business:

1. Tree removal from Wood Islands Road park.

The new Wellness Centre sign will soon be erected at the edge of the roadway leading into the Wellness Centre. It will be placed on the playground property and approximately four trees should be removed to allow for proper visibility.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Robertson to remove the trees as necessary.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-05)

Approval to Pay Invoices:

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor MacBeth to pay the General Accounts Payable for \$239,662.65.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-06)

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor MacBeth to pay the Water and Sewer Accounts Payable for \$114,853.30.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-07)

Correspondence Requiring Action:

1. A letter outlining the need for a renewed Partnership Agreements between the Conservation and Environmental Education Network and Environment Canada.

Moved by Councillor MacBeth, seconded by Councillor MacFarlane to send a letter of support for SEA to the Federal Minister responsible.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-08)

2. Montague Curling Rink request

A request has been received from the Montague Curling Rink for the Town to commit to fixing up Patrick Street alongside the Curling Club in coordination with the upgrades to be completed by them. George Koke has requested that the Town fix the street, install storm drainage, and construct a retaining wall to fix up the area beside the Curling Club.

Mr. Koke came forward and made his request on behalf of the Curling Club, stating that they have completed some upgrades and are planning more, but would like to see the Town complete some work on Patrick Street including resurfacing and storm sewer. He also requested a letter of support, even if it just stated that the Town was considering his request.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Doucette to send a

letter outlining that this item has been placed on the Public Works agenda and was favourably heard.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-09)

3. A letter from Rick Gibbs requesting that the Town install garbage receptacles at the Town's side of the new MRHS walking entrances.

Mr. Gibbs addressed Council with his request.

Council agreed to the request and the CAO was tasked with seeing that it was completed in the spring.

4. A letter from FCM requesting that Council renew their membership with FCM.

Moved by Councillor Doucette, seconded by Councillor Robertson to renew the membership.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-10)

5. A request from Maxine MacLennan for \$400 in support of the SAVE group and to help leverage funding from the RCMP Foundation.

This item was discussed and Council decided that it would be best handled through the Grants Policy. As such, it will be addressed during the budget process.

Correspondence For Information:

1. An email from Minister Bertram informing of the release of Commissioner Thompson's Report on Land and Local Governance.

Information only.

2. A letter from the Infrastructure Secretariat outlining that there have been some issues with the infrastructure signs.

Information only.

Committee Reports: Councillors gave reports from the following portfolios:

1. Town Promotion

a. Sign motion

Chair MacBeth would like to bring forth a motion to upgrade the Town signage at the entrances.

Moved by Councillor MacBeth, seconded by Councillor Doucette to get new signs from RIJO Signs in Brudenell.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-11)

b. Advertising

Councillor MacBeth would like to have approval for advertising as the deadlines for inclusion in this year's advertising is fast approaching.

Moved by Councillor MacBeth, seconded by Councillor Doucette to develop RACK cards (\$325) and a Town map (\$6099).

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-12)

2. Vacation Time

As per the Personnel Bylaw, any unused vacation time is to be paid out at year end. Council needs to decide how they want to handle this.

Moved by Councillor MacBeth, seconded by Councillor Whitlock to pay out vacation time.

Motion Carried (10-13)

3. Finance

Councillor MacFarlane gave a report from the Finance Committee which is attached as Appendix "A".

Councillor Robertson addressed Council about entering the 2010 Communities in Bloom contest.

Moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Whitlock to enter Communities in Bloom for 2010.

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-14)

Information for Council/CAO Report:

1. RCMP Report

No questions.

2. Animal Control Report

As written.

3. CAO Report

As written.

4. Development Permit Report


No questions.

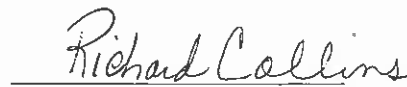
Adjournment:

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

Motion Unanimously Carried (10-15)

This meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.


Andrew Daggett
CAO


Richard Collins
Mayor

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Councillor Report January 11/2010

Finance:

Preparations for the year end and Audit are underway. The office staff has been working diligently to compile the necessary information and prepare for the Auditors, Grant Thornton.

Budget preparations have begun and the Finance Committee will be meeting regularly (Tuesday mornings as well as some evenings as needed) in order to be able to present the 2010 Budget at the March Town meeting. I ask all Chairs to meet with their committees to determine your financial requests and to present them to the CAO as soon as possible.

An advertisement was placed in the Graphic in December for requests to the Town's Grants and Donation Policy. These requests must be submitted by application which are available at the Town Hall office.

Public Works:

I have spoken with the Maintenance Supervisor to compile a list of streets and sidewalks that, in his opinion, are or will be in need of repair. Obviously, due to the cost, not all needed work can nor will be done in one year but a list will prioritize those in most need of repair and I plan on looking at a 1-5 year program to cover all work needed.

A review of maintenance equipment is also underway. A new sidewalk plow/mower may need to be replaced as it is getting older and needing repairs more frequently.

Public Utilities:

We will have a meeting for the Utility in the near future to

(2)

review accounts as well as any needed repairs. As all are aware, all residents of the Town now have access to the municipal water system as well as nearby non-residents can be considered for hook-up. I remind customers of the Utility that sewer and water bill payments can be made at their bank through the ATM as well as at the Town office daily from 8am to 4pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John MacFarlane
