

**APPROVED MINUTES FROM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD OCTOBER 10, 2006 AT 7:00 P.M.**

The regular Council meeting was held October 10, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Murphy presiding and Councillors Oliver, Curtis and Gillis present also Marvin Riley, John Ellsworth, Ray Millman, Paul Cotton, Keith Peters, Gerald O’Meara, Cst. Stevenson, David McDonald – Graphic and Eric McCarthy – Journal.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried for the approval of the agenda with the addition of drop off at Alberton Elementary School and Advancing Communities conference.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried for the approval of the minutes of September 11, 2006.

CORRESPONDENCE

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried to purchase an ad from the Journal for a curfew of 7:30 p.m. for Halloween at a cost of \$45.00 plus tax.

A letter was received for Phase 111 of the Streetscape project. A letter was received from J.C. Arena Operating Committee with a request for assistance to repair the parking lot at J.C. Memorial Arena. A letter will be sent to the Province to ask that it be paved because of the damage that was done when the wood chipper used the parking lot after the ice storm.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried to file the correspondence.

BUSINESS LICENSES AND/OR BUILDING PERMITS

A subdivision plan from Keith and Florence Graham will be put on hold for further information.

Gerald O’Meara requested a twenty-four foot right-of-way to his property along the town’s land. He said it has been over two months and nobody wants traffic on Poplar Street and this would solve his problem. Gerald left the meeting.

A request was received from a potential property owner regarding crossing the undisputed portion of the French Lane to access his property. Council agreed that the property owner could cross the French lane if the street is there to access it but there are no plans to develop the street in the near future.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Curtis and carried to approve the property development application from Barry McNeill subject to the condition that should the septic system fail in the future it would be his responsibility to have the necessary test pits dug and obtain the permits required to comply with the regulations in place at that time; also subject to tearing the existing house down.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councillor Oliver had nothing to report for recreation.

Councillor Curtis reported for streets. He said he received two requests to clean up garbage on Main Street on weekends. He will talk to Lenny about using the extra workers while they are around to take a couple hours off during the week and work on the weekends.

Councillor Gillis reported for environment. The sewer work has been completed with a couple glitches including cutting a corner too short, which will be staked and manholes too high that will be fixed.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried that we hire a worker for Lenny for sewer disconnection if needed for overdue sewer customers.

Councillor Gillis reported that we still have fifteen overdue sewer customers and 48-hour notices will be sent out.

Councillor Gillis reported for finance in the absence of Councillor Cahill. The balances were as follows –

General Account	Overdraft	-\$19,669.86
Sewer Account		\$112,036.80
Sewer T-Bill		518.49
Sinking Fund T-Bill		47,495.87

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried to pay bills in the amount of \$248,756.51.

Cst. Stevenson reported for police in the absence of Councillor Adams. He said this is his favourite season and every member here will be working and members will be coming up from Charlottetown for Halloween.

Fire Chief, Paul Cotton reported for fire. There was a large fire but it has been quieter the last couple months. Paul Cotton reported that the RCMP let the members know about a course if they attend fires where drugs are located. Mayor Murphy said the fire department had two quotes on the rescue van Metal Fab - \$112,514.00 and Allain Equipment Manufacturing Ltd. - \$111,975.00.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Curtis and carried to purchase the fire truck body that the fire department recommends from Allain Equipment Manufacturing Ltd. for \$111,975.00.

NEW BUSINESS

The motion was made by Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Gillis and carried to pay for a jacket for Jeff at a cost of \$80.00.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Curtis and carried to hire Delcom for engineering services for Argyle Street without pavement and to include sewer line not to exceed \$62,804.00 gas tax fund.

Mayor Murphy requested that the Department of Transportation be contacted to create a drop off area in front of Alberton Elementary School.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ray Millman asked if this was Phase 1, 2 or 3 and if the lights were in this budget. He asked who is on the committee and why nothing is brought back to council meetings. Mayor Murphy said he was but he has not been attending meetings and Fenton Jeffery and Alan Curtis are also on the committee. Alan said he is not on it. Mayor Murphy said we recognize after the last meeting that there is a problem and we want to deal with it. Ray Millman said the Masonic Lodge donated \$1,000.00 towards their renovations and he would let that drop. Ray Millman said there were a lot of people upset about the baskets around the pond and he said that it spoiled the look of the pond. He said there was a lot of that stuff that never came back to council to debate or talk about. Mayor Murphy said the Alberton Development Corporation has public meetings once a year where they choose directors and they encourage people to come. He said they have to find out if the direction should come from the town council or public meetings. Marvin Riley asked if council approved it or do they come and do what they want. He asked if we promised \$10,000.00 for it. He asked where the \$12,000.00 gazebo is going. He said that you people do all this and you do not even know where it is going. Mayor Murphy said we have a committee that looks after it. Marvin Riley said we never bring anything back and that they should forget the gazebo and they wouldn't owe them \$10,000.00. Mayor Murphy said he thought the funding was already approved and these were not wild parties and were improvements to the town. He said the board was made up of volunteers that have the best interest of the town at heart and they were trying to improve the town. Ray Millman said we are paying the money. Mayor Murphy told Ray to be there at the meetings. Ray Millman said there is absolutely nothing brought back to town council. Ray Millman said if we are paying the money and Fenton is not bringing the information back and Fenton should not even be on council. He said that this place was sitting high on money three years ago and where are we now. He asked where we are sitting financially and how much we owe. Mayor Murphy said we are not sitting too bad financially and there was a lot accomplished and he asked Ray why he doesn't get on the committee instead of shooting off his mouth. He asked why doesn't he participate.

Marvin Riley said he should not lose it. Mayor Murphy said Ray was yelling at him and why couldn't he raise his voice and should he just sit here and absorb it. He said they don't pay him well enough for that. Ray Millman told Pat he was resigning. Mayor Murphy said he was not resigning he was just not re-offering. He told Ray it would open a seat for him. Ray Millman said he did not want it. Ray Millman said he left it enough mess that you can't get anybody to run now. Mayor Murphy said that he is being lobbied by people to re-offer so he must have done something right. Councillor Curtis said we are not really encouraged to run. Ray Millman asked him if was paying land taxes in the town of Alberton. Mayor Murphy said Councillor Curtis pays taxes, he pays rent in the town of Alberton and the tax is part of his rent. Ray Millman said if he doesn't pay taxes he should not be on town council. Mayor Murphy told Ray Millman to put his money where his mouth is and put his name on council because he has so much to say. Ray Millman said that Alan could say let's raise taxes. Mayor Murphy said he could say what he wants because he is a taxpayer, he pays rent. Mayor Murphy told Ray to put his money where his mouth is and put his name on a ballot. Ray Millman said he puts all his money in Alberton. Mayor Murphy said he can come here and shoot his mouth off but he doesn't have to pay anything anyway. Ray Millman said he pays all his taxes and his sewer bill is paid right up on par. Mayor Murphy said his sewer bill is paid too. Mayor Murphy asked him what that meant and does he have information that somebody's sewer bill is not paid. Ray Millman said he did not think so. Ray Millman said again all his taxes are paid and he could go and check to see. Mayor Murphy said he did not care if they were paid or not. Mayor Murphy said Shane would be coming along with the backhoe and he might come along and help him. Ray Millman asked if there was any money left to pave the rink parking lot. Mayor Murphy said we are not paving the parking lot because we paid our share of the renovations. He said he supposed we should not have done that either. Ray Millman said we gave somebody \$5,000.00 to do the wiring. Mayor Murphy said why shouldn't we and that was a decision of council and he backs council on all their decisions. Ray Millman said the sidewalk down town was another \$5-6,000.00. Mayor Murphy said it was great to be an arm chair critic and if he thinks it is better for the town of Alberton he will support it. Ray Millman said it is not better for the town of Alberton that he spent \$5,000.00 for the sidewalk and the contractors could have done it. Mayor Murphy said we agreed before the ground was ever broke on that building that we would re-instate the sidewalk. He said that was part of our agreement with the new building on Main Street. Ray Millman said nobody knew the new sidewalk was going to be broke up. Mayor Murphy said we knew the new sidewalk was going to be broke up. He said he wanted the minutes found so he could prove to this man that he was right. He said that was part of the town's commitment and he said that anybody that is sitting around this table that says any different is not telling the truth because we have a letter from Norma MacNeill requesting it. He said it was part of the agreement to bring that building to the town of Alberton. Ray Millman said that was after the fact. Mayor Murphy said it not after the fact at all that it was before the building was ever started. Ray Millman said it was before the building was ever started because they could not put the foundation in. Mayor Murphy told Ray that if he would get involved on some of these committees instead of just sitting back and throwing his negativity all the time. Ray Millman said find the \$5,000.00 he spent on the wiring and he said there are a lot of people talking about it but they are scared to talk to his face.

Mayor Murphy told Ray to put his money where his mouth is and to get his name on a ballot. Mayor Murphy asked if he was scared he might do something constructive instead of coming to the meetings and throwing his negativity around all the time. He told him that is all he does. Mayor Murphy said he is happy with what he had done on council and he thinks we got a lot done in three years and he said probably a lot more than was done in the previous fifty years. Ray Millman said to go tell them that. Mayor Murphy said he was just stating the facts. Ray Millman asked who was going to pave the parking lot. Mayor Murphy said we were going to see if the province would do it. Ray Millman said the province tore it up so they were going to pay for it. Mayor Murphy said they knew they were going to damage the sidewalk when they were demolishing the building and that is when they met with us and asked that our commitment to the entire project be when it was done to reinstate the sidewalk the way it was. He said there should be all kinds of mention of it in the minutes and he knew it was there.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried to go to a committee of the whole.

The motion was made by Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Gillis and carried to return from a committee of the whole.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried to get a sewer loan to pay off the general account and other costs and shop a round for the best interest rate.

The motion was made by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and carried to adjourn the meeting.