

**APPROVED MINUTES FROM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD JULY 8, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M.**

The regular council meeting was held July 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Murphy presiding and Councillors Gallant, Campbell, Dunn, Pottier and Duggan present also Alan Curtis, Frances Ready, Tom Murphy, Cst. Michiels, Cindy Chant- West Prince Graphic and staff Susan Wallace-Flynn.

**Mayor's Report**

"It is with great concern that as Mayor of this Town and Chair of the council that I personally feel that council is not pulling together for one common cause that is to provide services and to look out for the most economical way of getting jobs done and getting what we need from different levels of Government as far as grants and loans to provide these services to this town and lessen the burden on the tax payer. Now when we offered to put our names forward for election by the people of this town it was to do so for the benefit of the town and the people, not to benefit our own selves. I have worked very hard and some long hours to make sure that these projects or grants were in place and ready to go such as Church Street infilling and sidewalks that were requested over the last 3 ½ years by residents. Also Dufferin Street sidewalks where a large percentage of our seniors live and they are able to walk safely.

We worked very hard on the Holland College campus project from the time it was first mentioned. As well as pressuring our Government to speed up the delivery date of the new Maplewood Manor. We were able to build the new Town Hall and Maintenance building with beautiful landscaped grounds, paved lot and sidewalks all without increasing the taxes charged to our residents. We were able to do this by purchasing the Leavitt land and Pridham land and making a land deal for the construction of the Town Hall and Maintenance building which in turn we also got the vacant properties cleaned up and new apartments started which the Town will see tax revenue from, not just complaints from the neighboring properties.

We also were able to develop the Town's new subdivision which has a capacity for 50+ lots which already has 8 lots sold with one new home started. This venture alone took up countless hours from start to end. Also was active in helping get our new Home Hardware store which is a very nice addition to the town. There were and still are some major sewer line replacements done with countless amounts of money from the three levels of Government. The Town was able to satisfy the government building on the corner of Main Street and Poplar Street when they needed to expand. My Town was the first Town on Prince Edward Island to sign an extended contract with Go! PEI for extra services. We were able to negotiate a contract with the Provincial Government to look after snow which lessened the burden on the tax payers and freed up the money to purchase our own tractor and blower. Our Maintenance Department is in very good shape as is the Town, if that was not obvious with a lot off thanks going to Corey and staff. Also a slightly used Maintenance truck was purchased to replace two older vehicles which is a lot less cost to the Town. We purchased a new fire truck for the Town with the cooperation of the Fire Department. We worked with Island Bait Fishers Group to get a permit so that everyone who wants to fish in the Town pond can do so free of charge without having their own permit. Canada Day was a very big event with lots of people coming from all over.

We are now working on having a winter fishing tournament. We are in the process of upgrading the town park adding new equipment, etc. Also we have done some upgrading in the ball field such as cleaning up the drainage ditch, leveling out the back end of the field, planting trees, new signage in the field, and also at the end of Prince William Street, upgrades to the dugouts and other buildings. The cleanup and landscaping was done at no cost to the Town. We have been very lucky to be given lots of

EDA workers and summer students to help with the work load. The Town has secured a deal with the Heritage people to take over the Old Stone Station for use as an Information Centre, Museum, and resting place for trail users. The Town was also able to secure grants for upgrades to the Jacques Cartier Memorial Arena which helped purchase a windmill and is now trying to find the means to pave the parking lot. Every year the Town puts on a great Canada Day event. The Town also gives every year to the museum, library, and Heritage Centre and all this was done without any increase to the tax payers. Now we are accused of under the table deals and contracts that will never see the light of day, one sided stories in the papers that make myself and council look real bad that leaves one to wonder what do you perceive us as doing. Anyone who would like to look over the Town books are more than welcome to do so at any time you wish to. Also the Town does not hold secret meetings; being a Town we have the right to hold meetings with whoever is required at any time. The public is usually invited unless it concerns Human Resource issues. Also our meetings are on our website.”

**The motion was made by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried for the approval of the agenda.**

Councillor Duggan asked to be excluded from agenda item 7 (4) private driveway and name for G. E. MacNeill apartments.

**The motion was made by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Gallant and carried for the approval of the minutes from the regular council meeting held June 10, 2013.**

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Councillor Campbell asked if we found out why the O’Leary contract was pulled. Susan distributed a copy of an email she had sent to O’Leary, but there was no response.

Councillor Pottier asked if the petition was mailed regarding the lobster shells and it was mailed.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter was received from Michelle Aresenault with Save Western Hospital Committee. Councillor Pottier reported on the meeting with the liaison committee and Dr. Wedge on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Wedge provided an update on what transpired regarding the Emergency Room being closed overnight and the two new rapid response ambulances.

**The motion was made by Councillor Dunn, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to let Bell Aliant do upgrades as they see fit.**

A letter of response was received from Minister Sheridan regarding the proposed Town of Central West Prince. Minister Sheridan also hopes that we can continue to work together to promote strong municipalities in Prince Edward Island.

A letter was received from Premier Robert Ghiz congratulating Alberton on marking the Centennial Incorporation of the Town of Alberton.

A letter was received from Samantha Murphy, Manager, Municipal Affairs regarding amendments to the Highway Signage Act.

A letter was received from Canada Post about a review they conducted about the small amount of local customers on Saturdays and that effective August 17, 2013 retail services will no longer be offered on Saturdays.

A letter regarding the equalization fund was received from Minister Sheridan stating the Town's services grant and equalization funding will remain at the same level as 2012-2013.

**The motion was made by Councillor Dunn, seconded by Councillor Campbell and carried to accept the proposal from Genivar to fill out applications for grants for PIF and Infrastructure.**

A donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 was received from Tignish Credit Union for upgrades to the ball field.

Councillor Campbell left the room due to a conflict of interest.

**The motion was made by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to go with the quote from Home Hardware for supplies to upgrade the storage buildings and dug outs at the ball field.**

Councillor Campbell returned to the meeting.

A letter was received from Community Inclusions thanking the Town for the new sidewalks and also to request street lighting. Councillor Campbell said he would look into the request and bring the information back to council.

An email was received from Almeda Thibodeau regarding funding for a Centennial Mural project. The proposed budget is \$3,545.00. Councillor Duggan said this is to come from the Federal Grant which is for \$3,600.00.

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Dunn and carried to approve the Centennial of Incorporation Celebration Activity: A mural of an artist's depiction of the first Town Council meeting held in 1913, to be mounted in the Town Hall Chamber as a lasting legacy of our Centennial of Incorporation. This project to be funded through the grant received from Heritage Canada to cover artist's fees, materials and other related expenses, and to include the placement in the Journal Pioneer, the Guardian, the West Prince Graphic and La Voix Acadienne of the advertising necessary to solicit proposals for the mural from Island artists and upon completion of the mural to announce its unveiling.**

#### **BUILDING LICENSES AND/OR BUILDING PERMITS**

A property development application was received from Maplewood Manor to install a 32 foot X 16 foot building to hold a furnace and 10 foot X 12 foot building for wood chips. Councillor Gallant left the meeting due to conflict of interest.

**The motion was made by Councillor Dunn, seconded by Councillor Campbell and carried to approve the building permit application from Maplewood Manor with the condition that we get a letter from**

**the company that the Manor choses to install it, that any excess smoke not affect the residents of the town.**

Councillor Gallant returned to the meeting.

A property development application was received from Alberton Bakery & Café to build a 5' wide by 48' long deck in front of the existing bakery.

**The motion was made by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to approve the building permit application from Alberton Bakery & Café with the condition that the setbacks be checked with Provincial Highways before final approval is granted.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Police Report**

Councillor Campbell reported for police that there were 181 hours of policing and 25 calls in June. Calls included 5 traffic complaints, 4 mischief, 3 disturbing the peace, 3 assist Provincial Agency, 2 Off-highway Vehicle Act, 1 impaired driving, 1 harassing phone call, 1 motor vehicle collision, 1 liquor Control Act, 1 Fire Prevention Act, 1 911 Act, 1 Motor Vehicle Act and 1 False Alarm.

Councillor Campbell advised the residents of Alberton to call the RCMP when they have concerns.

### **Fire Report**

Councillor Pottier reported for fire. There were 11 calls which included 3 medical calls, 2 mutual aid calls, 2 motor vehicle collisions, 1 structure fire, 1 commercial fire alarm (Westisle), 1 pleasure boat distress call and 1 power pole fire. The Fire Department is looking for ways of addressing people using their parking lot for loitering, doing circles, parking overnight, sleeping in cars or just turning. This causes a lot of noise for neighbors.

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to confirm the following executive for Alberton Fire Department Tom Murphy Interim Acting Chief, Chris LeClair Deputy Chief, Emile Bernard Captain, Darrell Graham Captain, Jason Milligan Captain, Shannon Dumville Captain, David Cahill Past Chief and Jacque Lidstone Secretary.**

### **Street Report**

Councillor Gallant reported for streets. The sidewalk projects on Dufferin and Church Streets are completed. Councillor Gallant reported that concerns about sods along the sidewalk are being addressed and are due to the dry weather.

**The motion was made by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to resurface College Street at a cost of \$15,775.00 for 600 feet X 16 feet.**

### **Environment Report**

Councillor Dunn reported for environment. The sewer bills were sent out July 1<sup>st</sup>. Councillor Dunn reported that she is waiting to hear back from emails she sent to Kensington, Charlottetown, Summerside and Montague Mayors regarding their bylaws about flies.

**The motion was made by Councillor Dunn, seconded by Councillor Gallant and carried to apply for PIF funding to upgrade the lift station to an outdoor box on a cement foundation with wiring, with locked**

covers for the lift station and a generator with an alarm to a pager also 2 pumps for a split cycle operation.

**The motion was made by Councillor Dunn, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to apply for Infrastructure funding for the lift station and sewer line problem areas.**

#### **Parks Report**

Councillor Duggan reported for parks. Councillor Duggan thanked Korey for placing planters and hanging baskets on Main Street and he said the cost was \$985.00 and they had up had up to \$1,500.00. Councillor Duggan also thanked the Centennial Committee for their successful picnic.

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to approve the following Centennial of Incorporation Celebration Activity. A Centennial Festival Evening of entertainment featuring local artists. This project to be funded through the grant from Tourism PEI to cover expenses and to include the placement in the Journal Pioneer, The West Prince Graphic and La Voix Acadienne of advertising to promote the event.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to approve the Centennial of Incorporation Celebration Activity: A Centennial Festival Evening of Skits, Music and Laughter featuring local musicians and performers. This project to be funded through the grant from Tourism PEI to cover expenses and to include the placement in the Journal Pioneer, The West Prince Graphic and La Voix Acadienne of advertising to promote the event.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried that the theme for the Prince County Exhibition is the Centennial of Incorporation and that the Town of Alberton purchase and present a small plaque, not to exceed \$50.00, to be awarded for the float that best demonstrates the theme of Alberton's Centennial.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to approve a request from the West Prince Graphic to publish a major feature on the Town's Centennial with the theme "A Celebration of the Past and a Look Forward" or something similar. This would include congratulatory ads from municipalities across the Island, local businesses, and appropriate government officials. The feature would also include interviews with the Mayor, members of the Centennial committee, some of our senior residents about their past memories and old photos of the town. The contribution by the Town of Alberton would be a congratulatory ad 4.1 X 5 inch at a cost of \$159.60 HST for a total cost \$181.94.**

Councillors Pottier, Duggan, Campbell and Dunn voted yes and Councillor Gallant voted no.

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan to buy forks for the tractor to move planters, picnic tables etc. at an estimated cost of \$800.00. The motion was not seconded.**

Council requested three prices for the forks.

Councillor Duggan reported that the Upwest Winterfest Committee 2014 needs representative from Alberton and are looking for a donation. Councillor Campbell asked if it was a conflict of interest for him and Councillor Duggan because of work. Mayor Murphy said it was a conflict of interest.

#### **Recreation Report**

Mayor Murphy read the recreation report. Minor Sports Programs are flourishing in the Town of Alberton. Currently, there are approximately 115 children participating in Minor Softball and Minor Soccer. The fields will be busy for the summer season! This translates into three softball teams and 5 soccer teams, approximately 12 volunteer coaches, and many officials and umpires. The soccer teams are in leagues that have teams from Evangeline to Tignish while the softball teams are Island Wide leagues. All of these teams have been outfitted for jerseys, uniforms, and equipment. Additionally, there are approximately 35 children in an Active Start Program for very young children.

A soccer Jamboree for all Under 6 soccer teams in the West Prince Minor Soccer League was hosted by WRSRC at Alberton Elementary on July 6. 42 participants from 5 different communities attended this event. Summer staff contacted a few local businesses to let them know about the jamboree, Huntley Horizon, Pat's Irving and the Sidewalk Grill donated a coupon for a free "treat" for each participant. Due to increased interest in boys' softball, we were able to respond and offer a Try Softball Program for children age 9-13 on Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Lisa Leard is leading the program which brings 10-15 children each week. We hope to start building boys back into the sport and set-up a couple of exhibition games for this group throughout the summer. We are also trying to get more youth involved with soccer and softball in a coaching and officiating role.

Due to the increase in Minor Soccer and Softball participation in Alberton, the WRSRC received requests for a Portable Toilet to be placed at the Soccer/ Ball Field at Alberton Elementary. Some evenings there are approximately 100 children using the soccer/ball field with no bathroom facility. The WRSRC hopes that Town Council will agree to fund this portable facility and see the importance of it to continuing successful soccer and softball programs. The total cost for 8 weeks will be approximately \$500.00.

The Learn to Run programs in the Western Region wrapped up with a Finale at the Mill River Rodd on June 22. The event drew 65 participants from Miscouche, Evangeline, Ellerslie, Lennox Island, O'Leary, Alberton, St. Louis, and Tignish. It was a fantastic way to wrap-up a very successful 10 week program! WRSRC partnered with Kids West in hosting the annual Bike Rodeo which focuses on bike safety for children ages 3-12. Paul Dalton from Paul's Bike Shop tuned up children's bicycles while Constable Renee Michiels taught the children proper traffic signals and Jacquie Lidstone spoke about the importance of helmets. We invited town council members to help out at the event; we were lucky to have Natasha Dunn helping with BBQ duties while Krystyna Pottier directed children through the obstacle course. This event drew approximately 30 children.

A multi-sport program is being offered from 9-12 each Tuesday at Jacques Cartier Arena. The program is for ages 6-12 and includes many activities including, softball, flag football, etc. The program is full to capacity with 25 children. We had a lot of interest in this program but we do not have the manpower to open it up to any more children.

The backyard day camp program is scheduled to start July 8. Working cooperatively with Mayor Mike and the support of MLA Pat Murphy, the Department of Education and the English Language School Board, we were able to gain access to Alberton Elementary School to offer this program. This will be the first time we have been able to use an English Language School Board facility during the summer months so we are looking forward to a positive experience. This program is also full to capacity with 30 children. The Get back to Biking Series will be offered once per week for 6 weeks and is being led by Terry Stone on the Confederation Trail. The program had 6 participants on the first outing and we are expecting the program to grow each week.

The WRSRC experienced difficulty with gaining public access and keys for the volunteer coaches and managers to the washroom facilities at Memorial Field this spring that caused a great deal of frustration and wasted manpower. Mayor Murphy said keys were made and some are still sitting on the desk not picked up.

**The motion was made by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Gallant and carried to pay for a portable toilet at the school field for soccer and ball.**

Mayor Murphy reported that the ball field was inspected by Mr. Quinn, from Charlottetown and he had a couple of minor recommendations and there will be new signage. John Lane and his group, Cascumpec Watershed Association planted trees at the ball field last week.

Mayor Murphy said someone needed to look after the concession stand for the 20-22 Under 16 games played in Memorial ball field and said it was up to council if they wanted a beer tent. Council discussed it and decided not to have a beer tent.

#### **Finance Report**

Councillor Gallant reported for finance in the absence of Councillor Cahill.

**The motion was made by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to pay bills in the amount of \$55,209.69.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to run an ad for Prince County Exhibition at a cost of \$53.00 plus HST in the Journal Pioneer.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Dunn to run a 4"X 1"X3" ad in the West Prince Graphic at a cost of \$99.12 plus HST for the Under 16 Girls games. The motion was not seconded.**

The fire hall loan was discussed and the following options were available from RBC. Option 1 - 5 year indication rate (same amortization) 3.57% with monthly payment of \$1,444.56, also keep paying (\$1,595.49) close to same would reduce amortization to 130 months (17 months savings). Option 2 - 10 year indication rate (same amortization) 4.33% with monthly payment of \$1,508.04. Keeping payment (\$1,600.72) close to same would reduce amortization to 136 months (11 months savings).

**The motion was made by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to lock the fire hall loan for 10 years with RBC and to keep the payment at \$1,600.72.**

Councillor Duggan left the meeting due to a conflict of interest for the next item.

**The motion was made by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Campbell and carried to approve Stanley Lane as the name of George MacNeill's private driveway.**

Councillor Duggan returned to the meeting.

The tenders for the playground equipment and included –  
Little Tikes PlayPower Option 1: \$13,063.04  
Little Tikes PlayPower Option 2: \$13,618.14  
Kangaroo Playgrounds Option 1: \$16,335.91  
Kangaroo Playgrounds Option 2: \$16,980.68  
Henderson Recreation Equipment Ltd Option 1: \$15,156.30  
Henderson Recreation Equipment Ltd Option 2: \$15,230.40.

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Campbell and carried to accept the quote from Henderson Recreation Equipment Ltd. for Option 2 for playground equipment pending approval on grants.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Dunn and carried to tender to get pricing for a sidewalk machine.**

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Alan Curtis congratulated council for the flower boxes on Main Street and mentioned sand on the west side of Main Street that needs to be removed. He said that starting Monday at the Old Stone Station the museum will be having a slideshow of historic information.

Tom Murphy said parking lots in Town have lots of noise and squealing tires. Tom Murphy said he has had a lot of people complaining. Tom said it's a serious policing issue and looks really bad with all the black marks and not one person caught for pulling circles and no one charged. Mayor Murphy said the RCMP would be contacted for more patrols.

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Gallant and carried to go to a committee of the whole.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Gallant and carried to return from a committee of the whole.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to adjourn the meeting.**