

**APPROVED MINUTES FROM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2014 AT 7:15 P.M.**

The regular Council meeting was held Monday April 14, 2014 at 7:15 p.m. with Mayor Murphy presiding and Councillors Pottier, Cahill, Duggan, Dunn and Campbell present also Tom Murphy, Alan Curtis, Cindy Chant- West Prince Graphic and staff Susan Wallace-Flynn. Councillor Gallant was absent due to an emergency.

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

**The motion was made by Councillor Cahill, seconded by Councillor Campbell and carried for the approval of the minutes from the last regular and annual council meeting held March 10, 2014.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Councillor Dunn asked council if they filled out the Community survey and said she has extra copies.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter was received from Up West Winterfest with a summary of the events.

**BUSINESS LICENSES AND/OR PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS**

A property development application was received from GIA Ltd. to replace the CMHC house located at 66 and 68 Elder Street where the house had burned.

**The motion was made by Councillor Cahill, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to approve the property development application from GIA Ltd. for a CMHC house.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Police Report**

Councillor Duggan reported for police. There were 161 hours of policing and 12 calls for service including 2 False Alarm, 2 Assault, 2 Mental Health Act, 1 Assault with a weapon, 1 Disturbing the peace, 1 Harassing telephone calls, 1 Fail to comply with an Undertaking, 1 off-highway Vehicle Act and 1 Fail to stop at an accident scene.

**Heritage Town Owned Buildings Committee**

Councillor Pottier reported that a grant was obtained to create three display or “story” boards depicting the construction, history, and persons associated with the station. This is in progress and is being done professionally by Sign Station in Summerside. Alan Graham and a small committee did the research for this project. It should be completed before the station opens for the season. It is hoped that the Parks and Trails Department will provide better signage on the trail to lead travelers into the Town.

Councillor Pottier said she had a site visit with a doctor interested in a rural practice. She said there was a local business owner interested in forming a committee to explore additional incentives to complement those offered by the province to attract physicians to come to West Prince.

### **Fire Report**

Councillor Pottier reported for fire. There were 12 calls for service which included - 2 motor vehicle collisions, 1 flue fire, 2 carbon monoxide calls, 5 medical first responder and 2 automatic fire alarms. Training: Basic Emergency Management - Jacquie Lidstone; Ice Rescue - Dennis Milligan, Jacquie Lidstone, Leonard Fraser, John Ellsworth; Incident Safety Officer - Tom Murphy, Stephen LeClair, Jason DeBay. Thanks to members of town council who attended the Basic Emergency Management Course at our hall. The instructors were very pleased with the amount of people who attended and hope to be able to have some more EMO courses in West Prince.

### **Fire District Update**

Councillor Pottier reported that at the March meeting council passed a motion that the administrator draft a contract for Montrose/Greenmount, Northport and Alberton Fire District for protection services to set out the time frame and the cost of services provided She said that this had been recommended by the Fire Marshal's office and the staff at Community and Cultural Affairs. Councillor Pottier asked the administrator to provide an update on the status of these contracts.

Mayor Murphy asked Councillor Cahill and Councillor Dunn to leave the room due to a conflict of interest.

The administrator reported several attempts were made to have a meeting on March 4, 2014 but they could not attend. On March 7, 2014 at 2 p.m. a meeting was held with representatives from Alberton Fire District Cletus Dunn and Maxine Rennie and representatives from Northport and Montrose/Greenmount did not attend. On March 10, 2014 a motion was made at the council meeting to increase the rates and enter a contract with the three parties as recommended by both the Fire Marshal's office and staff of Community and Cultural Affairs. On March 12, 2014 letters were sent to Alberton Fire District, Northport and Montrose/Greenmount with an offer for fire protection for 2014 and a copy of the contract for service, audited statement from MRSB, invoice and fire budget for 2014. The letter stated "Please sign and return the contract to the town office before March 31<sup>st</sup> to ensure uninterrupted service. When no contracts were returned by March 31<sup>st</sup> Susan reported that she made a number of follow up calls and as a result two contracts have been returned and one has made the first payment. The only contract not signed is from Alberton Fire District and Susan reported that she made calls to them on April 7<sup>th</sup>, April 9<sup>th</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor Pottier reported that the fire districts were provided with information about the increase in rates for 2014 before the contracts were sent out. Councillor Pottier said that she believed every reasonable effort was made to meet with and provide information to the fire districts. Councillor Pottier reported that she understands from the administrator's update that only two of the three fire districts have returned signed contracts indicating they wish to continue to receive fire protection services from the Alberton Fire Department, and the first payment had been received from one district. She said she understands that the Alberton Fire District has not returned a signed contract. She reported that we are now approximately 3 ½ months into the new year, and the Alberton Fire Department has continued to provide fire protection services to the Alberton Fire District in spite of the Town not having a signed contract for the provision of these services.

The Alberton Fire District dues have been \$65.00 for the past four years. Of the 22 districts listed in the PEI Fire Services Environmental Scan and Gap Analysis, only 7 districts and one "small residence" category in Tignish have a rate lower than Alberton. The remaining districts have rates that are the same or higher than Alberton.

Councillor Pottier said it is her understanding that the increase in dues for 2014 will result in an increase of approximately \$9.10 per property. It has been more than a month since the Alberton Fire District was advised of the increase in rates for 2014, and over four weeks since the contracts were sent out. She said she believes the Town has been more than patient in this matter.

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried that the administrator contact representatives of Alberton Fire District to find out why there was no response and to telephone or email and give a deadline of Thursday, April 17, 2014 to get it signed or Tuesday, April 22, 2014 for a registered letter and if not signed by then to call a special meeting.**

Councillors Dunn and Cahill returned to the meeting.

#### **Finance Report**

Councillor Cahill reported for finance.

**The motion was made by Councillor Cahill, seconded by Councillor Campbell and carried to pay bills in the amount of \$54,726.80.**

Copies of financial statements including balance sheets, income statements and trial balances for general and sewer until March 31, 2014 were distributed.

#### **Environment Report**

Councillor Campbell reported for Environment and asked Mayor Murphy to report.

Mayor Murphy said a meeting was scheduled for himself, Environment Chair and administrator to meet with Minister Sherry regarding the use of chloropicrin and lobster bodies.

Councillor Cahill thanked MLA, Pat Murphy for getting up in the house and asking questions about the use of chloropicrin and the impact it will have on the groundwater.

Council suggested writing a letter to MLA Pat Murphy to have him pursue it.

#### **Extending Town Boundaries**

Councillor Dunn reported that a meeting was held with John Chisholm and council. Councillor Dunn also thanked the maintenance man for fixing the pothole on Elder Street.

#### **Recreation Report**

Mayor Murphy circulated the recreation report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**The motion was made by Councillor Cahill, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to cover registration and mileage for Councillors Pottier, Dunn, Campbell and Duggan to attend the FPEIM meeting.**

There were only three voting delegates allowed from each municipality so Councillor Duggan said he will not vote.

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to apply to the Island Community Fund for upgrades to the Jacques Cartier Memorial Arena Inc.**

Councillor Pottier reported that her committee, the Mayor and administrator met on April 9, 2014 with the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief to review the proposed Fire Services by-law.

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to adopt the Town of Alberton Policy Statement for Administrative Fire Department Communications.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Campbell and carried that the town of Alberton Fire Services By-Law #2014-01 be read for the first time.**

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to approve the first reading of the Fire Services By-Law #2014-01.**

### **Hiring Policy**

**The motion was made by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Cahill and carried to approve the Hiring Policy.**

Council suggesting adding to the maintenance job description can be an asset if experience around heavy or farm equipment and also need Class 3A license to drive the fire truck.

**The motion was made by Councillor Pottier, seconded by Councillor Duggan and carried to adopt the maintenance job description with changes as suggested by council.**

Councillor Dunn said at 38 Dufferin Street the driveway is higher than the sidewalk. Councillor Dunn asked Susan for a report. An engineer at WSP said that prior to the construction of the sidewalk the front yard did not drain to the street but to a drainage swale to the left of the home. Councillor Dunn said that drainage should be put near the sidewalk. Mayor Murphy said the driveway is now dry.

**The motion was made by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Pottier and carried to give Jacques Cartier Memorial Arena Inc. the oil tank from the Hardy house.**

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

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Alan Curtis asked council to reconsider the motion to demolish the Hardy house. He said it should be reused for some good purpose and that the house next to Tom Murphy's should be demolished.

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