

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH, 2007**

The Town Council met in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall at Shelburne, Nova Scotia on Wednesday, December 5th, 2007 at 7:00pm.

Those present were His Worship Mayor P.G. Comeau, Deputy Mayor Tony Mahaney, and Councillors Elizabeth Acker, Alan Delaney, Bill Murray, and Bernard Nickerson.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Comeau.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mahaney and seconded by Councillor Murray, "Resolved that Minutes of a regular meeting of Town Council held on November 7th, 2007 be received and adopted as circulated". Motion Carried

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mahaney and seconded by Councillor Nickerson, "Resolved that Minutes of a special meeting of Town Council held November 14th, 2007 be received and adopted as circulated". Motion Carried

Doug Langley, Chair of the former Shelburne Centennial Committee came before Council with a written report pertaining to the disbursement of funds and prizes given to the Town for their Centennial Celebrations. Mr. Langley read from a report prepared for Town Council, giving details of events that had taken place regarding his decision in taking the prizes to the Centennial Dance and using them as door prizes. Considerable discussion followed with Councillor Delaney expressing concern with the procedures followed by the Centennial Committee and not following parliamentary procedure after a Motion had been made and seconded, as well as stating there is to be no closed door meetings with decisions made. Mayor Comeau commented he had not been fully aware of the Motion made at the Centennial meeting in transferring the unused prizes to the Loyalist Landing 2008 Committee, and noted that if Mr. And Mrs. Langley had voted at the meeting the Motion would have been defeated. Having said that the Mayor suggested that we learn from the mistake and work together. He thanked Mr. Langley for his report.

It was moved by Councillor Acker and seconded by Councillor Nickerson, "Resolved that the Correspondence be received as circulated". Motion Carried

The Correspondence was dealt with in the following manner.

The Mayor commented on a meeting held with Eleanor Smith a representative from the Shelburne County Archives and Genealogical Society, in their request for support and a financial contribution for their project pertaining to historical arts and heritage. Mrs. Smith noted that the Society would be doing various activities in 2008 and a \$100 monetary amount was discussed as well as possible in kind work from the Town. One possibility could be with the liability insurances coverage for the hosting of "Graveyard Tours", noting this would later have to be looked into before confirming. All Councillors agreed to provide a letter of support to the Shelburne County Achieves and Genealogical Society, and to look in the 2008/09 budget at providing a \$100 monetary contribution.

It was moved by Councillor Murray, and seconded by Councillor Reid, "Resolved that the Special Constable's Report for November be received". Motion Carried

It was moved by Councillor Murray, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Mahaney, "Resolved that the Parks and Recreation Director's Report for October be received". Motion Carried

Mayor Comeau welcomed the Deputy Clerk, Mrs. Henneberry to the Council Meeting.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mahaney and seconded by Councillor Murray, "Resolved that bills as approved amounting to \$283,383.68 be received and paid". Motion Carried

Mayor's Items

Mayor Comeau noted that the funds from the sale of the Nova Scotia Youth Centre are gone, and he would like to have support in approaching the RCMP to investigate the money and the scenario that took place. Mayor Comeau noted that the other four units were in agreement that the money from the sale of the former Nova Scotia Youth Centre, approximately \$550,000, was to be disbursed to the five units for economic development. The Mayor had received an email from Brian Holland asking the Town of Shelburne to table their claim and wait for South West Shore Development Authority to sell the former CFS Shelburne property, and SWSDA may get enough from that sale, to pay the Town their money after the legal action of OPI. The Mayor noted that he would like to have the money in trust, allowing the Town to draw interest from the money and if the Town is told that they must pay the money back, then it would be paid back. The Mayor also noted that the Liberal and NDP party are seeking an audit on the funds received by the South West Shore Development Authority. Councillor Delaney commented the Town should consult with the other four units that make up Team Shelburne. Councillor Reid mentioned that it was his thoughts that the NDP and Liberals were going to put enough pressure on the South West Shore Development Authority and was not in favor in engaging the RCMP on the Town's behalf, noting he was not sure it would speed anything up. Councillor Acker was in agreement that Team Shelburne, as a unit should pursue approaching the RCMP to investigate, as well as, the Premier and the Minister of Economic Development. She also noted that it would not be wise on the Town's part if they did not encourage the RCMP to investigate and to leave it only up to the NDP and Liberals to look after the Town of Shelburne. Deputy Mayor Mahaney commented that this was a County issue and it should be taken to Team Shelburne to initiate the investigation and if Team Shelburne was not interested then the Shelburne Town Council should approach the RCMP to further investigate. Mayor Comeau had noted that he had been told the funds had been used by SWSDA for something else. Councillor Reid commented that SWSDA had an entry for the funds of the former Nova Scotia Youth Centre, and it was told to him that SWSDA did not get a loan guarantee for leverage from the base. When those funds were freed up, the money plus interest would be released. After all discussions, the Mayor noted he would proceed by discussing this further with the other four units that make up Team Shelburne.

Mayor Comeau noted that he was not able to attend the tree lighting held in Gloucester this year. He had spoken over a speakerphone during the ceremony and it was noted that it had been the largest attendance to date and the Town of Shelburne was given a loud applause for the donation of the Gloucester Christmas Tree.

Mayor Comeau commented that Mr. Langley and himself had presented a cheque for over \$400 to the food bank, on behalf of the former Centennial Committee.

Mayor Comeau reported on emails he had received from the Weather Network regarding a lightening sensor. The Weather Network is interested in having Shelburne as a site, this would give national coverage, and the network would pay \$100 per month for the use of the facility. The Mayor indicated that the Town had three possible sites that would meet the requirements of a distance of 100ft from hydro lines, and having internet access. Mr. Locke had taken digital pictures of three sites, and they were being sent out to the weather network to analyze. The Sewer Treatment Plant looked to be the best possible site. The weather network would put a vertical antenna 4ft high and 3ft from that a GPS Antenna. This antenna would measure the electrical magnetic field and would update the Weather Network. The Councillors gave their support for continuing to correspond with the weather network.

Mayor Comeau noted he had booked the Men's Room at the Community Centre for Tuesday, January 15th at 7:00pm for a public meeting to discuss the possibility of constructing a rest stop and Visitor Information Centre at the Ohio Road/Highway 103 intersection. It is hoped that there will be many issues raised both pro and con.

Mayor Comeau reported on the vast amount of time consumed by the Water Treatment Plant upgrade project with visitations, meetings and issues that had arose.

He noted that with heavy rain and wind as well as the temperatures dropping it was difficult for the contractors to maintain the 15 degrees needed to dry out and set the concrete. The March 31st deadline was not encouraging, for the contractors are behind schedule.

Mayor Comeau noted that he would not be sponsoring fireworks between Christmas and New Years this year, and may not be able to attend the Levee, as there is a possibility he may be away during this time.

Mayor Comeau reported that they are down one truck for snow removal, and he had to authorize a one shot rental for a few hours for the removal of snow. The Town employees are handling things well, with piling up snow and going back later to remove.

Committee Reports were given

Councillor Delaney gave a brief verbal report on the Loyalist Landing 2008 Committee meetings, noting he had met with an insurance representative regarding acquiring directors and property insurance, and that he was part of the Loyalist Landing 2008 Committee float in the Christmas Parade. He had attended the Support the Troops Rally and noted that it was a huge success, and he had the honour of laying the wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. Councillor Delaney attended a Water Front Development Committee meeting and a Shelburne Historical Society meeting. On November 28th he had attended a meeting at Enterprise Square where five groups of organizations were asked to submit information to be sent in for the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia's Community Spirit Award and later he attended the Industrial Commission meeting, noting that the Commission now shares an office with the Chamber of Commerce.

Councillor Acker reported on the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on Nov. 21st. She noted that the commission is still continuing with the Albert Acker Memorial Soccer Field issue of ownership and will be having a further meeting with the Municipality of the District of Shelburne. It was noted that Rhonda Henneberry has accepted the position of Deputy Clerk Treasurer and this has created a vacancy at the Parks and Recreation Department. She further noted that an estimate of \$3,000. was received for the cleaning of the Cenotaph. The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 63 will be contacted to see if they will take on some fundraising. It is moved by Councillor Acker, seconded by Councillor Delaney,

Resolved that this Report and the Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on Nov. 21st, 2007 be received and adopted." Motion Carried

Councillor Nickerson reported on a meeting of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee, which took place on Nov. 15th. It was noted that Charles Thomas and Trevor Marriott were welcomed to the committee, and that he will be the recording secretary with Rhonda Henneberry acting as Chair. Tom Arnold had attended the meeting and gave a report on a meeting he had attended given by Workers Compensation Board. There were no incidents reported to the Occupational Health and Safety Committee. The Town office will be the next audit to be completed in December.

It was moved by Councillor Nickerson, seconded by Councillor Reid,

"Resolved that this Report and the Minutes of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee meeting held on November 15th, 2007 be received and adopted." Motion Carried

Councillor Nickerson reported on the meeting of the Shelburne Library Building Association held on November 28th noting that Kevin MacKay will be donating a photo of the Halifax Explosion to be on permanent display within the facility. The Library had a fire inspection completed and it was noted that three of the four security lights were repaired. The Library Association will be looking into a program through the RCMP called "Fighting Crime One Book at a Time" to encourage use of the library. Councillor Nickerson noted that a local retired Architect named James Graham would be helping with the expansion project at the Library. All of Mr. Graham's services will be donated to the Association. A meeting will be held in February for brain storming for the expansion, and a suggestion box will be set up in the library. The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on April 2nd, at 3:00pm. Councillor Nickerson then reported on the Western County Regional Library Personnel Committee meeting held on November 29th in Yarmouth. Merits for two staff persons and deferred salary were discussed, as well as work place violence training for 2008. The salaries of the Western County Regional Library were compared to that of the Nova Scotia Government and the Community College salary rates. It was noted that the Western County Regional Library staff were considerably lower on the pay scale. He further noted that there was some general funding discussions on borrowing done to meet the deficit.

Clerk's Items

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mahaney, seconded by Councillor Delaney, "Resolved that Town Council approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce for 2008/09 in the amount of \$1,092,541., and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the Borrowing Resolution". Motion Carried

The Clerk provided a draft List of Town Appointments for 2008. Mayor Comeau declared a conflict of interest and left the Chair and sat in the public gallery. Deputy Mayor Mahaney assumed the Chair. Councillor Acker noted that the S.R.H.S. representative on the Parks and Recreation Commission was Cole Abbott and not Cody Abbott as stated. It was moved by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Delaney, "Resolved that Council approve the List of Town Appointments as amended for 2008, and as attached to these Minutes as per schedule "A". Motion Carried. Mayor Comeau assumed the Chair.

It was moved by Councillor Reid and seconded by Councillor Murray, "Resolved that Town Council approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$1,000,000., for the improvements to the Water Treatment Plant, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the Borrowing Resolution". Motion Carried

The Clerk spoke about the tabled issue in regard to a letter of understanding pertaining to the new formula for shared services and a new governance model for Joint Services.

Mayor Comeau commented he was not able to present any new figures to compare, and it was unfortunate it could not be tabled. Councillor Reid commented that the Municipality of the District of Shelburne had put out an expression of interest and it was 20% higher than that already being paid through the Joint Services Board. Discussion followed on the cost of waste collection previously paid by the Town before the Joint Services Board. It was noted the Town of Lockeport has agreed by letter to use the new formula for shared services. It was moved by Councillor Acker, seconded by Councillor Delaney, "Resolved that Town Council indicate their willingness to sign a Letter of Understanding with respect to services provided under the Joint Services Board and to move forward with the new formula for shared services under the Joint Services Board." Voting for the Motion 6, voting against the Motion 1. Motion Carried. Mayor Comeau wishes to have his nay vote recorded.

Council was informed that the Port Authority meetings would now be held the first Wednesday of the month, just prior to the Town Council meeting. Because of this change, there was no Report to be given for the meeting held earlier today.

New Business

Councillor Delaney was looking for Councils support for the Loyalist Landing 2008 Committee as they were looking into the possibility of locations for a display near the intersection of the Ohio road and Hwy 103, presently where the rocky area is and lobster traps and a wharf had been. Deputy Mayor Mahaney had commented that there was not to be anything located 500 feet from the Highway that would distract the motorist. Councillor Delaney will do further research.

Councillor Nickerson brought forward to Council a letter received from Nick Pippy, representative from the School Board, in relation to the Shelburne Regional High School crosswalk. The School Board is requesting illuminated signs be installed. It was noted that the crosswalk is not located within the Town and although concerns have been expressed over the inadequate visibility of the crosswalk especially in the evening, members of Council supported the concept, but it is out of the jurisdiction of the Town of Shelburne.

Further Business

Councillor Reid brought forward his understanding that Mr. Lothar Mayer was displeased regarding the issue with the front steps to his business. The Clerk briefly explained that Mr. Mayer had come before him and he had a better understanding of the Town's issue, and had agreed to bear the cost of a legal agreement, which would be drafted by the Town's Solicitor.

Deputy Mayor Mahaney gave a brief update on the EMO Agreement. The financing will be based on population and the Municipal Clerks and insurance representatives are looking over the Agreement.

Deputy Mayor Mahaney gave an update on the Chamber of Commerce possibly taking over the Visitor Information Centre, next year. He has been in discussions regarding the finances and time it would take to operate the Centre each year. The Chamber of Commerce will be taking the information to the Committee to decide. Deputy Mayor Mahaney had hoped they would look seriously into this becoming a long-term agreement.

Deputy Mayor Mahaney commented on the "Support the Troops Rally", noting it was well organized and the organizers are to be commended for the outstanding job they did.

Deputy Mayor Mahaney brought forward a question on where the Planning Advisory Committee were on requesting civic numbering be displayed within the Town of Shelburne. He noted that he brought up this issue one year ago. It was noted that the Planning Advisory Committee had not met.

Councillor Delaney referred to a poster noting the Levee will be a joint venture with the Town of Shelburne, the Municipality of the District of Shelburne and the Loyalist Landing 2008 Committee. This Levee will help kick off the many events planned for the Town by the Loyalist Landing 2008 Committee. There will be a full slate of events planned and all members of the public are welcome to attend.

Councillor Acker would like to request Councillor Reid to look into the RDA funds for an Economic Development Officer for Shelburne. Councillor Reid noted that there were no funds available for an Economic Development Officer within the Town. Any ideas can be taken to the RDA through the Yarmouth office for the Town of Shelburne.

Councillor Acker congratulated the organizing committee for the Christmas Parade, thanked Mike Harris of Ohio, for donating the Town Christmas Tree again this year, and congratulated the Committee on the "Support Our Troops Rally".

Councillor Acker further encouraged the citizens of the Town of Shelburne to support the local businesses within the Town.

Councillor Nickerson informed that the stone from Afghanistan on display at the Town Office was donated from Frank Hollett.

Mayor Comeau commented on the Christmas float prepared by the Town employees noting they did an outstanding job.

Mayor Comeau in closing suggested all members of Council think about waste management and in particular disposal of organics. The present facility is not adequate and a new facility will have to be investigated. The approximate cost would be somewhere around five million dollars.

There being no further business at 8:20pm, on Motion the meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Town Clerk