

Town of St. George's
Regular Council Meeting

Minutes of a regular meeting of the council
of the Town of St. George's, held in the
Town Hall, December 7, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Mayor	D. Conway
Deputy Mayor	A. Tobin
Councillors:	S. Lee
	C. Foote
	G. Carroll
	F. Alexander

Also Present

Town Manager	R. Chant
Town Clerk	D. Woolridge

Public in Attendance

Two residents of the town

Privileged

Mayor Conway declared this portion of the meeting to be privileged and asked the public in attendance to step outside the room. After some internal matters were discussed, the residents were permitted to return.

Call to Order

Mayor Conway called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of Nov. 2, 2015

Regular Meeting of November 2, 2015

Motion #15 - 107 Foote/Tobin

Resolved that minutes of the regular meeting of November 2, 2015 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

Privileged Mtg. of Nov. 23, 2015

Motion #15 - 108 Foote/Lee

Resolved that minutes of the privileged meeting of November 23, 2015 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

Special Mtg. of Nov. 30, 2015

Motion #15 - 109 Foote/Tobin

Resolved that minutes of the special meeting of November 30, 2015 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

Business Arising

Keith Sullivan, President of FFAW-Unifor, was not contacted regarding his request to speak to council.

A meeting will be set up with Small Craft Harbours after Councillors Lee and Foote meet with the interested local boat owners regarding the slipway.

Delegations

One resident in attendance expressed concerns about the condition of a neighbors' property. This resident had written council in June with a formal complaint. Recently an old shed had been dropped on the property without a permit. The permit that had been issued in March specified a 16' x 16' garage to be erected. The resident would like to see the property cleaned up and the old shed removed. A letter will be sent to the owners notifying them that they didn't stay within the confines of the approved permit and no further development is to take place until they reapply

for a permit for the shed. They will also be asked to clean up the property within the next few days.

Committee Reports:

a) Finance

1) Motion #15 - 110 Tobin/Carroll

Resolved that general invoices totaling \$57,442.60 be approved for payment. All in favour. Motion carried.

2) Western Pump Services, Contract Payment No. 1 (Tobin's Road Lift Station), will be deferred to our next meeting until Ray speaks to **exp** about one councillor's concerns.

c) Fire Department

A meeting was held with the town manager, members of council, the fire department, and residents of Flat Bay with regard to providing fire fighting services to that area. Since then, Flat Bay residents have obtained pumps, tanks, and gear to enable them to respond to fires themselves.

d) Roads

Councillor Foote feels council should have a back-up plan in place in the event that one of our snowclearing personnel is sick. Our casual worker now has his heavy equipment course and will be trained on our equipment.

Building Applications

1) **Business Permit Application**

Councillor Foote left the room at this point.

Motion #14 - 111 Tobin/Alexander

Resolved to accept the business application for On Grade Construction Ltd. stating on the permit where the equipment will be stored. All in favour. Motion carried.

2) **Building Application - 35 Main Street**

An application for a permit was submitted to either build a home or place a modular home on 35 Main Street. The applicant needs to know if a permit would be approved before the property is purchased.

Motion #15 - 112 Alexander/Lee

Resolved to approve the building permit subject to town regulations. All in favour. Motion carried.

Councillor Foote re-entered the room at this point.

3) **Building Application - 31 Hayes Lane**

An application to build a home at 31 Hayes Lane was re-submitted stating the property would be used for agriculture/green house as well as a home to comply with zoning regulations.

Motion #15 - 113 Lee/Tobin

Resolved that application be approved. All in favour. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

1) **New Position**

Motion #15 - 114 Foote/Lee

Resolved that a new position of Lead Hand be created and assigned to Justin Chinn for a probation period of three

months effective January 1, 2016 with a job description to be drafted and agreed upon. All in favour. Motion carried.

Salary will be on par with the position of Superintendent of Works as outlined in the union contract. The union will be notified of the new position.

2) Permit to Apply for Crown Land

The Municipal Recommendation Form for Crown Land Applications within Municipal and Planning Area Boundaries that was submitted in September for the purpose of constructing an RV Park was re-visited.

Motion #15 - 115 Foote/Lee

Resolved that application be approved in principle providing it meets proper zoning regulations and approval from Crown Lands. All in favour. Motion carried.

The applicant would be responsible for costs for any re-zoning required.

3) Garbage Contract

Motion #15 - 116 Lee/Tobin

Resolved to award the garbage contract to Containerized Sanitation on a month-to-month basis. All in favour. Motion carried.

New Business

1) Budget 2016

Motion #15 - 117 Foote/Lee

Resolved to approve the Budget for 2016 of \$1,146,722.58 which includes a property tax mill rate of 5.5 and a \$100 increase in water rates.

In favour: Mayor D. Conway
Deputy Mayor A. Tobin
Councillors: S. Lee, G. Carroll, C. Foote
Opposed: Councillor F. Alexander
Abstaining: 0
Motion carried

2) Municipal Tax Structure

Motion #15 - 118 Tobin/Alexander

Resolved that the minimum business tax be increased from \$100 to \$300 per year.

In favour: Mayor D. Conway
Deputy Mayor A. Tobin
Councillors: S. Lee, F. Alexander, G. Carroll
Opposed: 0
Abstaining: Councillor C. Foote (conflict of interest)
Motion carried

Motion #15 - 119 Lee/Alexander

Resolved that a minimum property tax of \$300 be applied to each parcel of land owned.

In favour: Mayor D. Conway
Deputy Mayor A. Tobin
Councillors: S. Lee, F. Alexander, G. Carroll
Opposed: 0
Abstaining: Councillor C. Foote (conflict of interest)
Motion carried

Motion #15 - 120 Lee/Alexander

Resolved that council accept the Municipal Tax Structure for 2016 reflecting the decrease of the property mill rate to 5.5 mills, an increase to water rates of \$~~100~~, an increase in minimum business tax to \$300, and the minimum property tax of \$300 applied to each parcel of land. All in favour.
Motion carried.

3) Crown Lands Applications

a) Abengoa - temporary access to Maritime Link; b) Emera - development activity in protected water supply area; c) Maritime Link - permit to alter body of water (three bridges);

Motion #15 - 121 Foote/Tobin

Resolved that all applications be approved subject to government regulations. All in favour. Motion carried.

4) Town Scholarship

Only one application had been submitted for the town scholarship. Mayor Conway will award the scholarship to Tedra Tobin at the Cap and Gown ceremony.

5) Resignation of Town Manager

A letter of resignation had been submitted to council by Town Manager Ray Chant on November 25, 2015. Councillor Alexander expressed thanks and appreciation to Ray for what he's done for the town with regard to finances.

Motion #15 - 122 Foote/Tobin

Resolved that Ray be awarded severance pay for the nine years that he's entitled to. All in favour. Motion carried.

Incoming Correspondence

- 1) Two copies of the Annual Report for 2014-15 were tabled from the Municipal Assessment Agency.
- 2) Membership Renewal and related materials were received from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.
- 3) A letter had been received with complaints regarding bullying and lack of supervision at the RecPlex during general skating. Councillor Carroll will look into the matter.
- 4) An invitation from Appalachia High to the mayor to attend the Cap and Gown ceremony for the 2015 graduates on December 20, 2015. Mayor Conway will attend the event.
- 5) An email from the Bay St. George Chamber of Commerce looking for nominations for the Scholarship

Award for post-secondary education, along with an application and criteria for the scholarship.

- 6) An email from a resident asking council to close Tank Hill to vehicle usage or place blocks at the ends of the sidewalk as this is a very dangerous area to cross.
- 7) Another email from the same resident with concerns about the town's finances and recommendations to council.
- 8) A letter from Jamie Chippett, Deputy Minister for Municipal Affairs, informing us that copies of all newly issued title documents for Crown Lands within municipal boundaries will be forwarded to municipalities as recommended by the *Lands Act* Review Committee.

Adjournment

Motion #15 - 123 Foote/Lee

Resolved that meeting do now adjourn. All in favour.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m. to meet again on January 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk