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, May 8, 2017

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

Also Present
Town Manager         J. Butt
Town Clerk            D. Woolridge

Call to Order
Mayor Conway called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of April 10, 2017
Reg. Mtg. of Apr. 10, 2017
Motion #17 - 54  Alexander/Foote
Resolved that minutes of the regular meeting of April 10, 2017 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

Special Meeting of April 19, 2017
Sp. Mtg. of Apr. 19, 2017
Motion #17 - 55  White/Tobin
Resolved that minutes of the special meeting of April 19, 2017 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

Proclamation
Mayor Conway signed a proclamation making May 10, 2017 Municipal Awareness Day. Jocelyn informed council that the Grade 3 class from Our Lady of Mercy Elementary had participated in Municipal Awareness Day last week by visiting the Town Office and posing a number of questions about municipal government for their social studies class.

Committee Reports:

a) Finance
1) Motion #17 - 56  Alexander/Tobin
Resolved that general invoices of $17,934.85 be approved for payment. All in favour. Motion carried.

Councillor Foote was asked to leave the room.

2) Motion #17 - 57  Tobin/Carroll
Resolved that On Grade Construction Inv. #110 - Water Leak - in the amount of $3,222.88 be approved for payment. All in favour. Motion carried.

Councillor Foote re-entered the meeting.

3) and 4) Jocelyn updated council on bank balances and aged receivables. 73.50% of 2017 taxes have been collected to date; 98.06% of 2016 and 98.71% of 2015. 22.89% of our budget has been used to date

b) Projects
Plans for the Town Hall Renovations have been approved by Service NL for Fire and Life Safety as well as accessibility. The department is reviewing the transfer of funds originally allocated for the Fire Hall Extension.

c) Fire Department
An incident report was tabled from the Fire Department.
d) Stadium/Recreation
The monthly budget report for the RecPlex shows a deficit of $25,087.08 as of Apr. 17, 2017. There will be no ball hockey until the lighting has been changed out.

Three quotes had been received for installation of LED Fixtures at the stadium. Council agreed that Councillor Alexander would not be in conflict of interest if he remained in the room. The lowest bid came from Vision Electrical Ltd., who quoted $12,500 + HST to supply all labour, material and commissioning necessary to complete the electrical portion as per plans, specifications, and addendas (without metal guard).

Motion #17 - 58  Alexander/Foote
Resolved that we accept the lowest bidder, Vision Electrical Ltd. All in favour. Motion carried.

e) Roads
The condition of our gravel roads was assessed. Work will begin on the worst of these this week.

Building Applications
1) An application was reviewed for a ‘Living Willow Hedge’ with temporary poles to support the willow branches until they grow. Discussion followed as to whether this would be considered a fence needing the appropriate permit. Council agreed that it wasn’t a fence and did not warrant a permit.

2) The application to convert a store to a three bedroom apartment, that was deferred at last month’s meeting, was again presented to council.

Motion # 17 - 59  Alexander/Lee
Resolved to approve the application to convert a store to a three bedroom house, to be inspected before occupancy. All in favour. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business
Councillor Lee was asked to leave the room.

1) Request for Review of Decision - Tax Refund
A spreadsheet was presented to council with reference to the letter received last month. Apparently an assessor had visited the residence in July 2015, lowered the assessment, entered it in the Municipal Assessment’s system, but neglected to inform the Town. This would have resulted in a credit of $37.25 for 2015. The assessment again jumped for 2016, was re-assessed in October as a result of a Request for Review, the assessment lowered and a credit issued for $87.15 for October to December. If council decides to refund the difference for the whole of 2016, this would mean an additional $261.55.

Motion #17 - 60  White/Carroll
Resolved to give the resident a full credit of $298.80 for 2015 and the remainder of 2016.

In favour:  Mayor D. Conway
            Councillors A. White, G. Carroll

Opposed:  Deputy Mayor A. Tobin
            Councillors F. Alexander, C. Foote

Abstaining:  0
Motion defeated

Motion #17 - 61  Foote/Tobin
Resolved to issue a credit for 2015 of $37.25. All in favour. Motion carried.
2) Farm Road Extension
A letter will be issued to a resident who had been issued a permit to extend Farm Road and failed to follow through with the conditions. According to our lawyer, there is no expiry on the permit until the work is completed and the resident is still obligated. We have several options: council can order him to put in the road and bring it up to standard; we can take him to court; we can do the work ourselves and charge it to his account; or we can inform him that we will not provide snowclearing services as this is still private land.

New Business

1) Livestock Regulations - Brake’s Road
A verbal complaint has been received re livestock on Brake’s Road. Council decided to leave things as they are until an official complaint is received, but the resident will be notified to not expand any further.

2) Audit 2016
Motion #17 - 62 Alexander/White
Resolved to accept the Draft Financials for 2016 as presented. All in favour. Motion carried.

Incoming Correspondence

1) A donation request for the Children’s Wish Foundation 23rd Run the Rock Campaign.

Motion #17 - 63 Tobin/Lee
Resolved that we donate $25 to the Children’s Wish Foundation. All in favour. Motion carried.

2) A donation request from Easter Seals Newfoundland and Labrador.

3) Donation request from the Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital Foundation requesting support for their fundraising campaign toward a Pyxis Medicine Cabinet.

Motion #17 - 64 Alexander/Foote
Resolved that we donate $25 to the Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital Foundation. All in favour. Motion carried.

4) Donation request from the Stephenville Theatre Festival.

5) An email forwarded to us by the Town of Stephenville from the Government Purchasing Agency advising that, even though the Towns had established the BSG Regional Animal Control Board Inc. to provide animal control services, each municipality would be required to tender for the service of Animal Control Officer.

6) A publication from the Government of Canada - “Infrastructure Project Sign Design and Installation Guidelines.”

7) An email from BioMaxx WasteWater Solutions Inc. with attached Q1 Federal Wastewater Report - our flows for Q1 were 303 m3/day.

8) An amendment to a permit issued to NSP Maritime Link Inc. in April 15, 2017 extending the expiry date to October 15, 2017 for their Linear Development.

Outgoing Correspondence

1) Motion #17 - 65 Alexander/Foote
Resolved that approval be given to send letters to six residents re scrapped vehicles. All in favour. Motion carried.
2) Motion #17 - 66  Tobin/Alexander
Resolved that approval be given to send a letter to a property owner to have his trailer repaired or removed. All in favour. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion #17 - 67  Tobin/Alexander
Resolved that meeting be now adjourned to meet again on June 5, 2017. All in favour. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Mayor

Debra Woodridge

Clerk