

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION
Regular Meeting #360
28th March, 2016 at 7pm
Pugwash Village Hall

Minute Number 360

PRESENT

Roger Mundle (chair), Charlie Gould, Christie Blackie and Florence Batiot

RECORDING SECRETARY

Lisa Betts

CALL TO ORDER

360.1 The Commission of the Village of Pugwash met in the Board Room at the Pugwash Village Hall on 28th March, 2016. Chair Mundle called the meeting to order.

REGRETS

360.2 None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION

360.3 It was moved by Commissioner Blackie and seconded by Commissioner Gould that the agenda be adopted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION

360.4 It was moved by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Commissioner Blackie that the minutes of regular meeting 359, held February 22nd, 2016 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

360.5 Volunteer appreciation. After some discussion, the commissioners agreed that volunteer appreciation should be discussed with Communities in Bloom with the view of renewing a partnership with them to hold an appreciation event. It was noted that in a small community such as Pugwash, there is a danger in attempting to recognize just one person out of a large number of people who freely give many hours of their time every year.

PRESENTATION

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Waterfront Development Project (WDP) – Request for Proposals – Bill Mundle for Alex Parker

360.6 As the Request for Proposals for the project, which now includes much of the Multi-purpose Centre (MPC) plans, is being developed by MPC Chair and Municipal staff (see also Minute 360.8) and as the plans include a number of Village owned properties, the MPC committee was invited to make a presentation to the Pugwash Village Commission to be sure these plans are part of the Commission records.

Mr Bill Mundle reviewed how some of the parts of Waterfront Development Project became included, for example the fact that as the streets and sidewalks are due to be dug up for the water supply project, that would be a good time to replace the sidewalks with new, better designed and extended sidewalks - to include Durham and Church Streets. Mr Mundle gave a brief review of the rest of the project plans as have been presented to the public at a public meeting.

There was some general discussion on unsightly premises and poorly maintained roads.

The Village Commission made two requests: (1) to be sent the completed RFP for comment *before* it is submitted to the Municipality (2) to be sure the Village representatives on the WDP committee are kept apprised of any meetings as they are called.

OLD BUSINESS

Pugwash and Area Master Plan – Infrastructure Action Team – Municipal Water

360.7 There will be an Open House on April 7th. The venue is to be determined. There was some discussion about some confusing information in the community.

Pugwash and Area Master Plan – Multi-purpose Centre Action Team (MPC)

360.8 A Request for Proposals (RFP) is being written by Municipal staff and MPC Chair David Rickard. See also Minute 360.6

Pugwash and Area Master Plan – Tourism Action Team

360.9 The new supply of lapel pins has arrived. The Central Nova Tourism Association (CNTA) will be dissolved as of March 31st.

Pugwash and Area Master Plan - Collaboration and Communication

360.10 No report.

ad hoc committee for a new health care facility

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360.11 Commissioners Batiot reported that she had attended the most recent meeting; Tuesday, March 22nd. Commissioner Batiot commended co-chair Peter Lewis for his report printed in the village newsletter. The meeting was also attended by NS Health Authority (NSHA) Lindsey Peach. \$1.5 million has been approved by the province for study and design of the facility. A preliminary plan is to be ready for presentation to the NS Treasury Board by November 2016. Ms Peach is cognisant and sympathetic to the frustrations held locally that there is another delay to the project. It is suggested, though, that the Province's interest in the project is a positive sign. Ms Peach and the ad hoc committee will continue to meet regularly for the next several months.

Commissioner Batiot gave a brief report of the "Town Hall" meeting held at the high school on March 1st. It was generally considered to be a productive meeting, but with many feeling frustrated at another delay of the hospital project. It was noted that there had been good representation from Wallace and Oxford at the meeting.

Waterfront Development Committee

360.12 No more to report.

Gathering of the Clans/Burns Night

360.13 2016 is the 65th anniversary of the Gathering of the Clans. There has not been a Scottish theme for many years, so this year's the theme will be "Get Your Tartan On!". In keeping with the Scottish theme, Gaelic/Celtic performers Mary Jane Lamond and Wendy MacIsaac will be the headliners on July 1st. The registration forms for the sanctioned competitions and vendors have been released. There was some discussion about a beer tent at the festival. There are many practicalities and regulations that make a beer tent difficult (as HarbourFest has found over the years) but the coordinator said that if a large enough group could come up with a workable plan, it would be looked at.

Complaints Handling Policy

MOTION

360.14 It was moved by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Commissioner Batiot that the Complaints Handling Policy be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

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Shredding Services

360.15 This service has not been used heavily enough to warrant keeping it while losing the otherwise useful space the containers take.

MOTION

360.16 It was moved by Commissioner Blackie and seconded by Commissioner Gould that shredding services be discontinued.

MOTION CARRIED

HarbourFest Committee

360.17 There was some question as to when the HarbourFest committee usually meets. Commissioner Batiot said she could attend the HarbourFest AGM but could not commit to heavy involvement with the committee until it was better known when and how often they meet.

CORRESPONDENCE

Request for funding - Pugwash and Area Ground Search and Rescue

MOTION

360.18 It was moved by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Commissioner Batiot that the Village of Pugwash grant Pugwash and Area Ground Search and Rescue one thousand (\$1,000) dollars.

MOTION CARRIED

Tax exemption - Pugwash and Area Ground Search and Rescue

360.19 This service organization tax rate was reduced to residential last year. A tax exemption would bring this account into line with other service organizations in the area that are tax exempt.

MOTION

360.20 It was moved by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Commissioner Batiot that the Village of Pugwash exempt the Pugwash and Area Ground Search and Rescue of Village taxes.

MOTION CARRIED

Northumberland Community Curling Club – invitation to volunteer appreciation event

360.21 April 3rd. From 3-6pm. The commissioners will attend if possible.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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360.22 The Clerk was asked to explain the terms and conditions of the snow removal contact. The contact is the result of a tender issued and is in its second of a three year term.

MOTION

360.23 It was moved by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Commissioner Blackie that the Treasurer's un-audited report be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

360.24 The Clerk pointed out that the Gathering of the Clans (GOC) financials are not presented as part of the monthly Treasurer's Report as it has its own bank account, financial recording system and a year end of September 30th. The GOC financials, although closely associated with those of the Village are, however, separate and always used to be reported upon separately by the previous auditors. It was included in the Village report, but as a separate entity. The current auditors amalgamated the GOC into the Village audited annual financial report. This is awkward for all concerned, particularly as the year ends are different. The Clerk Treasurer/Event Coordinator asked the Commission to make a motion to officially sever the financial records of the Gathering of the Clans and the Village of Pugwash. This does not mean it does not remain a Committee of Council, but simply that its financial records continue to be kept separate from that of the Village. It remains a hope of the Commission that the GOC may sometime again become the responsibility of a separate committee, as it was for many years.

MOTION

360.25 It was moved by Commissioner Batiot and seconded by Commissioner Blackie that the finances of the Village of Pugwash and the Gathering of the Clans be kept separately.

MOTION CARRIED

Budget

360.26 There will be a budget meeting arranged for early May.

INFORMATION ITEMS

360.27 Tartan Day is April 6th.

360.28 The next Village Commission regular meeting will be on Monday, April 18th.

ADJOURNMENT

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360.29 The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm by Commissioner Blackie.

Respectfully submitted
Lisa Betts
Clerk Treasurer

Chair _____

Clerk Treasurer _____