

Public Meeting of Witless Bay Town Council
April 8, 2014

Attending: Mayor Sébastien Després, Deputy Mayor Dena Wiseman, Councillors Kevin Smart, René Estrada, Ralph Carey

Absent: Tommy Crocker, Terry Dunne

Recording: Geraldine Caul/Barb Harrigan

1. The meeting was opened by Mayor Sébastien Després at 7:30 p.m.
2. **2014-050** - Dena Wiseman/Kevin Smart
Be it resolved Council adopt the Agenda of April 8, 2014 as amended to include: **Auction** under Recreation a), to delete Item 6, **Presentations: Individuals/Delegations a) Ed Vickers (FORB)**, and add **FORB** under General Business h).
Motion carried unanimously.
3. **2014-051** - Dena Wiseman/René Estrada
Be it resolved Council adopt March 11, 2014 Minutes of Meeting as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.
4. Business Arising From Minutes:
 - a) Compiling a list of roads that are currently sub-standard, and a quote from the town's engineer to bring these up to standard - The quote hasn't been received by the town's engineer to date.
 - b) Standing offers from local contractors - Ralph Carey explained that for emergency purposes Council requested standing offer quotes from three local contractors for all of their equipment. He said the purpose is for Council to know up front what is available and at what cost.
5. General Business:
 - a) Notice of Motion - Ratification of the proposed regulations on permits. Sébastien explained that these are regulations that were brought to Council in November for review, and that this is a Notice of Motion that they will be ratified at the next public meeting.
 - b) Notice of Motion - Final amendments to Town Plan. Sébastien reported that Council can make some changes if they were previously suggested by the Town, the Planner or the Planning Consultation Committee. He explained that if the changes are already gone through a public consultation process, our Town Plan will not be delayed.
 - c) Notice of Motion to temporarily suspend Motion #2011-113, "**Be it resolved as of October 11, 2011, Council will not be accepting any future amendments for any development in the Town until the Town Plan Review is completed and adopted.**" Sébastien said Council has to do this since we will be proposing changes to the Town Plan. He said Council has two requests for amendments relating to private property on John Shea's Grove Road and The Avenue (Parish House), and this was a Notice of Motion that motion #2011-113 will be suspended for next month's public meeting only.
 - d) Motion to ratify the Public Works Committee's recommendations relating to road signs, as mapped by Council. Ralph Carey explained that the town is in need of speed limit signs, and indicated what limits were decided on and where these signs should be placed.

2014-052 - Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council obtain quotes and purchase road, traffic, and directional signs to be installed as mapped by the public works committee and Council.

Discussion: A brief discussion between Council and the public took place on this topic with a suggestion that Council ask the RCMP to do regular surveillance. It was decided that Council would leave the finalizing of speed signs to the discretion of public works.

Motion carried unanimously.

- e) Emergency Response Plan - The Government is committed to having a province-wide Basic 911 service established by December 2014. Staff is to follow up with the Department of Municipal Affairs to ensure all applicable forms are completed.

- f) Gas Tax Secretariat - Approval of Track Road Project & signage requirement -

2014-053 - Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council request that Municipal Affairs increase the town's Gas Tax funding to include the cost of an Economic Action Plan Sign.

Motion carried unanimously.

- g) NL Environmental Awards - Sébastien noted that the deadline to submit the forms is May 1, and if anyone could think of someone or group/organization to nominate, they should let the office know.

2014-054 - Dena Wiseman/René Estrada

Be it resolved Council nominate the Witless Bay Heritage Committee for the NL Environmental Award.

Motion carried unanimously.

- h) FORB - Dena Wiseman explained that Council is unable to consider the submission until the existing court case is resolved, and suggested this item be deferred until that time.

2014-055 - Dena Wiseman/Kevin Smart

Be it resolved Council defer any further consideration of the FORB submission until all legal matters with this group are resolved.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Committee Reports:**

Northeast Avalon Regional (NEAR) Plan -

- a) Minutes of February 17, 2014 - Sébastien reported that the NEAR Plans Oversight Committee met and began the process of the NEAR Plan. This Plan replaces what was the St. John's Urban and Rural Regional Plan. He explained that Geraldine and the town planner, Reg Garland would sit on the Technical Committee. It was noted that smaller towns had the same vote as cities. Sébastien said even though Reg Garland represents the towns, he doesn't receive payment from the Town of Witless Bay. He explained that the preparation of the Regional Plan will affect the timing of our town plans, but that Municipal Affairs hired additional staff to see them completed quicker.

Recreation -

- a) Meeting with BBBAA (Re: Recreation infrastructure in Witless Bay & Auction) - Ralph reported that Council met with the BBBAA and that Witless Bay is next in line to be eligible for infrastructure. He said it was confirmed that the town can get funds for other things besides infrastructure, but we have to first identify what our priorities are and to let them know.

The auction is scheduled for May 10 and Council needed to make a decision if they are purchasing a table for this event.

2014-056 - Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council purchase a table for the BBBA auction.

Motion carried unanimously.

b) Group ratification request:

2014-057 - Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council ratify the BBBA as a group that Council recognizes to be considered for financial support.

Motion carried unanimously.

Community Enhancement Committee -

a) Sébastien vacated the Chair at 8:20 to discuss this item, and was replaced by Dena Wiseman. Sébastien explained that they met with representatives of ACOA to discuss the list of priorities the Enhancement Committee is working on. He said one of the items discussed was signage and ACOA being the best resource to approach for this. Sébastien explained that the town needs a Comprehensive and Economic Plan, and that there is a 3/4 cost to the town for a Consultant Advisory Service.

2014-058 - Sébastien Després/Kevin Smart

Be it resolved Council apply for the Consultant Advisory grant, which is 3/4 costing for a maximum of \$5000 + HST) and begin the process.

Motion carried unanimously.

b) Signage - Sébastien said he spoke to ACOA about signage and explained that the Town has two sites where we need land for sign placement. He announced that the Town has prepared two Crown Land applications for this purpose. He said the third place is on Dean's Road, south of the old track.

2014-059 - Sébastien Després/Ralph Carey

Be it resolved Council make application to Crown Lands to acquire three parcels of land for signage.

Motion carried unanimously.

c) Adding a door to the tourism chalet on Lower Pond -

2014-060 - Sébastien Després/Ralph Carey

Be it resolved Council add a door to the front of the existing tourism chalet.

Motion carried unanimously.

d) Mapping Initiative - Sébastien reported that the Community Enhancement Committee has started a community mapping that would showcase the town's interest points, such as things to highlight on a map for residents and visitors.

e) Kinsmen community clean-up - Sébastien announced that the Kinsmen clean-up is scheduled for May 10. He said they plan on making a huge puffin out of the garbage bags, and that the Town will start advertising for this project very soon.

f) Car wrecks - Sébastien said that at every meeting of the Community Enhancement Committee there were discussions on car wrecks. He indicated it to be a complicated issue due to a number of people holding the cars for specific reasons. He felt the best solution offered so far is in May

the Town will provide residents with names of contractors who collect car wrecks and pay the owners.

2014-061 - Sébastien Després/Kevin Smart

Be it resolved that during May month the Town provide residents with names of contractors who are available to collect wrecks and compensate the owners.

Motion carried unanimously.

Heritage Committee -

- a) Cultural Economic Development Program Grant application - Sébastien explained that the group of Folklore Students who are coming to Witless Bay will work with the Heritage and the Community Enhancement Committee to identify historic and heritage structures in the community.

Sébastien returned to the Chair at 8:40 p.m.

O'Connor 50+ -

- a) Sébastien said 50+ Club wanted to meet with Council for the following reasons: to see if they could begin storing their furniture and other items in the new recreation building, to have Council assist them with their schedule, as well as to determine an expected opening date. Sébastien said they will meet with the 50+ Club, but that Council can discuss their request to move their equipment and things at this meeting. Geraldine informed Council that the town's insurance company does not yet cover the building, that the contractor's insurance does, and will until the building is completed, and that the Town doesn't have a key to the building while their insurance holds coverage.

Finance -

- a) Cash flow analysis report and payables presented for information only.
- b) Snow clearing logs –

2014-062 - René Estrada/Ralph Carey

Be it resolved Council approve snow clearing logs for payment.

Motion carried unanimously.

- c) Residential Tax Agreement - Council moved into privilege session for this item at 8:50 p.m.

Council re-opened the public meeting at 8:55 p.m.

2014-063 - René Estrada/ Ralph Carey

Be it resolved Council enter into a tax agreement with a private resident due to a special circumstance.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works & Compliance -

- a-b) Request to re-zone parish property & John Shea's Grove Road - Sébastien explained that there were requests to have the following land re-zoned: the rectory, which was going up for sale, and John Shea's Grove Road. He said this is the reason Council will be suspending motion #2011-113 under General Business c) for the month of May only. Sébastien said Council will meet with a parish representative to determine what they plan on developing on this site.

- c) Correspondence regarding pavement cutting - Sébastien said a resident had water problems which resulted in loss of water, and the pavement to be cut. He said given the town policy, Council was notified it will be cut and replaced.
- d) Correspondence regarding flooding on Tamarack Drive - There was a brief discussion on flooding occurrences on this road the past winter. It was noted the subdivision developer had issued restricted covenances to all who purchased lots in this subdivision, and if anyone went outside the covenant and contributed to or caused flooding, they would be responsible for repairing damages incurred.
- e) Dept. of Works Services & Transportation: Ice Control materials for 2014-2015 - Presented for information purpose only.
- f) **2014-064** - Ralph Carey/René Estrada
Be it resolved Council approve in principle application to operate hair styling salon on 37-41A Gull Pond Road, subject to approval from Services NL and the Witless Bay Fire Department.
Motion carried unanimously.
- g) Sébastien vacated the chair at 9:11 p.m. and left the chamber for all discussions on item g.
2014-065 - Ralph Carey/Kevin Smart
Be it resolved Council approve application to expand parking lot for business on 93-97 Harbour Road.
Motion carried unanimously.

Sébastien returned to the chamber and Chair at 9:13 p.m.
- h) **2014-066** - Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman
Be it resolved Council approve application for residential dwelling on Harbour Road, subject to approval from Services NL.
Motion carried unanimously.
- i) **2014-067** - Ralph Carey/René Estrada
Be it resolved Council approve applications for residential developments subject to approvals from Service NL on:
14 Ocean View Drive
24 Ocean View Drive
16 Country Path Drive
Motion carried unanimously.
- 7. **2014-068** - Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman
Be it resolved Council adjourn the public meeting at 9:15 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.