

Public Meeting of Witless Bay Council  
Town Hall - 7:30 p.m.  
December 9, 2014

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

Recording: Geraldine Caul & Barb Harrigan

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1. Mayor Sébastien Després called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **2014-322** Ralph Carey/Kevin Smart  
Be it resolved Council adopt the agenda as amended to delete #6 (d).  
**Motion carried unanimously.**
3. **2014-323** Dena Wiseman/Ralph Carey  
Be it resolved Council adopt the November 13, 2014 as presented.  
**Motion carried unanimously.**
4. Business Arising from Minutes:
  - a. Town Plan - Sébastien explained that due to a serious allegation made by a member of the public at the last meeting of a possible conflict of interest against three members of council, the adoption of the Town Plan was postponed and consultation was made with Municipal Affairs.

Mayor Després confirmed that this has been investigated and a unanimous decision has been made that there is no conflict of interest. The amendment to rezone properties to residential was previously decided, voted on and adopted by a previous council a number of years ago. Sébastien explained that the amendment today has nothing to do with that, but that Council is now voting on changes that this Council made in the past months.

**2014-324** Ralph Carey/René Estrada  
Be it resolved Council adopt the Town Plan 2014-2024.  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

5. New Business:

- a. Fire Department Rescue Unit - René reported that the Fire Department has been approved for a new rescue truck. He said this is a 90/10 government funded project (90% by the Province and 10% by the fire department).

**2014-325** René Estrada/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council accept the lowest bid of \$214,191.97 from Metalfab for the fire rescue unit.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Protected Road Zoning Regulations - Sébastien explained that the Government is doing a review of the regulations for the purpose of establishing building controls on protected roads to ensure public safety, traffic efficiency and to provide for consistent development. They are seeking input from municipalities and said Council had until December 21 to make submissions.
- c. Recycle My Cell Project - The Canadian Wireless Telecommunication Association (CWTA) is looking for a drop off point for recycling cell phones. Council will be looking into this in the new year.
- d. Tourism, Culture & Recreation - Sébastien announced that the Town has received a Community Recreation Development Grant for \$5000 and that the Town is looking forward to putting this money to good use at the recreation grounds.

6. Committees:

***Finance:***

- a. Income statement/Payables - René reported that this was provided to detail the town's expenditures for the past month.
- b. Quote for 2084 Audit -

**2014-326** René Estrada/Kevin Smart

Be it resolved Council accept the quote of \$3650 for the Town's 2014 Audit.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. Southern Shore Arena - Deputy Mayor Dena Wiseman explained that the Southern Shore Arena has addressed the concerns Council put forward to their Board, and as a result, she recommended the Town contribute the same amount given last year (\$6,527).

**2014-327** Dena Wiseman/René Estrada

Be it resolved Council contribute \$6,527 to the Southern Shore Arena towards operational costs.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

d. This item was deleted from the agenda.

e. Snow clearing invoices/logs -

**2014-328** Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council pay both invoices for snow clearing services.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

f. Clarke's Trucking invoice for septic disposal installation on recreation grounds - Ralph reported that Council doesn't have final approval from Services NL. He recommended Council hold off on making payment until approval is given.

**2014-329** Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council defer payment until approval is given by Services NL.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

g. Budget 2015 - René gave a brief explanation on the 2015 budget:

- \* The Town exceeded the snow clearing budget by about \$27,000 so there is an increase this year of \$40,000 to cover the deficit of last year;
- \* Increase in salary of \$18,300 - added because Council should hire extra help during the summer months to maintain the town;
- \* Increase of \$15,000 to Community Improvement & Development for signage, maintaining recreation grounds, etc.

Tax Structure:

- \* Increase of 1 mill for retirement homes;
- \* Add a \$25 application fee for Crown Land applications;
- \* Increase subdivision lot fees from \$200 per lot to \$300 per lot.

**2014-330** Ralph Carey/Kevin Smart

Be it resolved Council adopt the 2015 Budget and tax structure as presented.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

***Community Enhancement Committee:***

a. Tidy Towns - Sébastien reported that the Community Enhancement Committee will be starting preparations for the 2015 Tidy Towns competition, and that the Town has

received an invitation to participate in 2015 National Edition (Communities In Bloom) as well. He said the town will be participating both competitions.

- b. Tourism Plan - Sébastien explained that the Town is in receipt of the draft Tourism Plan and Council will be meeting with the consultant next week.

***Public Works & Compliance:***

- a. Residential dwelling on Gallows Cove Road - Ralph Carey noted that the applicant failed to complete the required meters for setback from the road.

**2014-331** Ralph Carey/René Estrada

Be it resolved Council **defer** application to develop residential dwelling on Gallows Cove Road due to an incomplete application.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Residential dwelling on Lot 17 Tamarack Drive - Ralph explained that he did a site visit but because the applicant failed to provide a property marker, he was unable to determine the lot to be developed.

**2014-332** Ralph Carey/Kevin Smart

Be it resolved Council **defer** application to develop residential dwelling on Lot 17 Tamarack Drive due to applicant's failure to identify property to be developed.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. Residential dwelling on Dunn's Lane -  
Ralph Carey and Dena Wiseman both declared conflict of interest due to the applicant's property line abutting their property, and because they had made an offer to purchase this property.

**Due to lack of quorum, Council was unable to vote on this application.**

- d. Garage on Carey's Road - Ralph noted that the applicant failed to complete the required meters for setback from the road.

**2014-333** Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council **defer** application to construct a garage on Carey's Road due to an incomplete application.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- e. Crown Land application - Gallows Cove Road

**2014-334** Ralph Carey/Dena Wiseman

Be it resolved Council **deny** the Recommendation for Crown Lands form due to unclear ownership of land.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- f. Request to have pole light relocated on Dunn's Lane - Ralph explained that there are several private lights and one public light in this area and that it would be more effective if the lights are spaced. He said there would be no problem with relocating the light. Ralph also mentioned that lights on the Southern Shore Highway in the vicinity of a local business were needed.

**2014-335** Ralph Carey/René Estrada

Be it resolved Council approve relocation of light on Dunn's Lane and to add two new lights on Southern Shore Highway (once they are identified by number).

**Motion carried unanimously.**

7. **2014-336** Dena Wiseman/Kevin Smart

Be it resolved Council adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

**Motion carried unanimously.**