

Council Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2023
Town Hall

IN ATTENDANCE

Elaine Nash, Kevin McDonald, Brenda Young, F. David Power, Ian Goudie, Doug Dean, Stacey Dean

REGRETS

None

MEETING CHAIR

Elaine Nash

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion # 2023-01-09-373: Ian Goudie; Doug Dean

Adopt the agenda of January 9, 2023 with the addition of "parking lot", "Herb Hawco's" and "hall rental dishes" under round table.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion # 2023-01-09-374: Kevin McDonald; Brenda Young

Adopt the minutes of the December 12, 2022 meeting.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

FINANCES

a) Monthly Financial Report:

Motion # 2023-01-09-375: Brenda Young; Kevin McDonald

Adopt the financial report for the month ending December 31, 2022.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

Concerns were noted regarding the Trail Committee newsletter cost, as is discussed further under Trail Committee Reports.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Reports

1) Policy and Procedures Committee: Nothing to report.

2) Infrastructure Committee: Nothing to report.

3) Recreation Trails Committee: Council expressed concerns regarding the cost of the Trail Committee newsletter, as was discussed in the previous meeting. It was agreed that this was a one-time expenditure and reiterated that future updates would be included in the Town's quarterly newsletters for cost efficiency. It was noted that the Committee planned to meet the following week to review the submitted RFP's. Mayor Nash emailed the Committee Chair to request that the Committee review the bids and submit a recommendation to Council during February's public meeting. It was suggested that Council meet with the Committee to discuss progress and protocols to ensure everyone is on the same page and proper procedures are followed.

4) Come Home Year Committee: Nothing to report. It was noted that the Committee will begin meeting soon, but the development of the tax structure is the priority right now.

5) Finance Committee: The Committee will meet on January 23rd to review the assessments and begin to determine the tax structure and mil rate. The Town Clerk will prepare the draft budget prior to the meeting.

6) Fire Department Report: Nothing to report.

7) Town Clerk Report: MNP submitted a letter to Council advising that they are no longer providing audit services to Towns. The Town Clerk is in the process of soliciting quotes from other auditing firms. The Town Clerk advised of a taxpayer who is paying poll tax, but also was paying Eastern Waste independently as they were being billed in assumption that they were outside the town boundary. Council agreed to credit the taxpayer \$200 and instructed the Town Clerk to advise the taxpayer to cease paying Eastern Waste directly going forward.

Motion # 2023-01-09-376: F. David Power; Doug Dean
Credit taxpayer \$200 for Eastern Waste fee paid independently.
All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

Council discussed a response from a business owner regarding business tax in arrears. Council agreed to hold in good faith that the business will provide payments as proposed, and agreed to reassess in the coming months.

The outgoing President of the Salmonier 50+ Club expressed thanks and appreciation to Council for their many years of support to the Club.

b) Town Plan Public Hearing: The Town will be holding a public hearing on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Dan Noseworthy has been retained as Commissioner and Anna Myers will be in attendance.

c) Budget 2023: The Town Clerk will prepare a draft budget prior to the Finance Committee meeting and requested that Councillors email the office with suggestions for inclusion in the budget. It was noted that the Minister's Office granted Council an extension until January 31st for submission of the budget.

d) Committee Appointments: Council appointed the Committees for 2023. The appointed positions on each Committee remain unchanged.

Fire Department:

Fire Chief: Dave Parrott (on extended leave of absence)

Acting Fire Chief: Eddie Pike

Garden Committee:

Chair: David Sorenson

Vice Chair: Rob Barr

Treasurer: Sandra McDonald

Secretary: Catherine Shannon

Council Rep: Ian Goudie

Recreation Trails Committee:

Chair: Anne Pratt

Vice Chair/Council Rep: Ian Goudie

Council Rep: F. David Power

Secretary: Robyn Hickey

e) Disclosure Statements: Council completed their annual disclosure statements and submitted to the Town Clerk to be kept on file at the office.

f) Important Dates 2023: Council discussed the list of important dates for 2023, as provided by Mayor Nash. It was noted that Council is only required to hold 10 meetings per year. Council agreed to not hold meetings in July and August, unless unforeseen circumstances require an in-person meeting.

Motion # 2023-01-09-377: Ian Goudie; Brenda Young

No public meeting for July and August 2023.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

ROUND TABLE

Council discussed the issue of water running across the parking lot from the septic field extension. It was noted that the problem appears to be getting worse with the high volume of rain in previous months. Council requested that the Town Clerk procure two caution signs alerting the public to the slippery conditions. Ditching may be required in the spring to divert the water away from the area. Council agreed to monitor the situation closely.

It was noted that there is a significant amount of water running across the road in Mitchell's Brook causing ice build-up. The water is running from a resident's property to the ambulance depot, posing significant hazard to the First Responders. The Town Clerk will contact the St. Joseph's Depot.

Council discussed the dishes in the Town Hall and noted that many renters are not using the dinnerware that is provided. Council instructed the Town Clerk to let renters know they are to use the dishes provided to eliminate

disposable dishware. It was suggested to post the dishwasher instructions and to create a flyer to distribute when the renter picks up the key. It was also reminded that we should lead by example.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 13th at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion # 023-01-09-378: F. David Power; Ian Goudie

The meeting is adjourned.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.