

MINUTES*
MILTONVALE PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
March 28, 2006

The annual meeting of the Miltonvale Park Community Council was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, in the basement of the Winsloe Lions hall.

Members present: Gordon Aten – Chairperson, Don Aitken – Vice-Chairperson, Brian Andrew, Dean Dollar, Gail Ling, Sheila MacKinnon, Betty Pryor

Members absent: Nil

Judy MacDonald – Administrator and approximately 20-25 residents were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:

Chairperson Gordon Aten called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He then asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA:

Chairperson Gordon Aten presented the agenda as was circulated.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2005:

Chairperson Gordon Aten presented the minutes of the March 28, 2005, annual meeting, as circulated. He noted that they were approved by Council and did not allow opportunity for questions or discussions.

PRESENTATION OF CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chairperson Gordon Aten read his report as was circulated. No opportunity was provided for questions or discussion.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Planning Board – Councillor Betty Pryor (Planning Board Vice-Chair) went over her report that was included in the meeting package.

George Piercey asked if Council received a permit for the building at the community park. He

was advised that an application has not been made but will be and it will be reflected in the 2006 report.

Community Projects – Councillor Dean Dollar briefly outlined his report that was included in the meeting package.

Queen’s County Landfill – Councillor Don Aitken indicated that a report was circulated. He mentioned that traditionally Island Waste Management Corporation (IWMC) did water testing on 28-30 wells but it has increased to approximately 40. Jacques Whitford prepared a report on the monitoring wells and no problems were recognized. There is a draft “closure plan” in place for the landfill.

When asked if wells were still being tested, Councillor Aitken responded that they were.

EMO – In Gary Robbins’ absence, residents were advised that a copy of his report was included in the meeting package. It was confirmed that Miltonvale Park residents go to Bluefield High School for emergency shelter.

Communities 13 Inc. – Councillor Don Aitken noted that the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2005, were circulated in the meeting package. The Income Statement for July 1, 2005, to February 28, 2006, was also circulated. He mentioned that the facility itself is not making a lot of profit, and it is still underfunded by approximately \$300,000.

Community Shelter – Councillor Sheila MacKinnon mentioned that she had pictures of the building should anyone wish to see them. She noted that the building was funded 1/3 municipal, 1/3 federal and 1/3 provincial. Councillor MacKinnon confirmed that the cost would be approximately \$107,000 and that it would be within the budget of \$40,000 (Miltonvale Park’s portion).

Electoral Process – Councillor Gail Ling reported that she and resident Shari MacDonald were selected by the Council Chair to review the election process and make a recommendation to Council. She mentioned that a copy of the report was in the meeting package. Councillor Ling indicated that they were gathering information and would appreciate residents contacting them for input.

The meeting adjourned and resumed after a short break.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2005:

Councillor Don Aitken indicated that the statements for the year ended December 31, 2005, were circulated in the meeting package. He then opened the floor for questions.

John MacKinnon inquired as to the difference in the assets between 2004 and 2005. Councillor Aitken explained some of the differences and referred to other sections in the document.

George Piercey asked about the \$200,000 from the IWMC regarding the landfill. Councillor Aitken indicated that it was in trust and not part of the assets.

John MacKinnon questioned some of the amounts stated on page 2 of the report. It was clarified that the Community Development amount of \$8,581 was for the shelter design and for CBCL to prepare a proposal to service Sleepy Hollow area. It was noted that the monies for the shelter design would fall under the infrastructure program and is entitled to 2/3 funding. CBCL's proposal would not be part of the program. The 30% increase paid to the administrator was because 2004 was based on ten hours/week whereas the 2005 was based on an extra five hours/week if required.

In response to questions regarding the community pasture, it was not confirmed as to when the rental agreement would run out; however, it was mentioned that a rental fee of approximately \$2,200/year was received. After further discussion, Chair Aten told Mr. MacKinnon that the community pasture will be reviewed and discussed by Council.

Councillor Aitken briefly went over pages 3 and 4 of the report.

Arnold MacRae expressed concern that the liability insurance seemed low. Councillor Aitken explained that the municipality has \$2,000,000 coverage and Council is looking at adding liability insurance for councillors.

In answer to questions, Councillor Aitken indicated that the \$37,000 budgeted under park maintenance was basically for the municipality's portion of the new building. Councillor Aitken also went over the office equipment, professional fees, and the rink amounts.

There being no further questions, Chair Aten went to the next agenda item and turned the meeting over to Councillor Brian Andrew, Finance Chair.

PROPOSED BUDGET 2006:

Councillor Andrew indicated that there is Finance Committee comprising of Councillor Ling, Councillor Aitken and himself with Chair Aten as ex-officio. The Finance Committee met, put forth a proposal to Council, made changes, and is seeking approval by the residents.

Moved by Councillor Brian Andrew, seconded by Councillor Gail Ling, that the administration amount of \$49,872.00 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Andrew Thompson asked if the minutes would reflect that this information was not made available to the residents prior to the meeting. He expressed concern that residents are not able to have an opportunity to review information prior to coming to the meeting and voting. Chair Aten indicated that his comments will be noted.

Councillor Andrew explained that the \$2,000 proposed is because Council is looking at acquiring liability insurance for the councillors. It was proposed in previous years but not obtained. He also noted that the office expenses are up slightly from the actual of 2005 because stationery with the new logo will be purchased.

George Piercey commented about the professional fees. Councillor Andrew indicated that he hoped that it would not be spent but one never knows what development issues may occur.

John MacKinnon asked about the difference in administration contract. Councillor Andrew explained that there were special projects in 2005 and the year was busier for the administrator.

George Piercey expressed concern that the minutes of the last annual meeting singled out those who voted against motions. He did not feel that one should be singled out unless he/she requests that it be noted. Councillor Andrew agreed that motions should only reflect the number of nays unless asked to have it noted.

Moved by Councillor Brian Andrew, seconded by Councillor Betty Pryor, that the PEI government administrative fees for property assessment and property tax services amount of \$3,612.00 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

It was noted that 2006 is the second year that this fee has been collected.

Moved by Councillor Brian Andrew, seconded by Councillor Dean Dollar, that the amount of \$15,000.00 for planning services be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Councillor Andrew explained that it is hoped the Official Plan would be finished in 2006, CBCL will do a review of the water situation in Sleepy Hollow area, and there will be training and a follow-up regarding the EMO Plan. When asked about the website, residents were advised that it is to be updated.

Moved by Councillor Brian Andrew, seconded by Councillor Dean Dollar, that the amount of \$27,886.32 for community park and community projects be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Councillor Andrew briefly went over the proposed amounts. He explained that the newsletter is still in the budget and it is hoped that one or two would go out in the year. It was questioned as to why the amount was lowered from what was proposed in 2005. Councillor Andrew indicated that it may be circulated via the website.

George Pierce expressed his concern on activities at the new building and if they would be competing against the Milton hall. He noted that the committee has fund raising events to keep the hall operating. Councillor Andrew commented that activities would relate to the park eg having the BBQ available when games are held.

In response to the special projects' amount of \$3,000, Councillor Andrew said that it was put in place in case something came up. Council approval is required before any of it can be spent. It was suggested that \$1,000 be used to fix the older building at the park. Councillor Andrew noted that written requests may be made to Council.

Moved by Councillor Brian Andrew, seconded by Councillor Gail Ling, that the fire protection amount of \$36,000.00 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Brian Andrew, seconded by Councillor Don Aitken, that the amount of \$253,000.00 for capital improvements be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Councillor Andrew explained that Council has been working to address the needs of Sleepy Hollow residents. When asked if it was for water only or water and sewer, Councillor Aitken responded that Council tried to go for both; however, a letter was received from the City that the request was turned down. The original motion of water only is still on the table. Discussion followed.

Moved by Councillor Brian Andrew, seconded by Councillor Don Aitken, that the total expenses of \$385,370.32 be approved as presented. Motion carried with two nays.

Councillor Andrew mentioned that the proposed income is based on an increase for both the non-commercial and the commercial rate. The non-commercial increased from .12 to .14/\$100 and the commercial increased from .60 to .80/\$100. Total proposed income is \$381,995.78.

John MacKinnon questioned as to why income from the community pasture was not recorded. The administrator explained that it was not part of the income. Mr. MacKinnon wanted to know where the money went and was told that it is held in a special account. The income is to be used for the maintenance and repair of the pasture. Councillor Andrew indicated that Council would look at applying to the government for changes and when the present contract is up to go to tender.

Nanne Garnham mentioned that she was on Council they looked at other community pastures and decided that it was not viable to operate a community pasture.

Andrew Thompson expressed his concern regarding the significant increase in the commercial rate. He noted that increases are always on the commercial side and not the non-commercial. He brought up the rates of some Island municipalities. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS:

George Piercey brought up that residents did not have an opportunity to vote or even comment on the previous annual meeting minutes. He asked about the tax rate and was advised that it is Council that votes on the rate and not the residents.

Phillip O'Halloran asked if there would be a public meeting on the draft Official Plan and bylaws. Councillor Pryor indicated that at least one would be held.

George Piercey mentioned that he attends some of the monthly meetings and encouraged others to attend to keep Council accountable. He noted that Council had agreed to have the meeting packages out a couple of weeks prior to the annual meeting but it was not done. Chair Aten advised that the information was not ready to be circulated until the meeting.

Moved by Nigel Cuthbertson, seconded by Councillor Don Aitken, that the meeting adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Motion carried.

Don Aitken, Chair

Shari MacDonald, Administrator

NOTE: Copies of reports are on file

***Developed from notes made by Councillor Betty Pryor**