

Rural Municipality of St. Peter's Bay

January 25, 2024

Dr. Roddie Community Center

Call to Order:

Mayor Ron MacInnis called the meeting to order at 7:28 pm.

Attendees:

Mayor: Ron MacInnis

Councilors: Cathy MacKinnon, Brenda Curran, Philip Milligan, Jason Sheppard and Bill Milligan

Guests:

Kate Byrne and Joelyne Taylor

Approval of Agenda:

It was moved by Councilor J. Sheppard and seconded by Councilor B. Curran that the agenda be approved as presented. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (396-01-25)**

Adoption of Minutes:

The approval of November 16/24 minutes was moved by Councilor C. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (397-01-25)**

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:

No councilors declared any conflict in the agenda.

Business Arising from Minutes:

None to report.

Financial Report:

A review of all accounts was given by the CAO. It was moved by Councilor J. Sheppard and seconded by Councilor B. Curran to approve the financial report.

YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (398-01-25)

New Business

The first item on the agenda to discuss was the wall in memory of Jim MacAulay which is being completed by Starla from Shiny Paint.

Councilor C MacKinnon has spoken with Laretta and they prefer Jim MacAulay for the wall. The family said for us to pick a date that works as it might not be possible to set a date that will work for them all. It was agreed to plan for something in early Spring and Cathy will contact Starla with an update.

Councilor C MacKinnon has been the community rep for the Development Corporation for over 2 years and has asked for Council to start thinking about a replacement to take over in the Fall stating she is looking to free up some time to pursue other interests.

Councilor C. MacKinnon also spoke about the rink and noted she had been asked by residents about the lack of operation in the past 2 years and what was going to become of the building. She questioned if there are ways in which the community can help the Rink Committee to make it a more useable space for the community. After much discussion it was decided to invite the Rink Committee to a meeting on February 22nd to see what, if any, support we can offer to help them develop some plans moving forward for the rink. Cathy will contact the Rink Board and invite them.

In a follow-up to discussions from the previous meeting regarding a committee looking to organize some community events, Joelyne Taylor and Kate Byrne submitted a written proposal. An operating budget of \$2000 per year for the committee's expenses was moved by Councilor B. Milligan and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (399-01-25)**

Next on the agenda Councilor B. Milligan provided some background regarding the groyne in the Bay and noted the plans had come to a halt post-Fiona and it was thought by residents that perhaps there was no longer a plan for the future. C. MacKinnon provided some information on the project provided by Eric MacInnis at SPADC's AGM the previous day. He had stated that SPADC need to submit a new letter if there was still interest in having the province move forward with the groyne. Bill noted the silt removal project is separate and will be an ongoing and costly expense. Cathy mentioned Eric had confirmed it would require ACOA assistance. Councilor B. Milligan will connect with Eric to get more information on the proposal.

The CAO shared the St. Peter's Complex Rental Rate Price List with Council for review with the emphasis on the hourly rental fee being re-evaluated. The 2023 hourly rental fee for a room rental at the complex was \$16.00 + HST (\$2.40) per hour. In comparison to other rental facilities this fee was markedly lower and after minimal discussion it was agreed to increase our rate to \$30 + HST (\$4.50) = \$34.50 per hour. This was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor J. Sheppard. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (400-01-25)**

The CAO will do a further analysis of the price list and comparison to other rental facilities with similar amenities and bring it back to Council for review with potential for further increases at the next council meeting.

Mayor R. MacInnis addressed the next item on the agenda which was the increase of our Municipal tax rate. The rate has never gone up, though taxes may have increased for residents due to increased assessed values, the rate has never varied. It was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan to raise the rate from \$0.400 to \$0.500. There will be an open meeting to address the rate increase with the residents of the Municipality prior to our budget being submitted to the province. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (401-01-25)**

Next for review was a potential wage increase for Greg Jay, the certified operator of the municipality's sewer system. He was hired in 2012 and has never had a pay raise. It was agreed to offer him an additional \$100 per month for a total increase of \$1200 per year. This was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor J. Sheppard. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (402-01-25)**

Councilor P. Milligan reported on some of his discussions with the Housing committee. He sits as the Committee rep on this committee alongside Eric MacInnis and Dean Lewis. He shared with Council the importance of having 3 specific committees put in place in order to be able to tap into funding more easily to create affordable housing whether it be for seniors or low-income residents. The three committees would include housing, land development, and village entities. Once these committees are in place, we can apply for funding for a proposal, drawings, or a study. It was agreed there is a need to look into housing issues in an effort to provide both affordable housing units and a few higher end options. This would allow seniors the option to remain in the community after selling their homes and new residents can in turn have these homes available to purchase in the area.

During Philip's absence in the upcoming months, Mayor R. MacInnis will represent Council at any Housing Committee meetings.

In error, a motion was overlooked at our previous meeting after a discussion regarding the required upgrades at the Complex to turn it into an Emergency Reception Centre. To proceed with the grant application and access funds we require a motion. This was moved by Councilor B. Milligan and seconded by Councilor B. Curran. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (403-01-25)**

Councilor B. Curran addressed a resident's concern regarding the snow plough and damage to their yard. Upon further discussion it was agreed they should be directed to forward their complaint to the province.

Points East Coastal Inn had put in a request for a letter of support to their application for a Food Premise License. They have experienced past issues in regard to feeding their guests in the shoulder season as restaurants aren't open until June 15 and close by the end of September. Council fully supports this request, and a letter of support will be sent. This was moved by Councilor C. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor B. Curran. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (404-01-25)**

There was only one quote received from the four requests sent out for estimates regarding the extension of the wall for the new rescue truck. The rescue truck could be here as early as April and work needs to be completed. All parties had been reminded to send in their estimates. The estimate submitted was considered reasonable so after some discussion it was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan to accept the quote received and award the project to Brad Penny of P and T Construction. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (405-01-25)**

Also, in our previous October council meeting discussion regarding the purchase of the new rescue truck for the Fire Department was not followed by a motion. Therefore, a motion was made by Councilor C. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan to move approval for the purchase. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (406-01-25)**

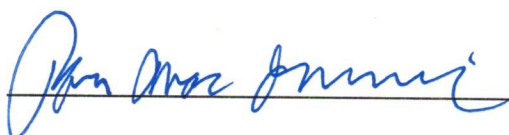
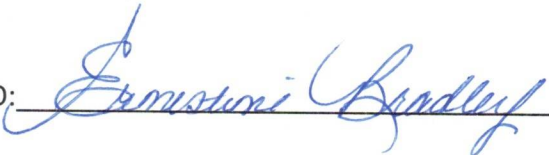
Lastly on the agenda was a discussion led by Mayor R. MacInnis regarding the Campground. There are 23 people looking for sites and 5 available. In the past people have been selected in a raffle draw. There are however 5 families who paid monthly fees all last season to camp, after they failed to win a site in the raffle. It was agreed that, for this year, these five families will be offered the vacant sites instead of holding a raffle among all the 23 looking for one. Council agreed it seems unfair for these families to possibly end up in a monthly fee site again and someone new get a seasonal site. It was also agreed to ensure campers, with a request in to change sites if some opened up, were given an opportunity to move to the vacant sites before they were assigned to the new campers.

Mayor MacInnis spoke on an issue brought to his attention by campground manager Bonnie MacAulay. The Campground staff were enlisted to assist with cleaning the community bathrooms and take care of the garbage removal at the Landing last summer on weekends when the regular staff were not working. The campground cleaners are also seasonal employees who perform similar duties as part of their employment with the community campground. No staff were asked to work outside of their scheduled shifts. They have stated they will not return this year if they are asked to clean the Landing bathrooms as they did last year. It was agreed this issue needs to be addressed as soon as possible. It will be quite challenging to hire a custodian to come in every single weekend for only a few 1-2 hr shifts. The solution worked well last season and was the only option as the campground staff are the only seasonal weekend working employees. Councilors all agree that staff should not be dictating the terms of their employment and the few actual issues they identified with the garbage bins can be addressed. Offering a financial incentive to those staff who willingly agree was also another option considered. We are hopeful we can find a resolution that works for both the campground staff and the community.

Further discussion is necessary to find a solution for summer 2024. The public bathrooms at the Landing are a direct reflection of our attention to detail and the cleanliness of these bathrooms is paramount in our ability to attract tourists to our community.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor J. Sheppard and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 pm. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (407-01-25)**

Mayor:  CAO: 

St. Peter's Complex Rental Schedule January 2024

Full Use of Auditorium plus Kitchen (Wedding) 2 days allotted: $\$550 + \text{HST } \$82.50 = \$632.50$

Kitchen plus Stove Hourly: $\$50.00 + \text{HST } \$7.50 = \$57.50$

Auditorium plus Sound Meeting: $\$100.00 + \text{HST } \$15.00 = \$115.00$

Auditorium plus Sound Event: $\$200.00 + \text{HST } \$30.00 = \$230.00$

Auditorium plus Sound Hourly: $\$40.00 + \text{HST } \$6.00 = \$46.00$

Auditorium plus Kitchen/Stove Meeting: $\$230.00 + \text{HST } \$34.50 = \$264.50$

Auditorium plus Kitchen/Stove Event: $\$345.00 + \text{HST } \$51.75 = \$396.75$

Auditorium/Sound/Tables Banquet: $\$345.00 + \text{HST } \$51.75 = \$396.75$

Meeting Room Hourly: $\$30.00 + \text{HST } \$4.50 = \$34.50$

Milligan Fisheries Room: $\$475.00 + \text{HST } \$71.25 = \$546.25$

Fritz Foods Inc: $\$1420.00 + \text{HST } \$213.00 = \$1633.00$

Birthday Party Rate (4 hours total): $\$100 \text{ tax included } (\$86.96 + 13.04) = \$100.00$

5 Vacant Space: $\$450.00 + \text{HST } \$67.50 = \$517.50$

8A Now Occupied by Julio's Spices: $\$400.00 + \text{HST } \$60.00 = \$460.00$

8B Unoccupied: $\$400.00 + \text{HST } \$60.00 = \$460.00$

ST Peter's Complex Rental Schedule Jan 2023

<i>Wedding</i>	Full Use of Auditorium plus Kitchen...	\$525.00 + 78.75 hst = \$603.75
	Kitchen plus Stove Hourly.....	\$25.00 + 3.75 hst = \$28.75
<i>HST * K-Daily</i>	Kitchen Plus Stove Monthly.....	\$450.00 + 67.50 see notes = \$517.50
	Auditorium Plus Sound Meeting.....	\$100.00 + 15.00 hst= \$115.00
	Auditorium plus Sound Event.....	\$200.00 + 30.00 hst= \$230.00
	Auditorium plus Sound Hourly.....	\$20.00 + 3.00 hst = \$23.00
	Auditorium Plus Kitchen/Stove Meeting	\$230.00 + 34.50 hst = \$264.50
	Auditorium Plus Kitchen/Stove Event	\$345.00 + 51.75 hst = \$396.75
	Auditorium/Sound/Tables Banquet....	\$345.00 + 51.75 hst = \$396.75
x	Meeting Room Hourly	\$16.00 + 2.40 hst = \$18.40
	Meeting Room Weekly.....	\$130.00 + 19.50 hst = \$149.50
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	Milligan Fisheries Room.....	\$475.00 + 71.25= \$546.25
	Fritz Foods Inc.....	\$1420.00 + 213.00 hst = \$1633.00
	Bohemian (6181252 Canada Inc).....	\$4725.00 + 708.75 hst = \$5433.75
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	# 5 Now Occupied by The Gel Bar	\$450.00 + 67.50 hst = \$517.50
	# 8A Now Occupied by Julio's Spices	\$400.00 + 60.00 hst = \$460.00
	# 8B Unoccupied.....	\$400.00 + 60.00 hst = \$460.00

*Regarding the Kitchen rental, the cost of propane for 2021 was \$313.00 and the cost for Jan 1, 2022 to now is \$1728.00. The price of supplies for dishwasher runs around \$250.00 for the year.