

Rural Municipality of St. Peter's Bay

December 19, 2024

Dr. Roddie Community Center

Call to Order:

Mayor Ron MacInnis called the meeting to order at 7:29 pm.

Attendees:

Mayor: Ron MacInnis

Councilors: Cathy MacKinnon, Jason Sheppard, Jerry MacKinnon, Bill Milligan and Philip Milligan

Approval of Agenda:

It was moved by Councilor C. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan that the agenda be approved as presented. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (472-12-19)**

Adoption of Minutes:

The approval of November 14/24 minutes was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (473-12-19)**

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 provided by the CAO and shared with the mayor and council. It was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor J. Sheppard to approve the financial report. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (474-12-19)**

New Business

The first item on the agenda was a discussion regarding the Marina Project. The project lead, Philip Milligan and CAO, Ernestine Bradley shared some information they received after having recent communication with Marilyn Murphy, Director of Communities & Inclusive Growth (ACOA).

Marilyn specified that if council wishes to pursue the Feasibility Business Plan for a marina, ACOA will require the following:

- A council resolution in support of the marina study.
- An application submitted through the ACOA website from the Municipality.
- A copy of the RFP including the budget, scope of work, etc should be uploaded with the application.

-The municipality's procurement policy – if you are sole sourcing and it is outside your procurement policy, please provide a strong rationale as to why council is sole sourcing – Council approval for sole sourcing is also required.

-ACOA will fund up to 50% of the costs of the study – please provide confirmation on the other 50% (funding partners)

It was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor C. MacKinnon to support the marina study. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (475-12-19)**

The CAO reviewed the CCBF project applications with the mayor and council and explained that she required a signed and sealed resolution supporting each application as well as approval from council if any municipal funds are to be spent.

-It was moved by Councilor C. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for demolition of the Holy Name Hall for new development of housing. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (476-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for extension of sewer main on Cardigan Road. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (477-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor C. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for re-invigoration of the wetland. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (478-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for new lift pumps. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (479-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor B. Milligan and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for wheelchair access at the Dr. Roddie Center. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (480-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for a new storage building for the community. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (481-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor J. MacKinnon to submit the CCBF project application for new pool pumps. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (482-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor B. Milligan and seconded by Councilor C. MacKinnon to submit the CCBF project application for a new laundromat building. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (483-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor P. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for internet upgrades. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (484-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan to submit the CCBF project application for a speed radar sign. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (485-12-19)**

-It was moved by Councilor C. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor J. MacKinnon to submit the transfer request for our current Complex Energy Upgrades Project 20.5.5 to add new toilets, LED lighting and 2 heat pumps. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (486-12-19)**

Next on the agenda the CAO shared that she is following up with MRSB to complete the IRAC Sewer Rate Increase application. She did forward the minutes from August 31, 2023, to MRSB which Councilor J. Sheppard moved that an application be sent to IRAC to increase sewer rates to cover increased costs and it was seconded by Councilor B. Milligan and a motion was carried (377-08-31).

However, MRSB also mentioned that Board approval is needed for them to prepare the application and the CAO shared this with the mayor and council who then stated that there has never been a Sewer Board and the council has always acted on behalf of the Sewer Commission for any decision making regarding projects, rates or financing. Therefore, the motion carried by council to proceed should be sufficient since there is no Board in place. The council reiterated that it was brought to their attention in previous years that increasing the sewer rate is necessary to try to have a reserve if ever there was a major problem or repairs needed.

The CAO shared with the mayor and council an anonymous letter that had come in to community council in November regarding a Volunteer Recognition Award being presented annually to a deserving resident. The letter outlined all of the hard work and dedication that volunteers have put in over the past few years to make community events possible and expressed that they are a resident who loves the changes that have taken place. The mayor and council agreed with everything stated in the letter and are deeply appreciative of the work done by different groups and individuals in the community and they believe they should be recognized as well and perhaps reviewing the Fireman's Dinner moving forward and turning it into more a Community Appreciation Dinner to honor all of the hard working volunteers would be a better approach than giving singular awards for fear of leaving anyone out.

Councilor C. MacKinnon shared that Morell has had the approach of a community appreciation dinner where you can buy tables of tickets, and it helps offset the cost that the community incurs. It can become the venue of local businesses staff parties at Christmas time as well. This could open the door to more people attending and extending the appreciation to other worthy volunteers and not solely the firemen which would be validating for all who put effort forth in the community.

The mayor and council agreed to move forward in 2025 with turning the Fireman's Appreciation Dinner into a Community Appreciation Dinner.

The CAO shared a request that came in from a resident, local business owner and employee within the community to rent an office space at the complex at a reduced rate of \$200.00 plus tax. The mayor and council unanimously agreed that the rental prices for the office spaces available at the complex had been put in place based on square footage and were worth the amount that had been agreed upon and other renters at the complex are residents and business owners within the community as well and if they accepted a reduced rate from one renter they would have to for all renters. This is not possible.

A request had come in from Angela MacDonald looking for council's support to extend the Visitor Information Center season as she has an ongoing project. The council would like to know the specifics of the project and will then decide on whether they support this extension.

The mayor and council reviewed two quotes provided for 6-yard waste containers by GFL and Label Construction & Sanitation, serviced bi-weekly. They reviewed the monthly IWMC disposal fees that have been paid over the previous months and agreed that it makes more sense to have a waste container on site and serviced bi-weekly at \$178.63/month with fuel surcharges and a one-time delivery fee of \$100.00 instead of paying gas and wages to have garbage disposed.

It was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor J. Sheppard to get a 6-yard waste container from GFL, serviced bi-weekly. Garbage from the Dr. Roddie Center will be brought to the container at the complex. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (487-12-19)**

Next on the agenda was the review of the truck purchase and the accounts the money had been taken from and whether council felt that the Fire Department should contribute or not. It was discussed that a king cab was only necessary if the Fire Department was going to be using it, but it was also mentioned that isn't why the king cab was purchased, the king cab was purchased because it was cheaper than a single cab.

If the Fire Department is using the truck the community can submit a mileage claim to the Fire Department for reimbursement. This might be an option to consider.

There was also a discussion about the previous decision in the June 13th minutes to have the vehicle remain at the Dr. Roddie Center overnight and on weekends. There were different views on this and some members of council felt that what was previously decided should be honored whereas others felt that the maintenance position is often on call for opening and locking up of rentals and events therefore allowing the vehicle to go off-site to have these duties completed.

Council discussed that a tonneau cover shouldn't be needed as there will be no further garbage runs and tools can be kept in the backseat.

The CAO asked if council agrees to have the Dr. Roddie Center re-painted this winter with the same colors so not as many coats will be needed and this can be done efficiently in between rentals that take place weekly. It was agreed that the center be re-painted with the same colors and to look at replacing the drop ceiling tiles as well to freshen up the area. It was also suggested to update the toilets in the washrooms as they are quite low and not aesthetically pleasing.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor C. MacKinnon to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 pm. **YES: 5 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (488-12-19)**

Mayor:  GAO: 