

## **Rural Municipality of St. Peter's Bay**

April 24, 2025

Dr. Roddie Community Center

### **Call to Order:**

Mayor Ron MacInnis called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm

### **Attendees:**

Mayor: Ron MacInnis

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

### **Guest:**

Dean Lewis, Fire Chief

### **Approval of Agenda:**

It was moved by Councilor P. Milligan and seconded by Councilor J. Shepard that the agenda be approved as presented. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (523-04-24)**

### **Adoption of Minutes:**

The approval of March 25/25 minutes was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor B. Milligan. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (524-04-24)**

### **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 P. Milligan to approve the financial report. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (525-04-24)**

### **New Business**

The first item on the agenda was a visit to the Visitor Information Center at 1915 Cardigan Road in St. Peter's Bay to meet with Lori MacGregor, Executive Director of Points East Coastal Drive and Dave McGuire of Bogside Brewery to discuss upcoming plans for the VIC in the coming year and more directly the shoulder season moving forward.

Secondly, Dean Lewis the new Fire Chief of St. Peter's Bay joined the meeting to share an update since taking the position and to discuss some of his plans moving forward. He is trying to secure a water source, pump, tank and location where they can easily get water year-round at the old Woods station. However, there are a few things to work out with the

province as well as funding options as the cost for this project is quite high with a water tank costing \$70 000 not installed or delivered. He will continue to work on this, and the community will offer support as needed.

Dean and the CAO have had a few meetings since he stepped into the role and will continue to work closely to help ensure there is a better handle on the budget moving forward and to earmark money for larger things outside the monthly expenses. The goal is to come up with a way to set some money aside for the bigger projects and carry some money over from year to year so that they are in better shape.

The CAO shared an estimate of Bay News Bulletin costs with the mayor and council as she had recently realized that the price has never changed since the bulletin began for advertising yet the cost of postage, toner, paper, photo conductor unit replacement and printing time have all increased. The current price for an ad is \$13.33/month and it was decided that ads would increase to \$20/month and full-page ads will increase to \$60/month. The CAO and Bay News creator, Bonnie MacAulay, will update the price list and inform customers of the increase due to expanding costs associated with printing and distribution.

The mayor and council reviewed a few requests that had come in from Transportation East regarding sponsorship and donations as they are a non-profit organization. It was agreed upon that we would continue to run their ads in the Bay News at no cost as they are a non-profit organization, but we are unable to offer donations or provide sponsorship.

The CAO shared that during her time working with MRSB to reconcile 15 accounts on a monthly basis for the General, Complex, Fire, Sewer, Campground, Gas Tax and Ballfield it became very evident that there needs to be something done to make the bookkeeping side of things less cumbersome and more efficient. There is one debit card for the General bank account used for multiple purchases for the various different accounts and the transferring of funds to and from accounts is not ideal and most certainly opens the door to error(s). The CAO asked for the permission of the mayor and council to please get a debit card for the following accounts: Fire Dept, Campground and Complex so that she can keep them safely and give to her maintenance man or other staff as needed when making purchases for certain properties/accounts.

It was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor B. Curran to approve the decision to get debit cards for the following accounts: Fire Dept, Campground and Complex. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (526-04-24)**

Councilor J. Shepard led the discussion on the purchase of a new lawnmower. He has been in contact with Vesey's regarding the lawnmower that had been previously decided upon, but he has also been in conversation with Good Equipment who have a line on a 2024 Kubota with a 26 or 24HP, roll bar, 29 hours, still under warranty and like new that they will offer for \$8900. The machine is \$12, 500.00 new so considering there is still a warranty and that it is a better machine the mayor and council would like to give this a little more time to see if we can secure this mower before purchasing anything else. The CAO

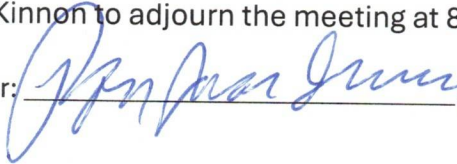
and Councilor J. Shepard will stay in contact regarding this and report back to the mayor and council.

The CAO Shared with the mayor and council that \$1970.00 has been awarded this year through the Celebrate Canada Funding application by Canadian Heritage for the Canada Day celebration at the park. This is double what was received last year so should make planning a little bit easier, however the CAO is having difficulty finding a musician who is available. She will contact the suggestions given in hopes of securing a performer for the event.

The CAO also touched base with the council as there had been previous conversations around changing the venue for the annual council appreciation supper, however the funds really aren't available this year, so it was decided that we'll continue with the same idea as we have in previous years.

**Adjournment** It was moved by Councilor J. MacKinnon and seconded by Councilor C. MacKinnon to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm. **YES: 6 NAY: 0 Motion Carried (527-04-24)**

Mayor:



CAO:

