

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**10 JUNE 2003**

Present:           Chairman       Mayor John P. Prall  
  Deputy Mayor Michael E. Trinacty  
  Councillor Gary W. Whittier (arrived at 7:30)  
  Councillor Donald E. Clarke  
  Councillor J. Richard Horsburgh  
  Ms. Linda Parker, Chief Administrative Officer  
  Ms. Carol Boylan, Recording Secretary

Absent:                               Councillor Thomas S. Banks (on leave)

In attendance:                      Ms. Sara Keddy, Berwick Register

1.   The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

2.   **Approval of the Agenda**

The Agenda approved as presented with the addition of an In Camera session to be held following the regular Council Meeting. The Chairman approved the Agenda as amended.

3.   **LUB Amendment – Commercial Storage Use**

This item was discussed by Deputy Mayor Mike Trinacty.

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded to consider the Application to amend the Land Use By-law to include a definition for commercial self-storage and it's inclusion as a permitted use for Industrial Light (M-1) and Commercial Warehouse (C-3).**

**Motion Carried**

4.   **Approval of the Previous Minutes**

Hearing of no errors or omissions, the Chairman approved the previous Minutes of 13 May 2003.

5.   **Recommendations from Committee of the Whole**

(a)   **2003-04 Operating Budget**

Ms. Parker reviewed her Agenda Item and the Summary Report attached.

There are three key items to be approved, the operating budget, capital budget and tax rates. Education costs were discussed and Deputy Mayor Trinacty felt provincial cost sharing items should be broken down further in the expenditure graph to included in the final budget document.

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the 2003-04 Operating Budget totalling \$2,860,700.**

**Motion Carried**

There was further discussion on this item. (should give some indication of what the further discussion was about.)

(b) 2003-04 Tax Rates

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the 2003-2004 residential tax rate of \$1.575 (property tax \$1.46 + sewer tax \$.115) and 2003-2004 Commercial tax rate of \$2.725 (property and Business Occupancy tax \$2.61 + sewer tax \$.115)**

**Motion Carried**

(c) 2003-06 Capital Budget

The question was raised as to why the Capital Budget was for a three year period, to which Linda Parker explained that Municipal Units are legislated to file a three year plan with the Department of Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations; it is good planning and that a five year budget would be even better. Ms. Parker further explained what the Province uses the information to assess municipalities ability to finance long term debt before approving borrowings through the Municipal Finance Corporation.

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the 2003-06 Capital Budget totalling \$2,160,820.**

**Motion Carried**

Discussion took place on the construction of a new fire hall, a large item on the Capital Budget for the Town of Berwick.

Discussion took place concerning other Municipal Units tax rates and the fact that many of the municipal units who received increased funding from the Province under the revised Equalization Grant Program but didn't lower their tax rates. It was agreed to include information of comparison of tax rates to our citizens in our newsletter as well as with the next tax bill.

6. **Recommendations from Other Committees**

(a) **Planning Advisory Committee – Street Name Policy**

Deputy Mayor Trinacty reviewed this item. There is confusion of the numbering of residences on Autumn Drive. In the past the developer had some input in the naming of the street. It was decided to put a policy in place for naming streets. The assessment criteria for this process was explained by Deputy Mayor Trinacty. The

Planning Advisory Committee approached the Apple Capital Museum Society and Pat Hampsey provided a list of suggested street names to use when naming new streets in The Town of Berwick. It was noted that we are not restricted by this list.

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve the attached list of provided by the Apple Capital Museum Society – with the exception with the name of Elizar Woodworth. (#5) be attached to the policy as well as a list of past fire chiefs and mayors.**

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Trinacty noted we must remember to use the list as an attachment of the policy and all the former Mayors and Fire Chiefs should also be attached. This list can be added to at any time.

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded that Council select the name Ron Smith Drive from the approved list of possible street names and authorize staff to carry the necessary notification requirements set out in the policy.**

**Motion Carried**

Mayor Prall asked for discussion – Councillor Clarke noted that there haven't been any streets named after former Fire Chiefs and this was a recommendation from the Berwick Fire Department. Ron Smith was a fine man and served the Town well.

7. **Business Arising**

(a) **Sewer By-law – second reading**

Ms. Parker explained and asked for questions. Ms. Parker will confirm the number of residents in both the Grand View Manor and Fundy Villa to calculate annual sewer charges for both. A letter outlining the by-law amendments will also be sent to both facilities..

Discussion followed. Fundy Villa and the new apartments being constructed were discussed and the formula pertaining to this. We have moved away from using assessment as a factor in the formula to determine the sewer charges for the two facilities. In the past a flat has been charged and then Grand View Manor and Fundy Villa were charged based on the same formula as tax paying residents. The decision

to use a formula based on standard wastewater flows and strengths for residential institutions as they relate to the number of residents was considered a more accurate methodology to calculate the annual charges.

Deputy Mayor Trinacty suggested under definition state Grand View Manor, Fundy Villa and other units as may arise. Under (J) add any similar unit. The two entities were discussed – Grand View Manor and Fundy Villa.

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded to approve second and final reading of the Sewer Charges By-law to include a definition for “Residential Institutional User” and the addition of “Schedule B” which includes the formula to be used to calculate the annual sewer charge for residential institutional users.**

**Motion Carried**

8. **New Business**

(a) **UNSM Resolutions**

Councillor Don Clarke reviewed this item. Discussion followed. (We should include some info on the item and discussion)

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded that Council instruct UNSM to request the Province to return to the discussion table with a view to further exchange of service so as to address the current imbalance and the unfair burden placed on towns with respect to their full funding of streets and roads with very little or no help from the Province.**

**Motion Carried**

Following completion of this Agenda Item, Mayor Prall asked Deputy Mayor Trinacty if Melanie Trinacty (Apple Blossom Princess Berwick 2003) enjoyed participating in this year’s Apple Blossom Festivities. Mayor Prall noted that Melanie was a great ambassador for the Town of Berwick and did an excellent job representing us. Deputy Mayor Trinacty replied that Melanie enjoyed her time at the Apple Blossom Festival and would be willing to participate in any events that the Town would like her to attend.

8. **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence for discussion.

9. Council took a short break at 7:55 p.m. before going into an In-Camera meeting at 8:00 p.m. to discuss matters of a confidential nature. Regular Council reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

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10. Hearing of no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

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John P. Prall  
Chairman

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Carol Boylan  
Recording Secretary