

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on April 23, 2001 at 6:10 p.m.

- PRESENT:** Councillors Allen, Brennan, Hamilton, Porter Quinn & Tenszen with Mayor Ian MacKenzie in the Chair.
- ABSENT:** None
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** 87/01 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton
RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on April 9th, 2001 be approved as circulated.
Carried.
- HEARINGS:** None
- DELEGATIONS:** None
- CORRESPONDENCE:** The correspondence for this period was reviewed.
- COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- Finance, Legislative & Property Committee** Your Worship, your Finance, Legislative and Property Committee respectfully submits the following reports:
- Unpaid Water & Sewer to Taxes for March, 2001 – By-Law 01-8089 This is part of the normal monthly procedure to allow unpaid water and sewer accounts to be added to property taxes.
- 88/01 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton
RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 01-8089 being a by-law to authorize unpaid water and sewer charges be added to taxes, be read a second time.
Carried.
RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 01-8089 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed.
Carried.
In favour: Councillors Allen, Brennan, Hamilton, Porter, Quinn, Tenszen and Mayor MacKenzie.
- Business Assessment Roll Deletion In 1993 business tax for the City of Portage la Prairie was discontinued. However, the business assessment roll was still provided to the City even though there was no business tax levy applied.
- The letter from the Assessment Branch has advised that according to Section 29 of the Assessment Act, a 0% business tax levy is not an option if a business assessment is produced. Therefore, we must rescind the Business Assessment By-Law if the City wishes to continue the 0% Business Tax Levy.
- 89/01 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 01-8096, a by-law to repeal By-Law 6377, be now read a second time
Carried.
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 01-8096 be now read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed
Carried.
In Favour: Councillors Allen, Brennan, Hamilton, Porter, Quinn, Tenszen and Mayor MacKenzie.

2001 Tax Levy By-Law Speech		The Tax Levy By-Law Speech was read to Council on April 9 th , 2001.
	90/01	Moved by: Councillor Quinn Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 01-8091, being a by-law of the City of Portage la Prairie to authorize the levying and raising of property taxes for school and municipal purposes for the year ended December 31, 2001 be given second reading. Carried. RESOLVED THAT By-Law 01-8091 be given third and final reading. Carried. In Favour: Councillors Allen, Brennan, Hamilton, Porter, Quinn, Tenszen and Mayor MacKenzie
Monthly Activity Reports – For Information Only		Council reviewed the monthly activity reports for March, 2001.
Current Projects List – For Information Only		Council reviewed the current projects list for March, 2001.
City Planning & Economic Development		Your Worship, your City Planning and Economic Development Committee respectfully submits the following reports:
Monthly Activity Reports – For Information Only		Council reviewed the monthly activity reports for March, 2001.
Director of Planning		Council reviewed a report on the Director of Planning position in camera.
	91/01	Moved by: Councillor Brennan Seconded by: Councillor Allen RESOLVED THAT the April 9 th , 2001 Administrative Recommendation concerning the filling of the Director of Planning position be approved. Carried.
Public Safety Committee		Your Worship, your Public Safety Committee respectfully submits the following report:
Victim Services Program		The Victim Services Program is a provincially funded program managed by agreement between the Province and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Victim Services Coordinator is a City Employee who is paid by the Province, which then requires an agreement between the City and the RCMP. That agreement was signed on February 23, 1999. Under authority of Clause 1 (d), the agreement was extended until March 31, 2002. The seven participating municipalities in the Victim Services Program met recently to discuss the future of the Program. The RCMP and Manitoba Justice have requested the program be further extended to allow the uninterrupted operation of the Program while they pursue the possibility of creating provincial positions for the Victim Services Coordinators.
	92/01	Moved by: Councillor Porter Seconded by: Councillor Brennan RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the extension until March 31, 2002, of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Portage la Prairie and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for the operation of the Victim Services Program. Carried.
Weather Related Road Closures		The City of Portage la Prairie has on occasion opened a reception center to house stranded persons due to winter storm road closures. The most recent event occurred on March 31, 2001, when communications from the RCMP indicated they would be shutting

down the highways to persons wishing to leave the City. This announcement triggers the Emergency Services Division to contact local hotels and check on room availability, as the direction is to only open our reception center when all available hotels and motels are fully booked.

The RCMP reported that the highways were closed at 12:20 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. By 1:30 p.m. our checks indicated that all hotel rooms were full. At 2:45 p.m. the Herman Prior Centre was declared open to handle people who had nowhere else to go.

Due to the large numbers of stranded people it was decided to open an additional center. At 5:00 p.m. Saturday the Centennial Hall was open to handle the overflow.

As per policy, the City tries to register all persons attending the centers and records indicate the following:

470 persons at the Herman Prior Centre
238 persons at Centennial Hall

The following information pertains to the operating costs of the centers:

Hall Rentals:	\$725
Food, Beverages	\$1,655
Cleaning sleeping supplies	\$2,647
Orion Security	\$459
Manpower	\$2,500
Total	\$7,986

93/01 Moved by Councillor Porter
Seconded by: Councillor Brennan
RESOLVED THAT Council invoice the Province of Manitoba for all costs associated with running the reception centers during the winter storm road closure on March 31st through April 1st, 2001.
Carried.

The Mayor and Council extended their gratitude to the Fire Department for a job well done in setting up the reception center. A thank you was also issued to Tim Horton's for their donation of product to the stranded travelers.

Policing Services – For
Information Only

Council reviewed a report on Policing Services in-camera.

Building Graffiti

Committee reviewed a report on Building Graffiti in camera.

Monthly Activity Reports –
For Information Only

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports for March, 2001.

Waterworks Committee

Your Worship, your Waterworks Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

Water Treatment Plant
Functional Design Report

In 2000, Cochrane Engineering was retained to complete the functional design of the proposed upgrades to the Water Treatment Plant. The Simplot announcement late in 2000 resulted in the requirement for significant alterations to the original proposed design capacity of the Water Treatment Plant. In March, 2001, Cochrane Engineering presented the draft Functional Design Report to Council. Following presentation to Council some relatively minor discussion points were added to the report and then the report was finalized.

The proposed upgrading and schedule are summarized below:

Treatment Plant Component	Water Quality Objective	Year of Construction
Raw water pump station, pipeline	Increase Hydraulic capacity to 50ML/d	2002
Primary Sedimentation Clarifier	Reduced Turbidity Improved turbidity removal, improved softening clarifier operation, enhanced algae removal	2001
Ozone system, pH tank, chemical facility	Improved reliability and performance of existing systems	2002
Structural site works	Building & site repair	2002
Softening clarifier	Increased softening capacity to 35 mL/day	2002
Instrumentation and Controls	Replace antiquated control system. Enhanced and automated electronic controls and monitoring.	2002
Biological Filtration	Improved organic and sediment removal. Improved filter backwash. Filter to waste following backwash to reduce turbidity.	2002
GAC Filters	Improved removal of dissolved organics. Reduced formation potential for chlorinated organics (reduced THM's)	2002
Lime Sludge Ponds	Improved river water quality by re-directing lime sludge to drying ponds.	2003

With Engineering Fees, estimating contingencies, GST and Financing allowances, the total estimated cost of construction of the Water Treatment Plant upgrades is estimated at \$12,512,000. with the majority of work being done in the summer of 2002.

94/01 Moved by: Councillor Hamilton
 Seconded by: Councillor Porter

RESOLVED THAT Council accept the Water Treatment Plant Upgrading Functional Design Report, prepared by Cochrane Engineering Limited and dated March 2001.
 Carried.

WPCF Annual Report

The final effluent quality results for the year 2000 were improved over the results for 1999. The Environmental License limits for Biological Oxygen Demand, Suspended Solids and Ammonia were met this year.

In summary, the Waste Water Treatment Department Manager advised that the year 2000 has been an eventful and successful year at the WPCF. Treatment results have been excellent, staff morale is high and they look forward to the challenges of 2001.

95/01 Moved by: Councillor Hamilton
Seconded by: Councillor Porter
RESOLVED THAT the Water Pollution Control Facility
Annual Report be accepted as circulated.
Carried.

Monthly Activity Reports –
For Information Only

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports for March, 2001.

Transportation Committee

Your Worship, your Transportation Committee has nothing to report.

Proposed LaSalle Redboine
Conservation District

There are conservation districts throughout the Province that are managed by independent committees comprised of elected municipal officials with hired staff. The objectives of each conservation district may vary somewhat but they are primarily focused on water management and environmental issues in one form or another.

The proposed LaSalle Redboine Conservation District includes all or part of the RMs of Portage la Prairie, Cartier, Dufferin, Grey, Headingly, Macdonald, Ritchot, South Norfolk and Victoria, the Town of Carman and the City of Portage la Prairie.

The proposed conservation district would be involved in programs such as water management, soil management, wildlife habitat, fisheries, eco-tourism and education. The Assinboine River is of critical importance to the City of Portage la Prairie and the conservation district would be involved in various programs that will impact the River. In addition, the conservation district might be involved in some programs that affect Crescent Lake that would be of benefit to the City.

The Province provides funding on a 3 for 1 ratio to municipal funding. The proposed budget of \$540,000 includes \$110,000 from municipalities, \$330,000 from the Province and \$100,000 from other funding sources. Based on a levy of .33 on land only, the City's contribution to the conservation district would be \$16,000. It appears that the first year for funding for the Conservation District would be 2002.

96/01 Moved by: Councillor Tenzsen
Seconded by: Councillor Porter
RESOLVED THAT By-law No. 01-8092 being a by-law of the
City of Portage la Prairie to provide for participation in the LaSalle
Redboine Conservation District be read a first time.
Carried.

Monthly Activity Reports –
For Information Only

Committee reviewed the monthly activity reports for March, 2001.

**Community Services
Committee**

Your Worship, your Community Services Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

Monthly Activity Reports –
For Information Only

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports for March , 2001.

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

International Year of the Volunteer

Mayor MacKenzie advised Council that he signed the Proclamation for the International Year of the Volunteer earlier this morning. He commended the volunteers in the City of Portage la Prairie for all of their hard work and dedication. He noted that Portage la Prairie is a better place to live and work because of the important work of the volunteers in this community.

ADJOURNMENT

97/01

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:35 p.m.
Carried.

Mayor

Manager of Administration