

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers on Monday, December 9, 2002 at 6:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Councillors Brennan, Keryluk, Quinn, Robinson and Wagner with Mayor Ian MacKenzie in the Chair.

**ABSENT:**

Councillor Tenzon

**MINUTES OF MEETING:**

323/02 Moved by: Councillor Wagner  
Seconded by: Councillor Brennan  
RESOLVED THAT the regular minutes of the Council meeting held on November 18, 2002 at City Hall in Portage la Prairie be approved as circulated.  
Carried.

**DELEGATIONS:**

None

**HEARINGS:**

Variation Extension - Mrs. Della Cogar, Community Foundation of Portage & District

No one appeared before Council regarding this issue.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The correspondence for this period was reviewed.

**COMMITTEES:**

**Finance, Legislative & Property Committee:**

Your Worship:  
The Finance, Legislative & Property Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

By-Law 02-8164 – Unpaid Water & Sewer Services for October, 2002 – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading

This is part of the normal monthly procedure to allow unpaid water and sewer accounts to be added to property taxes.

324/02 Moved by: Councillor Quinn  
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson  
RESOLVED THAT By-law 02-8164 being a by-law to allow unpaid water and sewer accounts to be added to taxes be read a second time.  
Carried.  
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 02-8164 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed.  
Carried.

By-Law 02-8166 – Fees & Charges By-Law

This By-Law received first reading on November 18, 2002. It is now ready to receive 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading.

The Pool Family Rate has been increased by 2.1% for a family of five.

325/02 Moved by: Councillor Brennan  
Seconded by: Councillor Keryluk  
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 02-8166 be amended by deleting the schedules that reflect the fees and charges that apply to the new lighted ball diamond.  
Carried.

326/02 Moved by: Councillor Quinn  
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson  
RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the Fees & Charges schedules for the year 2003 by giving By-Law 02-8166 second reading as amended.

Carried.

RESOLVED THAT By-Law 02-8166 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed.

Carried.

By-Law 02-8167 – Property  
Tax Discount Rate – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Reading

The recommendation for the tax discount rate of 1.2% in January was based on the City's current savings rate at the current 90-day Treasury Bill Rate of 2.09%. The tax discount rate would decrease by .2% per month to reach par in July. This would provide an effective annual rate of 2.4%.

This By-Law received first reading on November 18, 2002.

327/02 Moved by: Councillor Quinn

Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED That By-Law 02-8167 to provide for the payment of taxes and to provide for the rates of discount for prepayment of taxes be read a second time.

Carried.

RESOLVED That By-law 02-8167 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed.

Carried.

Interim 2003 Operating Budget

Section 157 of the Municipal Act states that "A council may adopt an interim operating budget to have in effect only until the council adopts the operating budget for the fiscal year." The act requires that the interim operating budget be passed before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The proposed interim operating budget provides funding for City operations until such time as the final budget is approved.

328/02 Moved by: Councillor Quinn

Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT the interim 2003 General Operating Fund budget of \$6,485,200, the 2003 interim General Capital Fund budget of \$1,000,000, the 2003 interim Utility Operating Fund budget of \$2,814,100, and the 2003 interim Utility Capital Fund budget of \$2,500,000 be approved.

Carried.

**City Planning & Economic  
Development Committee:**

Your Worship:

The City Planning & Economic Development Committee respectfully submit the following reports:

Meet & Greet with the  
Chamber Board of Directors  
Planning Committee

The Chamber of Commerce has invited City Council and the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie Council to attend a "Meet & Greet". City Council requested that the meet and greet be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2002 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Women's Jail

Committee discussed the process to be followed to retain the Women's Jail in the City of Portage la Prairie. This matter was discussed by Council in early September and it was decided to create a community-based committee, which would include representation of Council. It might be appropriate to determine at this time, who the Council representative will be and have them report back to Council at a future date with a proposed Committee.

**Public Safety Committee:**

Your Worship:

The Public Safety Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

By-Law 02-8165 – Animal  
Control By-Law – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

This By-Law received first reading on November 18, 2002. It is now ready to receive 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading.

Reading

329/02 Moved by: Councillor Wagner  
Seconded By: Councillor Quinn  
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 02-8165 be amended in Section 13(1), Section 15(1)(f) and Section 17 (4) by deleting the words “three months” and replacing them with “six months”.

330/02 Moved by: Councillor Wagner  
Seconded by: Councillor Quinn  
RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 02-8165 being a by-law of the City of Portage la Prairie to provide for the regulation and control of animals within the limits of the City and for the maintenance and regulation of a pound, be now read a second time as amended  
Carried.

THAT By-Law No. 02-8165 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed  
Carried.

RCMP Activity Reports

Council reviewed the new format of the RCMP activity report provided by Inspector Geurtin.

**Waterworks Committee:**

Your Worship:  
The Waterworks Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

Water & Sewer Service to  
Massey Crescent – Local  
Improvement Plan – For  
Information Only

The City of Portage la Prairie’s 2002 budget includes the installation of water and sewer lines to the residents of Massey Crescent as a local improvement charge. The City is completing the lift station to service the area at no cost to the residents.

The Local Improvement Plan was approved by the Municipal Board and is now ready for tendering.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Julie currently own four lots on Massey Crescent. The local improvement plan calls for two connections to their lots as they are currently in the process of consolidating the lots from four to two.

An agreement is required to limit the number of water and sewer connections for Julie’s lots in order to maintain fairness and equity amongst those paying for the local improvement. Council reviewed the draft agreement.

By-Law 02-8157 - Water &  
Sewer Rates – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Reading

On July 8, 2002 Council gave first reading to By-Law 02-8157 to increase the water and sewer rates by 3.3% in each year 2003, 2004 and 2005. Service Charges would increase 3.7% per year for the next three years.

The 3.3% per year impact on a family with quarterly consumptions of 12,000 gallons would be an annual increase of \$13.00 in 2003 and \$14.00 in 2004 and 2005.

On November 5, 2002 the Public Utilities Board issued an order to increase the rates as proposed, with amendments to By-Law 02-8157 Schedule A as follows:

- Delete Clause 12, re: Sewer Surcharges: “That the sewer surcharge be continued under the water and sewer rate by-law.”

This clause is no longer required since By-Law 7863 came into force in 1996, separating these charges from this by-law.

- Delete Clause 13, re: Mill Rates: “That the Mill Rate be established each year to recover the debenture costs for the

water distribution system, the sewage collection system and the sewage treatment plant.”

Newly issued debt for utility purposes is being funded by the utility fund. Raising the payments through taxation does not apply to the new utility debt.

The new water and sewer rates will appear on billings January 1, 2003 and thereafter. Notices of the increase will be placed in the Citizen's Information Page of The Daily Graphic.

331/02 Moved by: Councillor Robinson  
Seconded by: Councillor Keryluk

RESOLVED THAT By-law 02-8157, being a by-law to authorize the new water and sewer rates for 2003, 2004, 2005 and thereafter be given second reading with amendment to:

Delete Clause 12 referring to Sewer Surcharges  
Delete Clause 13 referring to Mill rates for Debentures  
Renummer clauses accordingly.  
Carried.

RESOLVED That By-Law 02-8157 be given third and final reading, finally passed, signed and sealed.  
Carried.

#### **DEFERRED BUSINESS:**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Request for Extension for Variation – Della Cogar - Community Foundation of Portage & District

The applicant has requested an extension to their original variation order, which was passed by Resolution No. 353/01 on December 10, 2001 for an additional 12 months.

The Planning Act, Section 53 (13) states “A variation order made under subsection 8 shall expire and cease to have any effect if it is not acted upon within 12 months from the date it was made, unless it is renewed before the expiry date at the discretion of council for an additional period, not exceeding 12 months”.

332/02 Moved by: Councillor Brennan  
Seconded by: Councillor Wagner

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the request to extend the variation order #CP-35/01, Res. 353/01 to December 10, 2003 at the property known as 525-2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW which is legally described as Lots 807, 808, 809, Plan 66, PLTO, in River Lot 64, Parish of Portage la Prairie.  
Carried.

Parade of Lights

Councillor Wagner complimented those responsible for the very successful Parade of Lights.

Request to extend Interest Payments on PCCI Loan

On January 10, 2002, Council passed the following resolution:

“THAT the City of Portage la Prairie provide the funding required to pay the interest on the outstanding debt applicable to the William Glesby Centre commencing November 1, 1999 up to and including October 31, 2002, said payments to be paid out on a monthly basis to the Portage Community Centre Inc. no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. This funding is conditional on Portage Community Centre Inc. continuing to actively fund raise and reduce the principal amount on the loan on or before October 31<sup>st</sup> each year by at least the amount of interest that the City pays.”

The amount of \$80,000 was transferred to the Special/Administration Reserve to assist in funding the interest payments. Actual interest payments made over this period totaled \$54,969. The remaining amount was transferred to the General Reserve, as per the approved 2002 Budget.

PCCI have requested that the interest payments continue for November and December of 2002. This additional grant would amount to approximately \$2,400 total for these months. Any future funding is part of the 2003 budget discussions.

IF council wishes to grant them their request for 2002, a resolution is required to withdraw funds from the General Operating Fund.

333/02 Moved by: Councillor Wagner  
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT the interest payments for PCCI be continued for November and December 2002 and that any future funding be part of the 2003 budget discussions.  
Carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

334/02 Moved by: Councillor  
Seconded by: Councillor

RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourns at 7:50 p.m.  
Carried.

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Mayor

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Manager of Administration