

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers on Monday, January 13, 2003 at 6: 07 p.m.

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

ABSENT: None

MINUTES OF MEETING: 01/03 Moved by: Councillor Brennan
Seconded by: Councillor Wagner
RESOLVED THAT the regular minutes of the Council meeting held on December 9, 2002 at City Hall in Portage la Prairie be approved as circulated.
Carried.

DELEGATIONS: None

HEARINGS: None

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 02-8168 0 Unpaid Water & Sewer for November, 2002 – 1st Reading This is part of the normal monthly procedure to allow unpaid water and sewer accounts to be added to property taxes.

02/03 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 02-8168 being a by-law to authorize unpaid water & sewer charges to be added to taxes be read a first time.
Carried.

By-Law 02-8169 – Unpaid Water & Sewer for December – 1st Reading This is part of the normal monthly procedure to allow unpaid water and sewer accounts to be added to property taxes.

03/03 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-law 02-8169 being a by-law to authorize unpaid water & sewer charges be added to taxes be read a first time.
Carried.

Monthly Activity Report Council reviewed the monthly activity reports.

Current Project Lists Council reviewed the current projects lists in camera.

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

Youth Labour Development Strategy The City of Portage La Prairie submitted an application to Human Resources Development Canada to secure funding to develop the parameters required for the City of Portage la Prairie to launch a community labour development strategy. This strategy would increase the awareness of employment opportunities for youth in the region as well as making youth and other potential employees more employment ready.

Elements of this project would include the gathering of data and creation of partnerships between the businesses, secondary education institutions, community based organizations, and youth in the area so that applicable programs and services could be developed and implemented in order to overcome any barriers to the employability of this target group.

Monthly Activity Reports

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports.

Public Safety Committee:

Your Worship:

The Public Safety Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

Community Policing
Committee Report - 2002

Council reviewed the Community Policing Committee Report for the year 2002.

Monthly Activity Reports

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports.

Waterworks Committee:

Your Worship:

The Waterworks Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

Award of Tender – Massey
Crescent

The tender was advertised in The Daily Graphic, Manitoba Heavy Construction Association, Reid Construction Data and Construction Data Inc. The tender opening was Tuesday, December 3, 2002.

The tender specifications include the installation of 233 meters of 150mm PVC and Polyethylene (PE) watermain; 170m of 50mm PE watermain; water service connections with service valves; a fire hydrant; 355m of 75mm low pressure PE sewermain; and sewer service connections.

The low tender is \$138,311.49 net of the GST rebate.

The Local Improvement was advertised with an estimated total cost of \$114,700, or \$12,744.44 per property. This figure included estimates for construction costs, engineering costs; legal costs for easements; and a share of costs owed to the developer who installed the pipes that cross Crescent Lake. The Manitoba Water Services Board agreed to fund the project with a grant of 30% up to a maximum of \$3000 per property for certain eligible portions of the project costs. The net cost to each homeowner was estimated at \$9,781.46.

The total estimated cost of the project, with the low tendered price for construction, is approximately \$175,000. The revised net cost to each property owner is estimated at \$16,400, with the MWSB grant factored in.

Due to the fact that the actual cost of construction is significantly higher than originally estimated, the City cannot proceed with the Local Improvement Plan. The Plan must be amended and re-advertised to allow homeowners to object if they so choose.

The contractor indicated that he included significant money for the risk of digging through the septic fields of each home, and for property damage. This was not given significant consideration in the development of the cost estimates. The contractor proposed that there is a potential to significantly reduce the cost by eliminating the risk to the contractor by constructing the work on an hourly basis. The contractor indicated that working with 150mm PE pipe was more onerous in this small subdivision than for a rural project. The contractor indicated that there were not likely significant savings to go to the low pressure sewer versus a gravity sewer, however, the pricing of a gravity sewer has not been done.

Winter construction is preferred to limit damage to private property and expensive restoration. The risk factor should be lower with winter construction.

The contractor is willing to hold his price for a few months, however he is concerned about the potential for additional restoration costs on private property if construction occurs in the summer.

04/03 Moved by: Councillor Robinson
Seconded by: Councillor Keryluk

RESOLVED THAT the council of the City of Portage la Prairie defer the award of tender until the Massey Crescent Local Improvement Plan is revised, re-advertised, accepted, and approved.
Carried.

Transportation Committee

Your worship:
The Transportation Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

Monthly Activity Reports

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports.

Community Services Committee

Your worship:
The Community Services Committee respectfully submits the following reports.

Aaron Asham

Councillor Brennan is looking into setting up a display in the arena honouring Aaron Asham, a Portage la Prairie resident, who made it to the NHL.

Portage & District Arts Council Request to Release Janitorial Funding

The Portage & District Arts Council (PDAC) has requested the release of \$3,522, the balance of the \$6,800 originally budgeted in 2002 for the combined janitorial, dry cleaning and building maintenance and repair expenses at 160 Saskatchewan Avenue West. Since their move to the William Glesby Centre this past September, the continuation of payment for their janitorial services in this new facility has not been addressed.

When PDAC left their old location on July 1, 2002 approximately \$3,500 of the \$6,800 was not expended as planned for.

05/03 Moved by: Councillor Tenzzen
Seconded by: Councillor Wagner

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie provide a grant of \$3,522 to Portage District Arts Council representing the remaining funds in the combined 2002 accounts named "Old Library Building – Janitorial", "Arts Council Janitorial", and "Old Library Building Maintenance/Repair."
Carried.

LaVerendrye Parent Advisory Council - Request for Outdoor Rink Grant

The City of Portage la Prairie's Outdoor Rink Grant Policy has been in effect since 1998. The purpose of the policy is to provide a maximum grant of \$500 to assist neighborhoods to create and maintain an outdoor skating rink for community use.

The La Verendrye School Parent Advisory Council (PAC) has completed an application for the Outdoor Rink Grant. The proposed rink is to be located on the North side of the La Verendrye School, the same location as proposed in the past.

This is the fifth year that the PAC has applied for the Outdoor Rink Grant and they have successfully provided an outdoor skating venue each year, with the exception of 2001.

06/03 Moved by: Councillor Tenzzen
Seconded by: Councillor Wagner

RESOLVED THAT Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the request for grant funding in the amount of up to \$500.00 to the La Verendrye School Parent Advisory Council as per policy #ECD-CD-AB Outdoor Rink Grant Policy.
Carried.

Winterlights Program Update –
For Information Only

Council reviewed the activities planned for the Winterlights Celebration that was held on December 14, 2002.

Councillor Brennan commented on the success of the Winterlights Celebration. Winner will be announced in mid-February. Mayor MacKenzie thanked sponsors, staff and Council for their hard work.

Monthly Activity Reports

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports.

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

City Debentures – Issue Series
“C” By-Law No. 03-8171- 1st
Reading

The City’s share of costs for the Water Plant and Water Pollution Control Facility upgrades were approved in the 2002 and 2003 budget with funding through the issuance of debentures and recovered by the tax sharing agreement with the Rural Municipality of Portage La Prairie and water & sewer revenues from Simplot. By-Law 01-8093 was approved by Council and approved by the Municipal Board to authorize debentures amounting up to \$6,587,000.

Tenders for the projects are being awarded with construction and billings throughout the summer. The issuance of a 15 year debenture dated for March 2003 in the amount of \$700,000 is required. The total city debentures issued to date towards these projects is \$6,000,000 including this request.

Each debenture issue requires a separate by-law to amend the initial by-law’s payment schedule and first reading prior to submission to the Municipal Board for their approval. Upon their approval, the City will then give 2nd and 3rd reading to the by-law.

07/03 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 03-8171 to amend By-Law 01-8093 to allow for the issuance of \$700,000 in debentures be given 1st Reading.
Carried.

RM Loan through Debentures
– Issue Series “E” By-Law
No. 03-8170 – 1st Reading

By formal agreement, the City has agreed to administer the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie’s share of costs and land purchases for the Simplot projects through the issuance annual debenture payments.

By-Law 01-8095 was approved by Council and approved by the Municipal Board to authorize debentures for the RM amounting up to \$4,800,000. Construction has been ongoing since last year. The issuance of a 15 year debenture dated for March 1, 2003 in the amount of \$1,100,000 on behalf of the RM is now required. This will bring the total issuance of debt on behalf of the RM to \$4,600,000.

Each debenture issue requires a separate by-law to amend initial by-law’s payment schedule and first reading prior to submission to the Municipal Board for their approval. Upon their approval, the City will then give 2nd & 3rd reading to the by-law.

08/03 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
 Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 03-8170 to amend By-Law 01-8095 for debentures on behalf of the RM to allow for the issuance of \$1,100,000 in debentures be given 1st Reading.
 Carried.

By-Law 03-8173 To Amend
 Fees & Charges By-Law 02-8166 – 1st Reading

Restricted Animal License

The new Animal Control By-Law establishes a regulation whereby an application to keep a restricted animal (defined in the by-law) must first be approved by Council. The license fee of \$100, if permission is granted, was inadvertently left out of the Fees and Charges By-Law.

Criminal Record Checks:

At the present time, the RCMP complete Criminal Record Checks for volunteer and non-profit organizations at no cost to those organizations. All other requests for Criminal Record Checks are currently charged \$10.00, however this charge is not listed in the Fees and Charges By-Law. It is recommended that the cost for Criminal Record Checks be raised to \$25.00 for all requests for Criminal Record Checks EXCEPT for those requests from volunteer and non-profit organizations, which shall remain free of charge. It is further recommended that this fee be included in the Fees and Charges By-Law.

Solid Waste Disposal Fees

Tipping fees at the PR 227 landfill are currently charged to all City-based commercial waste haulers on a volumetric basis at \$7 per cubic yard. Any person, company or organization that hauls their own waste to the landfill is not charged tipping fees. The City, under agreement with the Rural Municipality, has no jurisdiction to impose tipping fees on any person or company operating in the RM.

With the installation of a weigh scale at the landfill, it is proposed to change the tipping fee rate to a mass-based (\$/metric tonne) rate from the volumetric rate. It is also proposed to have all residents, companies, or organizations in the City that haul waste to the landfill pay tipping fees.

The goal is to make the landfill operation self-sufficient and to have the operational expenses paid for by the users.

Tipping fee rates in other communities are as follows:

Landfill	Commercial Fee	Small Personal Vehicle Fee
Winnipeg - Brady	\$22.50/tonne(02 rate)	\$4.00/load (02 rate)
Brandon	\$32.00/tonne(03 rate)	\$3.00/load (03 rate)
SWAMP – Winkler/ Morden	\$23.00/tonne(02 rate)	\$5.00/load (up to 200 kg) (02 rate)

SWAMP also charges 50% more for haulers from outside the member municipalities and it is proposed that this additional fee also be charged in the City of Portage la Prairie By-Law.

Athletic Fields - Republic Park:

The Portage Baseball Ad-hoc Committee, who has successfully coordinated the development of the Republic of Manitobah diamond project has reviewed the athletic field fees and charges and has had the opportunity to provide recommendation. Based on their input and research into other similar diamond facilities, Administration recommends the following for the 2003 Fees and Charges By-law:

With the completion of the new #9 fastball diamond at Republic of

Manitobah Park scheduled for use in the spring of 2003, it is recommended to include a separate user fee per game, for tournament play and for use of lights as an additional service.

In comparison to existing City of Portage la Prairie fees and charges, the adult rate for diamond #9 is set the same as the adult rates charged for Pan Am Stadium. The youth rate is recommended to stay the same as the youth rate charged for Beaver Stadium. By keeping the rates similar to existing facility charges this should encourage usage of the new diamonds at an affordable price.

Compared to other similar facilities in Brandon, Winnipeg, Winkler and Stonewall, diamond #9 adult rates are on average \$18.33 lower and youth rates \$12.01 lower than the average rates. Non city users rates are \$0.17 lower per game than the average rate and tournament rates are also slightly lower by \$6.17 day, which may encourage maximized usage of the new diamond.

Additional services such as lines, bases and lights would be charged as per the fees and charges by-law.

Under the Municipal Act, a by-law comes into force and effect on the day following third reading. In this case, the by-law will be effective on January 28, 2003

Councillor Wagner requested we check on the \$12.00 rate for lights.

Councillor Keryluk questioned the \$5.00 fee for small personal vehicle fee, in comparison to Winnipeg at \$4.00.

Councillor Keryluk also questioned the hydrocarbon contaminated soil fee.

09/03 Moved by: Councillor Quinn

Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 03-8173 being a by-law to amend Fees and Charges By-Law No. 02-8166 as follows:

1. In Schedule "A" by adding the following clauses:

"7.(c) Restricted Animals

The fee payable for a license to keep a restricted animal as defined in the Animal Control By-Law, if approved by Council, shall be

\$100.00

"9. Criminal Records Check

Criminal Record Checks for volunteer and non-profit Organizations

N/C

All other requests for Criminal Record Checks

\$25.00

2. In Schedule "B" by deleting Clause 1(a) and replacing it with the following new clause:

"1(a) Solid Waste:

The fee payable for the disposal of waste in the Solid Waste Disposal Site shall be:

i) commercial fee – per tonne \$25.00

ii) small personal vehicle fee – per load up to 200 kg \$ 5.00

iii) clean cover material N/C

iv) special agriculture waste cost + 30%

v) hydrocarbon contaminated soil – per cu. yard \$22.00

vi) other solid waste requiring special handling – per tonne \$50.00

vii) haulers from RM of Portage La Prairie as per agreement

viii) haulers from other municipalities (other than

City and RM of PlaP) and Reserves above rate + 50%

3. in Schedule "C" on page 20 to include the following new rates under Athletic Fields (Republic Park):

NAME OF FEE	GST	RATE	Proposed Rate (2003)
Adult Base Rate #9	\$1.10	\$15.67	\$16.77
Youth Base Rate #9	\$0.54	\$ 7.97	\$ 8.53
Non Resident Base Rate #9	\$2.29	\$32.64	\$34.93

and under Additional Services:

NAME OF FEE	GST	RATE	Proposed Rate (2003)
Lights for Diamond #9	\$0.78	\$11.22	\$12.00

and under Tournament Rates

NAME OF FEE	GST	RATE	Proposed Rate (2003)
City User Diamond #9	\$ 3.29	\$47.01	\$ 50.30
Non-City User Diamond #9	\$ 6.85	\$97.92	\$104.77
Youth Tournament Rate #9	\$167.00	\$23.91	\$ 25.58

be now introduced and read a first time.
Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

10/03 Moved by: Councillor Brennan
Seconded by: Councillor Wagner
RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourns at 6:24 p.m.
Carried.

Mayor

Manager of Administration