

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers of the City of Portage la Prairie on Monday, December 12, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Brennan, Councillors Keryluk, Quinn, Robinson, Porter, Wagner.

ABSENT: Mayor MacKenzie

ADOPTION OF MINUTES 303/05 Moved by: Councillor Wagner
Seconded by: Councillor Keryluk
RESOLVED THAT the Council Minutes of the November 28th, 2005 Regular Meeting of Council be approved as circulated.
Carried.

DELEGATIONS: None

HEARINGS: None

CORRESPONDENCE The correspondence for this period was reviewed.

COMMITTEES:

Finance, Legislative & Property Committee: **The Finance, Legislative and Property Committee respectfully submits the following reports:**

Unpaid Water, Sewer & Solid Waste to Taxes (November) – By-Law 05-8265 -1st Reading
This is part of the normal monthly procedure to allow unpaid water, sewer and solid waste accounts to be added to property taxes.

304/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 05-8265 being a by-law to authorize unpaid water, sewer and solid waste charges be added to taxes be read a first time.
Carried.

2006 Property Tax Discount Rate – By-law 05-8289 – 2nd & 3rd Reading
Based on the City's current savings rate of 3% and the current 90-day Treasury Bill rate of 3.11%, the recommended tax discount rate is 1.5% in January, decreasing by .25% per month to reach par in July. This would provide an effective annual rate of 3%.

This By-Law was given first reading on November 28, 2005.

305/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED That By-Law # 05-8289 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.

AND FURTHER THAT By-law 05-8289 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed.

Carried.

In Favour: Deputy Mayor Brennan, Councillors Porter, Quinn, Wagner, Robinson, and Keryluk.

Short Term Borrowing By-Law – By-Law 05-8290 – 2nd & 3rd Reading
By-Law No. 05-8290 will set up a line of credit for 2006, at no cost to the City, which can be drawn on only in the event it is required, with interest charges applying from that time on.

This By-Law was given first reading on November 28, 2005.

- 306/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 05-8290 to set up a line of credit with the city's financial institution be given 2nd Reading.
Carried.
AND FURTHER THAT By-Law 05-8290 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed.
Carried.
In Favour: Deputy Mayor Brennan, Councillors Porter, Quinn, Keryluk, Robinson and Wagner

Tax Cancellation
Request – CP Rail
Station – By-Law 05-
8292 – 2nd & 3rd
Reading.

The Assessment Branch has changed the taxation status for this property to be school tax exempt effective 2006. As per the Assessment Act, the City may by by-law exempt municipal taxes under this new classification to take effect 2006.

This By-Law received first reading on November 28, 2005.

- 307/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED That By-Law No. 05-8292 being a by-law to exempt the CP Rail Station from municipal taxes effective January 1, 2006 be read a second time.
Carried.
AND FURTHER THAT By-law No 05-8292 be read a third time, finally passed signed and sealed.
Carried.
In Favour: Deputy Mayor Brennan, Councillors Porter, Quinn, Wagner, Robinson, and Keryluk.

Northeast Route
Debentures – Issue
Series B & C – By-Law
05-8291 – 1st Reading

The City's share of costs for the Northeast Transportation Route was approved in the 2003 to 2005 budgets with funding through the issuance of debentures. By-Law 03-8199 was approved by Council and approved by the Municipal Board to authorize debentures amounting up to \$1,000,000.

The City's share of the project costs to date has been received and paid by the City. To date, costs for the City for this project is \$702,133.17. A 15 year debenture for the amount of \$370,000 was issued in 2004 and an additional \$275,000 in debentures is now required. The Portage & Community Foundation will fund \$75,000 of the requirement and the Province of Manitoba funding the remaining \$200,000.

- 308/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 05-8291 to amend By-Law 03-8199 authorizing debentures for the N.E. Transportation Route be given 1st Reading and

AND FURTHER THAT the by-law be forwarded to the Municipal Board for approval.
Carried.

Interim 2006 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 1st.

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

309/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
 Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT the interim 2006 General Operating Fund budget of \$7,100,000, the 2006 interim General Capital Fund budget of \$500,000, the 2006 interim Utility Operating Fund budget of \$3,500,000, and the 2006 interim Utility Capital Fund budget of \$1,000,000 be approved.
 Carried.

Council Meeting
 Schedule – 2006

At the request of Council only one meeting has been scheduled for the month of July and one for the month of August. In 2005 we held only one meeting during the month of August. There is also only one meeting scheduled for the month of November as the AMM convention dates are November 27 to 30, 2006 which includes the fourth Monday in November. Due to the Christmas holidays there is only one meeting in December. Council discussed meeting dates for October, after the election date.

310/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
 Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT The Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the Council Meeting dates for the year 2006 as follows:

January 9	June 12
January 23	June 26
February 13	July 10
February 27	August 14
March 13	September 11
March 27	September 25
April 10	October 10 (Tuesday, due to Thanksgiving)
April 24	October 23
May 8	November 13
May 23 (Tuesday, due to Victoria Day)	December 11

Carried.

Easement – Good
 Shepherd Church/Lion's
 Manor

The City requires easements over the Good Shepherd Church and Lions Manor properties for the construction and maintenance of a concrete sidewalk to be constructed in 2006.

311/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
 Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the signing of agreements between the City of Portage la Prairie and the Roman Catholic Archbishopial Corporation of Winnipeg, and also between the City and Regional Health Authority (Lions Manor), authorizing the easement over the properties.
 Carried.

Planning District
 Property Purchase

Council reviewed this report in camera on November 28, 2005.

312/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
 Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT the City of Portage la Prairie purchase the property located on 800 Saskatchewan Avenue West, legally described as Lots F,G,H and I, Block 2, Plan 100 PLTO in RL 60 Parish of Portage la Prairie, and

THAT the Portage la Prairie Planning District pay for all legal costs related to the purchase, and

THAT the funds for the purchase of the above noted property and related renovations be temporarily withdrawn from the Land Development Reserve for \$130,000.00 to be replenished by the General

Reserve in 2006 and advance the renovations amount of \$45,000 from the General Reserve in 2006, and

THAT the City of Portage la Prairie enter into a lease agreement with the Portage la Prairie Planning District to recover the costs over 10 years, including interest at 5.375% related to the purchase and the renovations of the above noted property, and

FURTHER THAT the Mayor and Manager of Administration be authorized to sign such lease agreement.

Carried.

**City Planning &
Economic
Development**

The City Planning and Economic Development Committee has nothing to report.

**Public Safety
Committee**

The Public Safety Committee has nothing to report.

**Waterworks
Committee**

The Waterworks Committee submits the following report:

Water Distribution
System Quality Report –
For Information Only

The Phosphoric Acid Feed system was put into operation at the Water Treatment Plant to inhibit the corrosion and dissolution of metals from the internal walls of the piping within the water distribution system.

The Phosphoric Acid was fed into the system at 0.65 mg/l in 2005. The residual in the distribution system water tested at a level of 0.30 to 0.465 mg/L at different test locations.

Test results were accumulated from several areas of the City and some samples on lead services showed lead concentrations higher than the Health objective of 0.01mg/L.

The distribution system will be monitored on a bimonthly basis for metals and for phosphoric acid feed control.

It is recommended that the practice of running cold water for a two to three minute period be continued before drinking or cooking with the water at homes with lead water service lines.

**Transportation
Committee**

The Transportation Committee submits the following reports:

Amendment To Traffic
By-Law

The traffic By-Law authorizes City Council to make changes to the installation and location of traffic control signage and designation of streets within the City. A Council resolution is necessary to add or delete traffic control signage and change street designation.

The R.C.M.P. has requested that a one hour maximum parking sign be placed on the north side of Lorne Avenue East, between 3rd Street N.E. and 4th Street N.E., which encompasses the parking spots available to the public who are utilizing the Public Safety Building to conduct business.

313/05 Moved by: Councillor Keryluk
Seconded by: Councillor Porter

RESOLVED THAT Council authorize amendments to the following sections of the Traffic By-Law No. 01-8105:

Schedule “D” No Parking Areas, new clause “B.1 – 1 Hour Parking Restriction”,

Schedule to provide for the installation of a one hour only parking sign on the north side of Lorne Avenue East, between 3rd Street N.E. and 4th Street N.E. which encompasses the parking spots available to the public who are

utilizing the Public Safety Building to conduct business; and

Schedule “D” No Parking Areas Clause “A”, sub clause 12 to add the following words at the end of the sub clause “, excluding parking spots referenced in Clause B.1”.

Carried.

21st Street NW – Local
Improvement Plan – By-
Law 05-8282 – 2nd & 3rd
Reading

The cost of the project would be borne by the adjacent landowners, and shared on a lot frontage basis. The total cost of constructing the road base and paving the street, with curb and gutter is estimated at \$151,000 plus \$10,000 for engineering work. The project would take place in 2006 if the local improvement plan is approved.

Council approved the plan in June and property owners of 21st Street NW were notified of the costs and given an opportunity to object to the local improvement plan. There was one objection filed with the Municipal Board. Council gave 1st reading to the By-Law on August 8, 2005.

The Municipal Board approved the local improvement by-law with some wording changes to reflect the debentured rate per year per frontage foot rather than the current total rate per frontage foot.

The by-law, with the enclosed amendments, is now ready for 2nd and 3rd reading.

- 314/05 Moved by: Councillor Keryluk
Seconded by: Councillor Porter
THAT By-Law No. 05-8282, being the by-law for the Local Improvement Plan No. RD05-01-V1 to construct and pave 21st Street N.W. be amended as follows:
- A) the fourth “Whereas” Clause, fifth line, insert the following after “capital budget”; “or it was made to fund an expenditure authorized under subsection 169(5)”;
 - B) In Clause No. 6, second line, delete “\$118.49” and replace “\$17.27”; and
 - C) In Schedule “B”: to By-Law No. 05-8282, item (d), delete “\$118.49” and replace with “\$17.27”; and
 - D) In Schedule “B” to By-Law No. 05-8282, item (g), delete “\$118.29” and replace with “\$17.27”.

THAT By-Law No. 05-8282, be given second reading as amended.
Carried.

THAT the By-Law No. 05-8282 be given third reading, finally signed, sealed and passed.

Carried.

In Favour: Deputy Mayor Brennan, Councillors Quinn, Porter, Wagner, Keryluk and Robinson.

Community Services Committee

Winterlights
Celebrations – For
Information Only

The Community Services Committee submits the following report :

Council reviewed a report outlining the Winterlights Celebration from December 1-3, 2005. Another successful event with the judges having very positive comments towards our community. Congratulations to all the volunteers on a job well done.

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

Animal Control Tender

- 315/05 Council discussed the Animal Control Tender.
Moved by: Councillor Wagner
Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Animal Control Tender be awarded to Hawker Enterprises for five years in accordance with the renegotiated bid. Councillor Porter requested the vote be recorded.

Carried.

In Favour: Deputy Mayor Ken Brennan, Councillors Quinn, Robinson, Keryluk and Wagner.

Against: Councillor Porter

NEW BUSINESS:

Central Plains Hockey
Team Members
Fundraiser

Members of the Central Plains 'Rink Rats' hockey team would like to offer their services to collect Christmas trees in January in return for a lump sum grant, as part of their fundraising efforts for a planned trip to Europe for a hockey tournament.

City staff normally collects Christmas trees for 3 to 4 weeks in January and chip them as they go. The chips are stored and used by the Parks Division. The proposal would see the hockey team collect the trees in the evenings of January 2nd through 13th, and store them at a location designated by the City. City staff would then chip the trees at the storage site at a future date.

We did not keep track of actual staff time spent on the tree collection program in the past since it was quite sporadic, however, it is estimated that we had two staff for approximately 3 hours per day for about 15 days (90 hours). This includes chipping the trees as they were collected and stockpiling the chips.

I estimate it would take 2 staff 2 days to chip the stockpiled trees and stockpile the chips. If the Team collected and stockpiled the trees, it would reduce the City's time on this task by about 58 hours - or about \$1200. The City doesn't really "save" 58 hours, since staff would be re-allocated to different tasks. The City would also have reduced equipment and fuel costs on this task of a few hundred dollars.

CUPE Local 1002 has agreed not to grieve this proposal, since it does not reduce the number of paid work hours for its members.

The Central Plains Rink Rats Hockey Team has made a request of \$1400 to collect these trees.

316/05 Moved by: Councillor Keryluk
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED That Council approve a payment of \$1400 to the Central Plains 'Rink Rats' hockey team, in return for the collection and stockpiling of Christmas trees from boulevards from January 2nd through 13th, 2006.

Carried.

Portage & District
Terriers Request for
Occasional Liquor
Permit

The Portage and District Terriers have requested an occasional liquor permit for their upcoming hockey game on December 31, 2005. The Manitoba Liquor Control Commission requires authorization from the City of Portage la Prairie, as owners of the facility, before issuing a liquor permit to the organizers.

Administratively, we have no concerns in supporting this request once again.

317/05 Moved by: Councillor Porter
Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the request of the Portage & District Terriers to obtain an occasional liquor permit through the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission for the Saturday, December 31, 2005 hockey game to be held at the Portage Centennial Arena.

Carried.

Sissons Drive/Park
Drive Area Subdivision

To authorize the revised subdivision and reconfiguration of property in the area of Park Drive and Sissons Drive to form eleven titles, from the existing 20 lots. The subdivision, as originally proposed, received Council approval earlier this year.

On March 28, 2005, Council authorized the subdivision and reconfiguration of property in the Sissons Drive/Park Drive. A subsequent revision to the parcel configuration was approved by Council on May 24, 2005 to form 10 titles varying in size from 1510.9 square metres to 61274.4 square metres from 18 existing lots totaling 148,655.3 square metres. The proposed revision to the subdivision now incorporates Lots 8 and 16, Block 5, Plan 1810, as well as reconfiguring the parcel lines within the development area, now totaling 164,073.3 square meters.

The subdivision refers to Lots 2–8, Blk 2, Plan 1810 PLTO; Lots 8 -17, Blk 5, Plan 1810 PLTO; Part Lot 3, Plan 21353, PLTO; and Lots 3 & 4, Plan 20642, and Closed part of Park Drive; City of Portage la Prairie, as per application from 73409 Manitoba Ltd. and 3346200 Manitoba Ltd. Manitoba Planning Services has recommended approval with the understanding that a permit will be obtained from the Highway Traffic Board for the change in land use and any construction within 1500 feet from the intersection of PTH 1A. Also, approval should be conditional upon the applicant providing legal access to the landlocked parcels by a right-of-way declaration.

318/05 Moved by Councillor Wagner
Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie authorize the subdivision of 20 existing lots, as shown on the attached sketch, to form 18 parcels and 11 titles, with the following conditions:
1) that a permit will be obtained from the Highway Traffic Board for the change in land use and any construction within 1500 feet from the intersection of PTH 1A; and
2) that the applicant provide legal access to the landlocked parcels by a right-of-way declaration.

Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Manager of Administration

Mayor