

Minutes of a Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers of the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie on Monday, February 14, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor MacKenzie, Councillors Brennan, Keryluk, Robinson, Porter, Quinn and Wagner

ABSENT:

ADOPTION OF MINUTES 31/05 Moved by: Councillor Wagner
Seconded by: Councillor Quinn
RESOLVED THAT the Council Minutes of the January 24th, 2005 Council Meeting be approved as circulated.
Carried.

DELEGATIONS: **Proposed School Amalgamation:**
Council was earlier provided with a petition of 126 names opposing the proposed amalgamation. A delegation of approximately 25 adults and children were present at the meeting.

Norman Collier spoke on behalf of the group to ask Council to “commit to working openly, fairly, and transparently with the School Board and with local residents so that everyone feels involved in the decision-making process.”

Ms. Jocelyn Lequier-Jobin indicated she had done some research and would be making a presentation to the Portage School Division to make them aware of other possible options.

Ms. JanMarie Graham also spoke to Council in opposition to the amalgamation.

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 report:**

Unpaid Water & Sewer to Taxes – December – By-Law 05-8253 – 2nd & 3rd Reading
This is part of the normal monthly procedure to allow unpaid water and sewer accounts to be added to property taxes.

32/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-Law 05-8253 being a by-law to authorize unpaid water and sewer charges be added to taxes be read a second time.
Carried.

THAT By-law 05-8253 be read a third time, finally passed, signed and sealed.

Carried.

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

Unpaid Water & Sewer to Taxes – January – By-Law 05-8255 – 1st Reading.
This is part of the normal monthly procedure to allow unpaid water and sewer accounts to be added to property taxes.

33/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
THAT By-Law 05-8255 being a by-law to authorize unpaid water and

sewer accounts be added to taxes be read a first time.
Carried.

Unpaid Trailer License
to Taxes – By-Law 05-
8267 – 1st Reading

The Fees & Charges Bylaw 00-8078 states: “ THAT any unpaid fees or charges owed to the City by any tax payer including any penalties related thereto as well as any fines imposed on the tax payer by the court for contravention of the City By-Laws may be added to the taxes of the said tax payer and may be collected or enforced in the same manner as a tax as defined by the Municipal Act, L.M. 1996 c.58.”

In order to collect unpaid trailer license fees, it is the City’s practice to semi-annually add sums of money owing to the City of Portage la Prairie for trailer license fees to the Collector’s Roll.

34/05 Moved by: Councillor Quinn
Seconded by: Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED That By-law No. 05-8267 being a by-law to authorize the unpaid 2004 trailer license fees as per schedule “A” be added to taxes, be read a first time.
Carried.

CUPE Negotiations

Council reviewed a report on the current CUPE negotiations in camera.

**City Planning &
Economic
Development**

The City Planning and Economic Development Committee respectfully submits the following report:

Application for
Subdivision – RL 119
Parish of Portage la
Prairie

The proposed lot is to be sold and used to locate a machine shed to store machinery for a custom combining business.

The Department of Agriculture is not in favour of this subdivision as it removes prime agricultural land from production. This type of non-source based land use may be better directed to an existing agro-commercial area or to land of lower agricultural capability. However, it should be noted that this property has in recent years been used for hay crops only.

A permit is required from the Highway Traffic Board for the change in use of the driveway and the change in use of the land or for any buildings or structures to be placed within 125 feet of the edge of the right-of-way or PTH 1. A legal description and an easement for telephone lines is also required.

This application has been circulated to various City Departments with no concerns being expressed.

35/05 Moved by: Councillor Brennan
Seconded by: Councillor Wagner
RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie authorize the subdivision of 12.58 acres from the present holding of 114.01 acres of RL 119 Parish or Portage la Prairie.
Carried.

Portage la Prairie
International Committee
Members

As approved by City Council, on November 29, 2004, the Portage la Prairie International Committee (PIC) will be comprised of a cross section of individuals and organizations from the community.

The primary functions of the PIC and its members will be:

- To act as program advisors and assist in the development of policy as required
- To lead and provide expertise and leadership to the agency
- To assist in creating of public education and cultural

awareness programs as well as encouraging citizenship awareness and participation through education

- To act as the direct linkage to the community
- To co-ordinate a volunteer drive that would include mentoring, and conversation groups for immigrants
- To host Citizenship Court receptions for new Canadians

Key responsibilities of each individual member will be

- To report the impact of immigration on their community segment
- To assist the Portage International Agency in future planning and accessing resource
- To communicate immigration challenges, information and undertakings to the broad community segment that they represent
- To elicit feedback from their broad community segment and provide the information to the committee

The representing organizations, the Chamber, School Division, Regional Health Authority, Rural Municipality, Central Manitoba Literacy Association, and the Ministerial Association were invited to submit members for review and approval by City Council, which they have done.

36/05 Moved by: Councillor Brennan

Seconded by: Councillor Wagner

RESOLVED That Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the following individuals as members of the Portage la Prairie International Committee:

Chamber of Commerce Representative - Will Pacholuk

Chamber of Commerce Representative - Irene Soque-Hewitt

Portage la Prairie School Division Representative - Dennis Shindle

Regional Health Authority Representative – Cindy Joel

Rural Municipality Representative - Councillor J.T. Trimble

Central Manitoba Literacy Representative – Jim Files

City Council Member – Councillor Ken Brennan

Portage la Prairie Ministerial Assoc. Representative – Rev. Jean Bryden

Carried.

Public Safety Committee

Fire Prevention &
Emergency Services By-
Law – By-Law 05-8266
– 1st Reading

The Public Safety Committee respectfully submits the following report.

The City of Portage la Prairie Fire By-Law 7724 was approved by Council in 1995 and is in need of updating. One of the major changes to the by-law includes the deletion of reference to “pre-hospital emergency medical services” since the Fire Department is no longer involved with ambulance services.

In accordance with the new Municipal Act, there are several new clauses in the by-law involving recovery of costs, response outside the City, authority of the Fire Chief to enlist the help of any adult person, and to retain security for the premises.

The Department intends to pursue new training initiatives in such areas as confined space rescue, trench rescue, and ground search & rescue. These specialized areas would require monetary commitments for training and equipment and as such would be requested through the normal budget processes for Council’s consideration.

37/05 Moved by: Councillor Wagner
 Seconded by: Councillor Brennan
 RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 05-8266 providing for fire fighting and fire prevention be now introduced and read a first time.
 Carried.

Monthly Activity Reports

Council reviewed the monthly activity reports from the RCMP for the months of November and December 2004. Administration was requested to provide a comparison of false alarm reports before and after the Alarm By-Law was amended.

Fire Agreement with the RM of Portage la Prairie

Council reviewed a report on this issue in camera.

Waterworks Committee

The Waterworks Committee has nothing to report.

Transportation Committee

**Your Worship:
 The Transportation Committee respectfully submits the following report:**

Grant-In-Aid Request

The proposed Grant-In-Aid submission to Manitoba Department of Highways and Transportation will include the following projects and estimated costs:

	Total Cost	GIA Request	City Share
Industrial Park Road Construction – 150 meters of Phillips Street	\$120,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Dust Control on Gravel Roads (Total Length=1.91 km)	\$5,730	\$2,865	\$2,865
Total	\$125,730	\$62,865	\$62,865

There is \$60,000 in the annual overlay budget allocated for industrial park roads; however, it is proposed that only the amount of money equal to the value of the grant will be spent. The remaining budget will be reallocated to non-GIA overlays.

The total 2005 Grant-In-Aid submission request is \$62,865. The 2005 budget includes the City's share of the projects listed above.

38/05 Moved by: Councillor Keryluk
 Seconded by: Councillor Porter
 RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie submit a Grant-In-Aid request for a total of \$62,865, in the following priority:

1. Dust Control on Gravel roads (\$2,865)
2. Industrial Park Road Reconstruction, 150 meters of Phillips Street (\$60,000)

Carried.

Traffic By-Law Amendment – By-Law 05-8254 – 2nd & 3rd Reading

This By-Law received first reading on January 24, 2005, and is now ready to receive 2nd & 3rd Reading.

39/05 Moved by: Councillor Keryluk
 Seconded by: Councillor Porter
 RESOLVED THAT By-Law 05-8254 amending the Traffic By-Law 01-8105 be now read a second time.
 Carried.

RESOLVED THAT By-Law 05-8254 be read a third time, finally

passed, signed and sealed.

Carried.

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

Community Services

Your Worship:

The Community Services Committee respectfully submits the following report:

Community Event
Permit Request – Coors
Light Silver Summer
Throwdown

The Coors Light Silver Summer Throwdown will be hosting their 3rd Annual event this August in Portage la Prairie. They have requested a Community Event Permit for Island Park from August 12 – August 14, 2005 for the purpose of a beer garden to be located near the concessions and event.

The Manitoba Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) requires authorization from the City of Portage la Prairie, as owners of the facility, before issuing a liquor permit to the organizers.

In addition, Coors Light Silver Summer Throwdown will be required to secure liability insurance to host the beer gardens and will be required to submit a copy of such policy and their security plan at the time of signing the City's facility use agreement. Administratively, there are no concerns in supporting this request.

40/05

Moved by: Councillor Porter

Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the request from the Coors Light Silver Summer Throwdown to obtain a community event permit for their event to be held at Island Park August 12-14, 2005.

Carried.

Portage Dog Show
Camping Request

The Portage Kennel Club Annual Championship Dog Show traditionally takes place on the Canada Day weekend in the City of Portage la Prairie. The show attracts hundreds of competitors and spectators from across Manitoba and neighboring provinces. The snow fencing provided has been used to prevent dogs from trespassing onto nearby residential properties and has been the responsibility of the Portage Kennel Club to pick-up, set up and take down.

Council has previously permitted camping in the West parking lot of the Portage Centennial Arena for this Dog Show and for the Shrine Circus. Administratively, there are no concerns in supporting this request.

41/05

Moved by: Councillor Porter

Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie permit the Portage Kennel Club to camp on the West parking lot of the Portage Centennial Arena for their Annual Championship Dog Show June 30, July 1, 2, and 3, 2005.

Carried.

AND FURTHER THAT the Portage Kennel Club be responsible for the installation, rental and return of all required snow fencing and further that the West parking area be cleaned and restored to its prior condition at the full cost of the Portage Kennel Club to the sole satisfaction of the City.

Carried.

Contract for Operation
and Maintenance of the
Centennial Arena
Complex

At the present Portage Arena Services 1996 has the contract for arena maintenance until April 30 2005. Section GC.9.03 of the contract states that the City, at its sole discretion, may extend the contract for up to three one-year periods. In 2004, the second one-year extension was granted.

The original contract was for the Operation and Maintenance For the Centennial Arena for a term of 48 months until April 30, 2003. Portage Arena Services, under the Management of Mr. Jim Nickels, has held the contract for the past 9 years and has carried out an excellent job.

The contract has a built in Consumer Price Index adjustment on May 1 by the percent increase or decrease in CPI for the previous year.

The current annual contract price is \$166,121.28.

By extending the Portage Arena Services 1996, Ltd. contract for another year, the City is ensuring that the Arena has a qualified contractor at a guaranteed cost, with an increase equal to the CPI for 2004/05, which is estimated at 3%, which equates to an increase of \$4,983,63 in the annual contract price.

42/05 Moved by: Councillor Porter

Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED That the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie award a one-year extension of the contract for the Operation and Maintenance of the Centennial Arena to Portage Arena Services 1996 Ltd. for the contract price of \$166,121.28, including all applicable taxes, plus the CPI adjustment on May 1, 2005.

Carried.

Southport Recreation
Complex

Council reviewed a report on the Southport Recreation Complex in camera.

43/05 Moved by: Councillor Porter

Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the City advise the RM and Southport Aerospace Centre Inc. that the City will pay 1/3 of the cost of a study, with the City's share not to exceed \$10,000, to conduct a recreation facility analysis which would include an assessment of the structural, electrical, mechanical systems and any auxiliary amenities that would be associated with the facility, along with identifying potential capital improvements required at the Southport recreation facility on condition that City staff are involved in and agree with the terms of work established for the study.

Carried.

Appointment of Weeds
Inspector

It is a requirement of the Noxious Weeds Act that every municipality annually appoint a Weeds Inspector and notify the Department of Agriculture of the appointment. This appointee carries out the provisions of the Noxious Weeds Act. Dave Green has been the City's appointee for a number of years.

44/05 Moved by: Councillor Porter

Seconded by: Councillor Quinn

THAT in accordance with Section 11 of The Noxious Weeds Act, Council of the City of Portage la Prairie appoint Dave Green as the City's Noxious Weeds Inspector;

AND FURTHER THAT this appointment be conveyed to the Director of Soils and Crops Branch of the Department of Agriculture.

Carried.

**DEFERRED
BUSINESS:**

None

NEW BUSINESS:
Request for Community
Event Permit for
Fundraising Concert

The Portage and District Terriers have requested that their upcoming fundraiser concern on April 16, 2005 be identified as a community event for the purpose of obtaining an occasional use permit through the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission (MLCC).

The MLCC requires authorization from the City of Portage la Prairie to authorize the event as a community event, before the will issue a liquor permit to the organizers. The MLCC has granted a total of six community event permits for use in the City of Portage la Prairie in 2005. To date, Throwdown has requested approval for a community event permit. In previous years, Council has authorized similar events to proceed in obtaining a community event permit, including the Portage Phillies McCains Slo-Pitch Tournament in June.

The Spring Fling Concert is a fundraiser to assist the Portage & District Terriers to manage their operating expenditures for the season.

45/05 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 a community event permit for the Spring Fling Fundraising Concert to be held at the Portage Curling Club on Saturday, April 16, 2005.
Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:
Request for Streetlight –
520 – 6th Avenue NW

On November 29, 2004, Council authorized the installation of a private 100 watt street light on an existing pole near the rear of the lot at 520 – 6th Avenue West.

46/05 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Keryluk

RESOLVED THAT Resolution 291/04 be amended to delete the words, “on an existing pole near the rear of the lot at 520–6th Avenue West, at the junction of the two lanes”, and replace them with the words, “on an existing pole number 0-048-260”.
Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor

Manager of Administration