

MINUTES of a Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, June 12, 2006 at 6:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Ian A. MacKenzie, Councillors Keryluk, Porter, Quinn, Robinson, and Wagner

ABSENT: Councillor Ken Brennan

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: 128/06 Moved by Councillor Wagner
Seconded by Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Council Minutes of the May 23, 2006, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as circulated.
Carried.

DELEGATIONS:

1. Manitoba Air Show Presentation
Hayden Henwood representing the Manitoba Air Show presented the Mayor with a picture of the Snowbirds, and extended thanks to the City for its outstanding support of the Air Show.

Mayor MacKenzie extended the City's appreciation to Mr. Henwood for the revival of the Air Show and a job well done.

2. Portage Water Sport Club re: Use of Crescent Lake
Jill Thompson appeared before Council on behalf of the Portage Water Sports Club to request Council's consideration of a lease agreement with the City.

3. Fay Dubetz, Barney's Men's Wear re: Harrison Lot
Fay Dubetz appeared before Council to speak in opposition to the proposal to turn the lot at 214 Saskatchewan Avenue E. into a public walkway. A petition, along with several letters, were also presented from various concerned business owners in the area.

HEARINGS:

Financial Plan Amendment
No one appeared at the hearing.

129/06 Moved by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the public hearing for the Financial Plan amendment now be closed.
Carried.

A significant sewer main break on Phoebe Street occurred in early May. On May 4, a special meeting of Council was held to advise administration to proceed to tender to replace the utility lines servicing Phoebe Street, Meighen Avenue, Campbell Place and LaVerendrye Crescent.

The cost to replace the lines is estimated at \$500,000. It is proposed to fund the project out of the Utility Reserve. There is currently over \$4,200,000 in the Utility Reserve. Including previously approved projects for 2006, the estimated ending balance for 2006 would be approximately \$2,444,400.

The Municipal Act requires a public hearing to be held when an amendment to the Financial Plan is made that affects reserve transfers. A copy of the amendment will be sent to the Minister.

130/06 Moved by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Keryluk

RESOLVED THAT the 2006 Financial Plan be amended to include \$500,000 from the Utility Reserve to renew the utility lines

servicing Phoebe Street, Meighen Avenue, Campbell Place and LaVerendrye Crescent.
Carried.

COMMITTEES:

Finance, Legislative & Property Committee:

Unpaid Water, Sewer and Solid Waste to Taxes, By-Law
06-8301 – 1st Reading

131/06

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

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

Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 06-8301 being a by-law authorizing unpaid water, sewer and solid waste accounts for May to be added to taxes, be now read a first time.
Carried.

John Harrison Property – Lot 113, Plan 215 – 214 Saskatchewan Avenue E.

132/06

Mr. John Harrison has advised the Beautification Committee that he will donate the lot he owns for a \$30,000 donation receipt. Mr. Duke Andrich, Century 21 Real Estate, has provided a written estimate valuing the property in question at \$30,000.

The Beautification Committee has \$15,000 designated to landscape this property.

Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED THAT the City of Portage la Prairie issue a receipt to Mr. John Harrison for \$30,000 for the donation to the City of Lot 113, Plan 215 with the City to pay legal and land transfer costs for this property to be transferred to the City;

AND FURTHER THAT Mr. Harrison be advised that the valuation is based on an external real estate estimate, not prepared by the City, and the City of Portage la Prairie takes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy of the amount stated in the donation receipt.

Carried.

City Planning & Economic Development Committee:

Tourism Awareness Week and Tourism Opportunity Identification Roundtable Meeting – For Information Only

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

Council reviewed a report summing up the events of Tourism Awareness Week, held May 1 – 5, 2006.

The Tourism Opportunity Roundtable was also held on May 5, 2006. The ideas and comments gleaned at this function will be shared with the Tourism Advisory Committee as part of their 2006 Strategic Plans.

Public Safety Committee

The Public Safety Committee respectfully submits the following report.

Construction of a City-
Owned Vehicle
Compound

Administration has been actively investigating vehicle compound solutions for vehicles towed under Traffic By-Law violations. It was estimated that the compound would cost approximately \$25,000 to \$30,000.

During further discussions with Kitson's, a new proposal came forward:

1. Kitson's would tow and store vehicles at the cost of \$200 per tow.
2. If the owner claims the vehicle, Kitson's would reimburse the towing fee back to the City.
3. Kitson's would handle all required paper work in accordance with the Garage Keeper's Act.
4. Kitson's would collect and maintain storage fees.

It is felt that this new proposal would be the most seamless for all concerned and greatly lessen liability towards the City.

133/06

Moved by Councillor Wagner

Seconded by Councillor Quinn

THAT Council of the City of Portage la Prairie agree to pay Kitson's Towing \$200 per vehicle to tow and store vehicles authorized to be towed by the City, with any applicable towing fees paid being reimbursed to the City.

Carried.

**Waterworks
Committee**

The Waterworks Committee has no report.

**Transportation
Committee**

The Transportation Committee respectfully submits the following reports:

Traffic By-Law
Amendment, By-Law
06-8310 – 1st Reading

Section 25 of the Traffic By-Law states that the speed limit within the City of Portage la Prairie is 50 km/h unless otherwise posted. Schedule "I" includes a listing of streets that are posted at speeds other than 50 km/h.

The Highway Traffic Act states that the City must obtain approval from the Manitoba Highway Traffic Board to post speed limits at anything other than 50 km/hr. Subsequent to this approval being received, Council should amend Schedule "I" of the Traffic By-Law.

The Director of Operations has reviewed the original proposal and made the following recommendations amending Schedule "I"

- Stephens Avenue north of Canadian Pacific Rail to the north City limits is in a semi rural area. It is recommended to post this road at 70 km/hr maximum speed limit;
- Angle Road is approximately 1.5 kilometers in length in a semi rural area with minimal traffic control devices in place. It is recommended to post Angle Road at 70 km/hr maximum speed limit;

- Henderson Drive from Bridge Road to the west City limits to be posted at 70 km/hr maximum speed limit;
- Highway number one, south service road, from the west City limits to Old Bridge Road and the east limit of River Lot 108 to the east City limits to be posted at 70 km/hr maximum speed limit;
- Highway number one, north service road, from a point 1000m west of Angle Road to Angle Road to be posted at 70 km/hr maximum speed limit.

134/06 Moved by Councillor Keryluk
Seconded by Councillor Porter
THAT By-Law No. 06-8310 being a by-law to amend
Schedule "T" of Traffic By-Law 01-8105, be now introduced and read
a first time.
Carried.

Crescent Lake Bank
Path – For Information
Only

The right lane turn leading traffic onto and off of the bridge to Island
Park is proposed to be reconfigured as a part of the construction and
paving of the Lake Bank Path.

Council requested that Administration review this proposal and
obtain input from the Golf Club, Fair Board and Mayfair Farms.
Council also requested that farm and Fair Board traffic requirements
be reviewed by Administration.

Garage Sale Signage –
For Information Only

The public are requested to remove their "Garage Sale" signs upon
the completion of their sale.

**Community Services
Committee**

**The Community Services Committee respectfully submits the
following reports:**

Summer Competitive
Swim Program

Mr. Tom Wilson presented the proposed summer competitive swim
program to Council on May 8, 2006. The objective of the program
is to provide an opportunity for children ages 8 and under and up to
15 and over to experience the fun of the sport of competitive outdoor
swimming.

Coaches and coordinators of the program would all be on a
volunteer basis, therefore there would be no paid staff to operate the
program. However, for it's inaugural year, Mr. Wilson requested
Council's consideration to waive all facility related rental fees.

The total rental value to assist the program in its first year is
approximately \$3,040.

In order to ensure that the City's and organizations interests are
protected, a standard City facility use agreement should be entered
into as well that clearly outline the terms and conditions for facility
use.

It is further suggested that the facility fee waiver be for the 2006
season only and that at seasons end, the City and program organizer
meet to further discuss the program and a fee schedule for 2007.

- 135/06 Moved by Councillor Porter
Seconded by Councillor Quinn
RESOLVED THAT Council of the City of Portage la Prairie authorize Administration to enter into a facility use agreement with the Summer Swim Club for the use of Splash Island for a summer youth competitive swim program from July 4 to September 1, 2006 at no charge.
Carried.

Canada Day – Closure
of Streets for Canada
Day

Island Park will be the site of our Canada Day Celebrations with a number of activities taking place focusing on children and family activities and entertainment. It is therefore determined that the George Hill Drive road should be closed for Canada Day. The remainder of the park will remain open to vehicles.

Crescent Road from 3rd Street East to Royal Road and 4th Street West to Royal Road will be closed at 8:00 p.m. to mitigate vehicular/pedestrian conflict. Local traffic will be allowed access.

A letter to all Island Park residents will be sent notifying them of the closure upon approval of Council.

- 136/06 Moved by Councillor Porter
Seconded by Councillor Quinn
RESOLVED THAT:
1. City Council advise the Island Park residents that the route for access to their properties will be Royal Road S., Pelechaty Drive, to Brandon Ave, and Massey Crescent from noon June 30, 2006 to noon July 2, 2006 with International Drive being accessible for residents exiting the park.
 2. George Hill Drive be hereby closed for the Canada Day celebrations from noon June 30, 2006 to noon July 2, 2006.
 3. Crescent Road from 3rd Street East to Royal Road and 4th Street West to Royal Road be closed on July 1, 2006 from 8:00 pm until midnight or until the conclusion of the fireworks display.
 4. the Island Park Bridge be closed to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic on July 1, 2006 from 10:00 pm until midnight or until the conclusion of the fireworks display.
- Carried.

Water Sport Lease
Agreement for
Crescent Lake

The City of Portage la Prairie has leased the portion of Crescent Lake located east of the bridge to Water Ski Manitoba (WSM) for the past five years. This agreement has since expired December 31, 2005 and WSM has forwarded a letter dated March 30, 2006 stating that they will no longer be requiring the site.

The local water ski club, referred to as the Portage Water Sports Club, has also used this lake site under the WSM lease agreement and has remained a very active club. Members of their board wish to propose a new lease.

The new lessee would exclude the club's mandatory responsibility to test the water annually. The club would still be required to inspect the facility and provide written confirmation to the City that they agree to use the facility under the current site conditions. The second major revision refers to the club's request to waive the annual lease fee.

Under the new terms and conditions of the lease, the City would not incur any additional costs to maintain the facility and therefore, it is believed that an annual fee is not necessary for the new lease.

137/06 Moved by Councillor Porter
Seconded by Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT Council of the City of Portage la Prairie authorize the Mayor and Manager of Administration to sign the three year lease agreement with Portage Water Sports Club for the use of Crescent Lake commencing June 2006 until December 31, 2008.

Carried.

**DEFERRED
BUSINESS:**

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request for Extension
for Variation – Melco
Developments Ltd.,
Cadham Bay

The applicant has requested an extension to their original Variation order, which was passed by Resolution No. 146/05 on June 27, 2005, for an additional 12 months.

The Planning Act, Section 101(2) states: "A board, council or planning commission may extend the deadline under subsection (1) for an additional period not longer than 12 months if an application is received before the initial deadline."

There are no concerns with the application for an extension to the original variation order.

138/06 Moved by Councillor Wagner
Seconded by Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie approve the request to extend the original variation order (PC 25-05) at the properties on Cadham Bay which are legally described as Lots 13/16, Block 6 and Lots 24/31, Block 4, Plan 35629, Parish of Portage la Prairie.

Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

Mayor MacKenzie commended North Memorial School on their *Walk to School* event that was organized as a part of celebrations for Environment Week. The event was well attended by parents and students and included guest speaker Olympian Jennifer Botterill of Canada's Women's Hockey Team.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor

Manager of Administration