

MINUTES of a Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, May 8, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Councillor Earl Porter

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: 106/06 Moved by Councillor Wagner
Seconded by Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT the Council Minutes of the April 24, 2006, Regular Meeting of Council, and the May 4, 2006, Special Meeting of Council, be approved as circulated.
Carried.

DELEGATIONS:

Matthew Gray Mr. Matthew Gray appeared before Council with reference to policing issues.

Tom Wilson Mr. Tom Wilson appeared before Council to present a summer competitive swim program to be offered at Splash Island and request rates for this program.

HEARINGS: None.

COMMITTEES:

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

Unpaid Water, Sewer and Solid Waste to Taxes, By-Law 06-8300 –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.

107/06 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 06-8300 being a by-law authorizing unpaid water, sewer and solid waste accounts to be added to taxes, be now read a first time.
Carried.

November 2006 Council Meetings Presently there is only one regular meeting of Council and Committee scheduled for the month of November 2006. The meeting is scheduled for November 13th and would be the first meeting following the election.

The Board of Revision has since been scheduled to take place on November 20th.

It may serve Council better to meet the first and third Monday in November; which would be November 6th and November 20th. This would allow for the Board of Revision to be held following the regular meeting of Council on November 20th and the newly elected Council to meet a week earlier on November 6th.

In accordance with The Municipal Act and the City of Portage la Prairie Procedure By-Law, Council may by resolution change a Council Meeting and advertise accordingly.

- 108/06 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT the regular meetings of Council and Committee for the month of November 2006 be held on November 6th and November 20th with the Board of Revision to be held following the November 20th meeting, and the changes be advertised accordingly.
Carried.

Loan to Terriers, By-Law 06-8319 – 1st Reading

The Portage & District Terriers Hockey Club Inc. has approached the City of Portage la Prairie asking for a loan to pay Revenue Canada for their outstanding account.

By-Law 06-8319 sets out the terms of the loan of \$27,200.00 to be repaid within 3 years, subject to an interest rate of prime plus 1%. The Recreation Reserve is able to fund the loan and would receive the interest and principal payments.

Payment to Revenue Canada is required immediately.

- 109/06 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Robinson
RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 06-8319, being a by-law to authorize the loan of \$27,200 to Portage & District Terriers Hockey Club Inc. be given 1st reading;
AND THAT the funds be provided by the Recreation Reserve with payments for interest and principal to be directed to the Recreation Reserve,
AND THAT the cheque for \$27,200 to the Portage & District Terriers Hockey Club Inc. be released on May 9, 2006.
Carried.

City Planning & Economic Development Committee:

5th Annual Youth Career Opportunity Expo – For Information Only

Tourism Awareness Week – For Information Only

Planning District Office Grand Opening

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

Council reviewed an information evaluation report on the 5th Annual Youth Career Opportunity Expo held on March 2, 2006 at Westpark School.

Council reviewed an information report on the upcoming Tourism Awareness Week, May 1 to 5, 2006, highlighting the variety of educational sessions available to the public.

The Grand Opening of the Planning District, now located at 800 Saskatchewan Avenue W., took place on Friday, May 5, 2006.

**Public Safety
Committee**

For Information Only

The Public Safety Committee respectfully submits the following report.

1. Councillor Wagner advised that on April 19, 2006, fifty to fifty-five people attended the public awareness night hosted by the Public Safety Committee and the RCMP.
2. Councillor Wagner reported that \$7500 was raised for the Burn Fund at the annual Fireman's Ball. A presentation was also made to Karine Lee in remembrance of Firefighter Stan Lee.
3. The Fire Department's Annual Bike Auction took place on Saturday, May 6, 2006.

**Waterworks
Committee**

The Waterworks Committee has nothing to report.

**Transportation
Committee**

Reallocation of Budget
for Wilkinson Crescent

The Transportation Committee respectfully submits the following report:

Council allocated \$50,000 in budget, from the fuel tax grant, to investigate and assess alternatives to repair the worst areas of Wilkinson Crescent, with the intent to defer the cost of major reconstruction cost.

The most effective, although most costly, long-term solution to the problem would be to reconstruct the road with significantly more gravel base, and possibly install a road base drainage system.

In order to complete the project sooner than currently scheduled, it will require \$550,000 in 2007 for Wilkinson Crescent (phase 1-3) in short term borrowing that will be repaid by future Fuel Tax Grants. The General Reserve would fund \$10,000 in 2007 and the Crescent Road East portion (phase 4 & 5) estimated at \$390,000 in 2008.

110/06 Moved by Councillor Keryluk
Seconded by Councillor Quinn

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie authorize Administration to issue a request for proposals for the preparation of design drawings for the reconstruction of Wilkinson Crescent from Bridge Road to Armstrong St., and Crescent Road E. from Bridge Road to the cul-de-sac;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Debt Management Plan be amended to undertake the reconstruction of Wilkinson Crescent, from Bridge Road to Armstrong Street in 2007; and Crescent Road E, from Bridge Road to the cul-de-sac, in 2008.
Carried.

6th Street S.E. Request
for Stop Sign

6th St S.E. currently has uninterrupted flow of traffic from Saskatchewan Ave to Queen Avenue – i.e. there are no stop signs. There are intersections between 6th St S.E. and Duke, Countess, Dufferin, and King Avenues between Saskatchewan and Queen Avenues, with stop signs at these cross-streets.

The RCMP has conducted brief monitoring of this street during the day and determined that the volume of traffic on 6th St S.E. was very low, and stop signs are not necessary. Installing a stop sign will not necessarily prevent drivers from breaking the speed limit.

Quoting the Transportation Association of Canada Manual of Traffic Control Devices, "Stop signs should not be used indiscriminately. Stop signs should only be used where ... traffic speeds, traffic volumes, restricted sight lines, and collision experience warrant the use." Pedestrian and vehicular volumes are well below the warrants for a 4-way stop, as specified by TAC.

- 111/06 Moved by Councillor Keryluk
Seconded by Councillor Quinn
RESOLVED THAT Council not authorize the installation of a stop sign on 6th St. S.E.
Carried.

Long Plain Solid
Waste Agreement

The City currently has an agreement to accept solid waste from Long Plain First Nation for a set tipping fee until the end of July 2008.

Since the jurisdiction of operation of the landfill was transferred to the Portage Regional Landfill Authority, it would be in the City's and Long Plain's best interest for Long Plain to enter into an agreement with the Landfill Authority.

- 112/06 Moved by Councillor Keryluk
Seconded by Councillor Quinn
RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie authorize the transfer of the agreement with Long Plain First Nation, respecting the acceptance and landfilling of solid waste, to the Portage Regional Landfill Authority.
Carried.

**Community Services
Committee**

The Community Services Committee respectfully submits the following report:

Arthur Meighen High
School Safe Grad
Request

The Manitoba Liquor Control Commission requires approval from the City, as the owner of the facility, prior to issuing an occasional use liquor permit. The Arthur Meighen High School has requested Council's consideration to obtain a permit for their scheduled Safe Grad at the Portage Centennial Arena on June 24, 2006.

Safe Grad is a National Preventative Program supported by the Police and Education Officials across Canada intended to prevent accidental deaths during graduation activities.

- 113/06 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Wagner
RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie permit Arthur Meighen High School to obtain an occasional liquor permit for the Portage Centennial Arena on Saturday, June 24, 2006 for the purpose of hosting their Safe Grad Event.
Carried.

Portage Collegiate
Institute Safe Grad
Request

The Portage Collegiate Institute has also requested Council's consideration to obtain a permit for their scheduled Safe Grad at the Portage Centennial Arena on June 28, 2006.

114/06 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Wagner

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie permit Portage Collegiate Institute to obtain an occasional liquor permit for the Portage Centennial Arena on Wednesday, June 28, 2006 for the purpose of hosting their Safe Grad Event.
Carried.

Recommendations for
WinterLights Program
2006/2007

Participation in the WinterLights Communities in Bloom program has provided the opportunity for national recognition, promotion, and visibility of our community. The City of Portage la Prairie, by winning this contest in 2001 and again in 2003, received national press coverage and our Island of Lights show featured on two of the Communities in Bloom web sites. This was a project that the citizens of Portage la Prairie and surrounding area can be proud of. It has proven to be a fun, recreational, family oriented project that celebrates our holiday season. Overall, the event was a success and an excellent example of successful partnerships building community spirit.

In consultation with the WinterLights Community Committee Co-Chairs, it is believed that there is a benefit in registering nationally for the 2006/2007 WinterLights program if efforts are also directed towards strengthening the volunteer committee and capacity to take the lead initiative in coordinating planning community events.

115/06 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Brennan

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie authorize Administration to register in the 2006/2007 National WinterLights program and that they continue to assist the community volunteer committee within the approved 2007 budget.
Carried.

**DEFERRED
BUSINESS:**

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Review of Proposals
for Recreation
Facility Needs
Assessment**

Council reviewed the three proposals that were submitted.

116/06 Moved by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Wagner

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie accept the written proposal of Stantec with respect to providing professional services, in accordance with their written proposal of April 18, 2006, to conduct a recreation facility needs study at a cost not to exceed \$46,000 plus GST with the City being responsible for 2/3 of this cost and the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie being responsible for 1/3 of the cost.
Carried.

**Award of Tender –
Jolin Forcemain
Renewal Contract**

The tender was advertised in The Daily Graphic and on the City's web page, and was opened on Wednesday, April 26, 2006, with one bid received.

The sewage forcemain in this area has had several breaks over the years.

The City's net cost with the GST rebate is approximately \$142,429.00. The preliminary budget estimate was \$120,000. \$120,000 was carried over from the 2005 budget. The remainder of the funding will come from the 2006 Utility Renewal budget.

117/06

Moved by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Keryluk

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Portage la Prairie award Tender No. 05 OPS 012 to Towle Construction Ltd. for the tendered price of \$152,399.03, including taxes.
Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Mayor

Manager of Administration