

Town of Badger

Minutes from the regular public meeting of the Badger Town Council held
Tuesday, December 12th, 2023 at 6:30pm in Council Chambers

Members present:	Mayor:	Dennis Butt
	Deputy Mayor:	Michelle Noseworthy
	Councillors:	Jazmin Eddy
		Jessica George
		Nicholas Blackwood
		Ann Marie Young
Also, present:	Town Clerk/ Manager:	Pansy Hurley
	Superintendent of Works:	Scott Luscombe
Absent:	Councillor:	Natasha Beaton

Meeting called to order and chaired by Mayor Butt at 6:30pm

Discussion:

1. Mayor Butt welcomed Mr Scott Luscombe, Superintendent of Works to the meeting. Mr Luscombe gave his report.

-Water system is working good. Chlorine system will require its three year inspection. The water tank requires an inspection as well. The cost for that inspection for the water tank is around \$6,000

-problem with lift station on TCH again there was a shirt wrapped around the pump.

-the motor for the lift station on Beothuck Street should be back next week.

-Scott advised that the truck we got from the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor is working really well. They had to do some minor work but it is operational now.

There being no further discussion Mr. Luscombe left the meeting at 6:45pm

Adoption of Minutes:

1. Mayor Butt asked if there were any errors or omissions to the minutes of the regular public meeting of Council held November 14th, 2023 which were circulated with the agenda for tonight meeting.

Resolution #071-2023 N. Blackwood/M. Noseworthy

Be it resolved that the minutes of the regular public meeting of Council held Tuesday, November 12th, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Mayor Butt asked if there were any errors or omissions to the minutes of the special meeting of Council held November 21st, 2023 which were circulated with the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Resolution #072-2023 A. Young/N. Blackwood

Be it resolved that the minutes of the special meeting #1 of Council held Tuesday, November 21st, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Adoption of Minutes continued:

3. Mayor Butt asked if there were any errors or omissions to the minutes of the special meeting #2 held Tuesday, November 21st, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Resolution #073-2023 N. Blackwood/J. George

Be it resolved that the minutes of the special meeting #2 of Council held Tuesday, November 21st, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Business arising:

November 14th, 2023

1. Letter and email sent to the Company that damaged a fire hydrant on School Road while delivering a hot tub however there has been no reply. Discussion held and Town Clerk/Manager was advised to contact the RCMP and get a legal opinion from Stewart Mckelvey. The Town Clerk/Manager spoke to Josh the week after the incident happened. He felt it wasn't his fault because there was no marker on the hydrant.

2. Discussion on making sure the room being used by the Firettes comes back to the Town in exchange for the Capsite room being used for the Fire Department.

3. Letter was sent to Dustin Hutchinson. Maintenance workers have not gotten the information on camera discussed at the last meeting.

November 21st, 2024 special meeting #1

1. The CEEP Project will be on Monday, December 4th, 2023 at the Stadium. There was a total of three people hired. There was a limited number of hours available. We did have one person who only need less than 55 hours but after checking with Service Canada it was determined they didn't qualify.

Business arising continued:

November 21st, 2023 special meeting #2

1. Discussion on getting volunteer help which has become very difficult. Deputy Mayor Noseworthy had concerns about not having events if we don't have volunteers. People look forward to our Badger Day events and this year seniors were upset that there was no bingo in the Stadium on Badger Day but they couldn't get anyone to run the event. Councillor Blackwood felt that if people get paid, free admission to events or tokens of appreciation then they can't be called volunteers. He felt that the taxpayers of our community should not pay for this expense. Councillor Eddy said that she don't consider her position on Council volunteer. All council members receive remuneration. Mayor Butt said he doesn't have any issues with giving remuneration and tokens of appreciations. General discussion that going forward we may have to increase the costs for events to offset the cost of getting help to run events. It was felt that \$5.00 for liquor tickets is reasonable.

Correspondence:

1. Tract Consulting sent a copy of our Asset Management Policy which Council must consider and adopt as part of our Asset Management Plan being prepared by Tract Consulting. General discussion held.

Resolution #074-2023 N. Blackwood/A. Young.

Resolved that Council adopt the Town of Badger Asset Management Policy as prepared by Tract Consulting. Copy attached to Minutes.

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence continued:

2. Letter received from Exploits Search and Rescue Team requesting a donation toward the purchase of their new vehicle to be used for ice rescue operations and equipment transport. Discussion held.

Resolution #075-2023 J. George/J. Eddy

Be it resolved that a donation of one hundred dollars (\$100) be given to the Exploits Search and Rescue Team towards the purchase of their new vehicle.

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**

Opposed 0:

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Finances:

1. Town Clerk/Manager presented the accounts payable journal dated December 12th, 2023 in the amount of \$27,851.96 for distribution as presented. Discussion held it was felt that going forward donation to our local Christmas hampers would be \$100 similar to our other donations.

Resolution \$076-2023 J. Eddy/A. Young

Be it resolved that Council approve the accounts payable journal dated December 12th, 2023 in the amount of \$27,851.96 for distribution as presented.

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Fiances continued:

2. Reimbursement of Petty Cash. Discussion held.

Resolution #077-2023 M. Noseworthy/J. Eddy.

Resolved that Petty Cash be reimbursed by \$90.25 (office expense) and \$98.95 (office expense),

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Presentation of the proposed Operating Budget for 2024.

The 2024 proposed Operating Budget was presented by Deputy Mayor, Michelle Noseworthy, Chairperson of the Finance Committee.

The Budget includes a 4% wage increase for Town employees, some changes have been made to some of the expenses due to increase cost of operation. There is no proposed changes to the Tax Structure for 2024. Some residents will see an increase in property taxes due to changes in the assessed value of their property. General discussion was held on each section of the Budget proposal.

Resolution #078-2023 A. Young/J. Eddy.

Be it resolved that the 2024 Operating Budget for the Town of Badger be adopted by Council, as presented, with Revenue and Expenditures totaling \$707,877.40.

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Finances continued:

Resolution #079-2023 J. Eddy/N. Blackwood

Be it resolved that all Town of Badger employees including the Town’s ECEC grant employee be given a 4% wage increase effective January 1, 2024.

Vote:
**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young.**
Opposed 0;
Abstained 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution #080-2023 A. Young/J. Eddy

Be it resolved that Council adopt the Municipal Tax Structure for the Municipality of Badger for the Taxation Year 2024

Type of Tax: Rate:
Due date for the payment of all 2024 taxes is June 30, 2024

Property Tax (minimum tax \$325.00) 8.5 mills
Business Tax (minimum tax \$100.00)

Class of Business:
Restaurant/Take Out 6 mills
Stores (grocery & convenience) 6 mills
Office space 7 mills
Beauty salons 7 mills
Garages, service stations 4 mills
Lounges 4 mills
Taxi/Courier services 7 mills
Utilities 20 mills
Utilities with no fixed place of business 2.5%

Finances continued:

Water and Sewer Tax:	
Residential (\$30 per month)	\$360.00 (annual)
Commercial (\$33 per month)	\$396.00 (annual)
Tax Certificate	\$25.00
Letter of Compliance	\$25.00
Dog Licence:	
Male & spayed female	\$ 5.00 (annual)
Female not spayed	\$25.00 (annual)
Building Permits:	
Commercial	\$ 50.00
Residential	\$ 30.00
Extension to existing building	\$ 20.00
General repairs	\$ 10.00

Vote:

**In Favor 6: D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A. Young**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Other Business:

1. Deputy Mayor Noseworthy advised Council that she received a verbal complaint from a resident regarding the mess in front of a property located on Badger Drive. General discussion was held regarding the issue and other areas in Town that need to be cleaned up as well. It was agreed that the issue will be deferred to the next regular meeting.

Councillor A. Young was excused at 7:30pm

2. Mayor Butt wanted to thank everyone for their help and a good job done with the Town's Christmas events. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year greetings were exchanged.

Adjournment:

Resolution #081-2023 J. Eddy/J. George

Be it resolved that there being no further business Council will now adjourn to meet again on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024 at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.

Vote:

**In Favor 6; D. Butt; M. Noseworthy; J. Eddy; J. George
N. Blackwood; A., Young.**

Opposed 0;

Abstained 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Mayor

Town Clerk/Manager