

# Town of Badger

Minutes of the regular public meeting of the Badger Town Council held  
Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:30pm in Council Chambers

Members present:	Mayor:	Michael Patey
	Deputy Mayor:	Paula Bridger
	Councillors:	Rodney Howell
		Colleen Paul
		Darren Bennett
		Blanche Mercer

Also, present:	Superintendent of .	
	Works:	Scott Luscombe
	Town Clerk/	
	Manager:	Pansy Hurley

One (1) vacant seat.

## Discussion:

1. Discussion with Mr Scott Luscombe, Superintendent of Works.

-Scott advised that the machinery was working good.

-The water system is working good, there was an issue with the lift station on Maple Street when something got stuck in the motor. Problem has been corrected. There are no waterline leaks that they are aware of. Pumps are cutting in and out and everything is working properly. There is a smell of sulfur that is experienced when the pumps cut back in. General discussion held.

Mayor Patey said that he had a teleconference with Mr Dan Hynes, Mr Jim Harty and our engineers regarding the well that has been turned off. They will be doing some testing and are looking at flushing and shocking the well. After the reports are received they will determine what the next step will be. They may have to install a treatment system.

There was funding remaining from the water tank project which can be used for this work. If the reports are unsatisfactory then they will have to drill a new well.

There being no further discussion Mr Luscombe left the meeting at 7:45pm.

## **Adoption of Minutes:**

1. Mayor Patey asked if there were any errors or omissions to the minutes of the special meeting of Council held October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and the regular public meeting held November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 which were circulated with the agenda for tonight's meeting.

**Motion #065-2015**

**C. Paul/P. Bridger.**

Resolved that the minutes of the special meeting of Council held October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and the regular public meeting held November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 be adopted as circulated.

**In Favor 5: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

## **Business Arising:**

1. Councillor Bennett said that he spoke to the landowners concerning the area we cleared at the bottom of School Hill to apologize for the misunderstanding on the issue. Discussion on having lights and signs installed before it is used for sliding. It was suggested that we get a quote from Pollett's to have lighting installed in the area. These lights could be put on a timer.
2. Councillor Paul asked if there was a policy for the new pick up truck when it arrives. At present the maintenance crew take the truck home and use it to travel to and from work. There was concerns about taking a new vehicle and parking it in a private driveway while employees are not working. Who would be responsible if the truck was damaged.

Councillor Blanche Mercer arrived at 8:00pm

General discussion held. It was agreed that the new truck will be parked at the Town Depot similar to other Town equipment and employees will have to use their own vehicles to get to the Depot.

## **Business Arising continued:**

3. Councillor Paul asked about the pilot project for the regional water and wastewater system operator. Mayor Patey explained that Central Waste Management is controlling that project and there will be no cost to the Town.
4. Deputy Mayor Bridger asked if the quote for the work on the ballfield had been received. Mayor said it had not but he would check tomorrow. Deputy Mayor was concerned that we may not get funding from Teck Resources if we don't soon get the application submitted.

## **Correspondence:**

1. Letter received from the Dept of Environment & Conversation, Water Resources Division regarding the construction of two proposed hydrometric stations. One will be constructed on Little Red Indian River and the other on Badger Brook. Mayor Patey said at present we only have one station on the Exploits River where we can monitor water levels. With the construction of the two new stations they will be able to monitor levels in Red Indian River and Badger Brook. General discussion.

**Motion # 066-2015**

**B. Mercer/D. Bennett**

Resolved that Council approve the Dept of Environment & Conversation request to construct two hydrometric stations - one on Little Red Indian River and the other on Badger Brook.

**In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

2. Each councillor received a copy of the Policing Report for November received from S/Stg Kelly Bryan of the Grand Falls-Windsor Detachment of the RCMP.

### **Correspondence continued:**

3. A letter was received from resident of Maple Street regarding water running from the street onto his property causing flooding. General discussion held. There are other areas of town where water gathers on streets including First and Second Avenues and areas of Maple Street. It was suggest that now that we are replacing the water laterals and asphalt in those areas we should have our engineers look at a way to correct the problem.

**Motion # 067-2015 P. Bridger/C. Paul**  
Resolved that we have our engineer firm, Exploits Engineering, look into the water problems on Maple Street, First and Second Avenue.

**In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

4. Letter was received from a student seeking a donation from the town to attend the Encounters with Canada Program. It was explained that the Town's policy is that it doesn't donated to individuals. Mayor Patey suggested she could seek donations from local businesses. Councillor Bennett felt we should be support these types of requests. Mayor Patey said we have to remember that we are dealing with public funds. General discussion held.

Councillor Bennett made a motion to make a \$25.00 donation to student to assist in their attendance Encounters with Canada.

There was no seconder for the motion. Motion Failed.

5. Letter received from a volunteer group wanting to put natural ice in the Stadium. The Stadium has been winterized. Therefore; the water will have to be turned on as well as the heat. We will have to check with Scott Luscombe to see what other things will have to be done. It was felt Council should meet with two members from the group to see what they are proposing.

It was agreed that Mayor Patey, Councillors Howell, Paul, and Bennett would have an informal meeting with the two representatives of the group tomorrow evening at 7:30pm. A report will be given to Council during its regular meeting in January.

## Correspondence continued:

6. A thank you note was received from our former MHA Susan Sullivan. She thanked Council for the opportunity to work on projects for the community.
7. A thank you card was received from the family of the late Madonna Paul.

## Finances:

1. Town Clerk/Manager presented summary of the following reports:

AP Transaction Journal and Petty Cash.  
Items reviewed.

**Motion #068-2015**

**B. Mercer/R. Howell**

Resolved that Council approve the accounts payable journal, dated December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 totaling \$ 40,065.64 for disbursement as presented.

**In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

2. Reimburse Petty Cash.

**Motion # 069-2015**

**B. Mercer/R. Howell**

Resolved that Council approve the Petty Cash reimbursement, dated December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 totaling \$883.01 for disbursement as presented.

**In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

3. Review of the 2014 Financial Statements prepared by of auditor Lori Mercer, CA.

**Motion # 070-2015**

**B. Mercer/C. Paul**

Resolve that Council adopted the 2014 Financial Statements as prepared by Lori Mercer, CA.

**In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

## **Finances continued:**

4. Presentation of proposed 2016 Operating Budget for the Town by the Finance Committee Chairperson, Deputy Mayor Paula Bridger.

The expenditure side of the Budget will include purchase of a new pick up truck, increase cost of operation of the water/sewer system, and a 2% wage increase.

The revenue side of the Budget will include the reduction of the mill rate from 9.5 to 8.5, dropping of the Poll Tax all other rates will remain the same as 2015.

The committee recommends Council write off \$25,140.00 in outstanding Poll Tax to December 31, 2013. Poll Taxes for 2014 and 2015 will be collected. Given the new government regulations Council must collect all taxes levied.

A lengthily discussion was held on all aspects of the proposed 2016 Operating Budget.

**Motion #071-2015 D. Mayor Bridger/Mayor M. Patey**

Resolved that the 2016 Operating Budget for the Town of Badger presented by the Finance Committee with Revenue of \$620,967.00 and Expenditures of \$620,967.00 with its recommendations and tax changes be adopted by Council.

**In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

## **Other Business:**

1. Councillor Bennett asked if there was a map showing all landowners in the community. We do not have one at this time.
2. Councillor Bennett was concerned about the garbage on the cemetery road. It was explained that this would be a matter for the cemetery committee. Councillor Bennett said he would contact the committee.

**Other Business continued:**

3. Discussion on the pumps in the lift station on Main Street which we have been advised are to big for our system. The pumps were designed to operate the lagoon sewer system which was being considered following the flood of 2003. Mayor Patey will speak to our engineering firm regarding this matter.
4. Since our application for the Tidy Town Program has not been submitted to dated it was agreed to wait until 2017 competition.
5. Discussion on our application for replacing the asphalt on Maple Street, the Avenues, School Road, River Road and Beothuck Street. It was agreed to apply to use Gas Tax Funding for our share of the Project.

**Motion #072-2015**

**B. Mercer/R. Howell**

Resolved that the Town of Badger submits its Capital Investment Plan to the Department of Municipal & Intergovernmental Affairs for Gas Tax Funding in the amount of \$103,981.00, the Municipal Contribution, for road upgrades and paving of various streets in the community. Tenders to be called in the Spring of 2016.

In Favor: Mayor Michael Patey  
Deputy Mayor Paula Bridger  
Councillor Rodney Howell  
Councillor Colleen Paul  
Councillor Darren Bennett  
Councillor Blanche Mercer

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## **Other Business continued:**

6. Discussion on by-election to fill seat on Council left vacant by the resignation of Councillor Neil Penton. It was agreed that Nomination Day will be held on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 8:00am to 8:00 pm. The By-election if necessary will be held on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

7. Invitation from Exploits Valley School for a representative from Council to attend their awards ceremony being held December 21, 2015.

## **Adjournment:**

**Motion #073-2015          C. Paul/B. Mercer**

Resolved that there being no further discussion Council will now adjourn to meet again on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:30pm.

**In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:40pm.

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Mayor

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Town Clerk/Manager