Town of Badger

Minutes of the regular public meeting of the Badger Town Council held Tuesday, November 8th, 2016 at 7:30pm in Council Chambers

Members present:	Mayor:	Michael Patey
	Deputy Mayor:	Paula Bridger
	Councillors:	Colleen Paul
		Stephanie Greene
		Gregory Hurley
		Dennis Butt
Also, present:	Superintendent of Works:	Scott Luscombe
	Fire Chief:	Clarence Young
	Town Clerk/ Manager:	Pansy Hurley

Discussion:

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

-Scott advised that there is an iron bacteria growing in the well and in discussions with our engineers, the dept of Municipal Affairs and Maynard King that we use chlorine pucks and drop them directly into the well for extra protection with our present system. The Town is still on the "boil water order". Once we are ready to add the extra treatment a notice will be sent to residents. We have to order these from Montreal and will be received next Wednesday. Mr King is doing the calculation on how much chlorine we should add to the well and what adjustment we will have to make to our present chlorine system. The system is working with a full tank of water. There may have to be a permanent chlorine drip system added to the water system. Scott said the problem with the chlorine pucks is that they will continue to dissolve when the pumps are not running and then when they cut in you will get a larger amount of chlorine in the system. Mayor said he will speak to our engineers and Municipal Affairs on the matter and the need for a second well. There is a well already drilled; however, it will need to be re-drilled with a larger casing. The Chlorine pucks come in 25kg buckets and cost $227 each. We ordered three (3) buckets. We are still operating on the one well. The Fire Department is aware of this situation as well.

Discussion continued:

Discussion continued with Mr Scott Luscombe.
-Scott said the Cat Loader was winterized and the Hough Loader is working as well.
-The siding is completed on the compressor building.
-There is trouble with a hydrant on School Road he is working with the person from the Dept of Environment that provides training to have this issue corrected.
-Scott advised that six loads of crush stone has been used in the cuts in the asphalt. It is difficult to keep up with keeping the cuts and potholes filled. Exploits Paving was here last week but Scott wasn't speaking to them. Our engineers advised that they would be here this week. Councillor Greene said that they were doing a good job.

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

2. Discussion with Mr Clarence Young, Fire Chief.
Fire Chief Young advised that the Department responded to two motor vehicle accidents and a false alarm at the saw mill west of the community. The owner was burning brush and never advised anyone.
-Parts for the foam system have been received and installed. There is another mechanical issue which Jason Hurley will repair.
-He is still waiting on Action Sales to get the lights for the rescue van. He said that if they have to wait much longer he will do the work .
-Discussion on cell phone service in the area Fire Chief said he contacted Duckpond operations and was advised that the repeater belongs to Central Health and we have to contact them to see if we can use it. Also, with that repeater you would need digital equipment. Mayor Patey said that the it was all ready agreed that the repeater could be attached to the Town's water tank. Bell Aliant will do the installation. Chief Young said that the Fire dept is discussing purchasing a cell phone boaster for the green rescue van at a cost of $500.00. They are also looking at the cell phone pager system. There is an application that you put on your cell phone and it will allow him to see how many firefighters he has responding to an emergency call. Good technology and the app can be purchased from a company in Nova Scotia with an annual fee of $1,000.00.

Discussion continued:

Chief Young said since our water system is operating on one well we will need to make sure they have access to the river. He was wondering about a stand pipe hydrant which go down below the frost line. It was suggested having them located on the bank of Badger Brook, Red Indian Brook, behind the Stadium and behind the Trailer Court area which will make it easier to get water in case of an emergency.

-Chief Young advised that Jason Hurley is the new assistant Fire Chief.

There being no further discussion Fire Chief Young thanked Council for its time and left the meeting at 8:00pm

Adoption of Minutes:

1. Mayor Patey asked if there were any errors or omissions to the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held October 11th, 2016 and the and the special meeting of Council held October 17th, 2016 which were circulated with the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Motion #077-2016 **G. Hurley/P. Bridger**

Resolved that the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held October 11th, 2016 and the special meeting of Council held October 17th, 2016 be adopted as circulated.

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

Business arising:

1. Councillor Paul asked about the sewer line across a Sunset Drive property. Mayor said that he spoke to our engineer, Rob Kearley on the issue. There are a number of homes on Third Avenue Extension that have service lines running across other residents property. A new sewer line has to be installed for another property in the area next Spring. The present line there has collapsed. A new manhole will have to be installed and pipes will connect to Third Avenue. The cost is estimated between $50,000 and $60,000. We can apply to use our gas tax for this project once we have a complete quote for the work to be completed. We have $136,000 available in our gas tax funding. It was understood that Mr Kennedy was not planning construction until next Spring.

Business arising continued:

We have to cancel our applications to use our gas tax funding for TCH water/sewer project and the water service laterals on Maple Street, School Road, the avenues and River Road and Beothuck Street. We now have to borrow these funds. Discussion held.

Motion #078-2016 C. Paul/S. Greene

Resolved that we cancel our applications to the Gas Tax Secretariat to use gas Tax Funding for Projects:

In Favor 6: Opposed 0; Abstained. CARRIED.

2. With regards to the online banking. Town Clerk/Manager spoke to a representative from the Bank of Montreal and they will set the service up for the town at no cost for transactions. When resident pay at the bank or on line and there will be a lump sum deposit to our account. Then we will receive a faxed sheet listing who made the payments. The process will take about eight weeks to set up.
The Bank of Montreal will contact the other banks on the town's behalf and those banks will advised the Town of any cost that would incurred if they offered the same service. Discussion held. It was felt we could go ahead with the Bank of Montreal now and review the others when the information becomes available.

Motion #079-2016 C. Paul/S. Greene

Resolve that we will apply to be set up for online banking with the Bank of Montreal.

In Favor 6: Opposed 0: Abstained. CARRIED.

3. Councillor Paul said that she spoke to the Dept of Municipal Affairs and they suggested you could do separate accounts payable when a councillor is in a conflict of interest with one or more invoices. Town Clerk/Manager said she was given the same information when she called. Councillor Paul also suggested that councillors have their disclosure statements completed as per requirements under the Municipalities Act.

Business arising continued:

4. Councillor Paul said she spoke to the Dept of Municipal Affairs regarding Councillor Hurley saying she was in a conflict of interest when speaking about training for the Relief Clerk and she was advised that training is not a conflict of interest under Sections 207, 208 & 209 of the Municipalities Act. She also said that Councillor Hurley would be in a conflict of interest as well.
5. Councillor Paul advised that Dave Walbourne will be the Sergeant at Arms for the Remembrance Day Service, Father Tom will do the opening and closing prayer, Mayor Patey will do the Act of remembrance, Haley McDonald and Emily Patey will read Flanders' Field and Councillor Greene will lead in the singing of National Anthem.
6. Councillor Greene said that she and Mayor Patey attended the Community Consultation Session on October 18th, 2016 from 6:30pm -9:00pm at the St. Joseph"s Parish Centre, Grand Falls-Windsor, NL. It was very interested. They discussed local health priorities in the region. The focus is on optimal health and well being. Badger has a high rate of obesity, the average age is 48.7, other issues include heart disease and diabetes. Our smoking rate did decrease. Maybe work towards doing something in the community to promote better health.
7. Councillor Paul had a copy of the survey which she drafted earlier which Council was going to circulate to residents regarding the Stadium.

Councillor Blanche Mercer arrived at 8:25pm

Councillor Paul said that she had done research on a company in Toronto that designs outdoor rinks. Also Dominion Recycling in St John's deals with the removal of metal buildings. It was agreed that we would have a special meeting to deal with this issue only. Copy of the survey will be provided to each councillor.

Business Arising continued:

8. Mayor Patey said that he spoke to Bruce Pomeroy, Dept of Municipal Affairs, regarding the issue of Councillor Paul donating a plaque as councillor. Mr Promroy advise that you can not make a donation as councillor. You can make all the personal donations you want . Mayor said he was told to refer to Section 21 (3) of the Municipalities Act which states that councillors are subject to the direction and control of council and the mayor is the same. Councillor Paul said she did not see how this section applied to donating a plaque. Mayor explained that you are not a councillor all the time. If Council designated you to attend an event for council then any donation made would be on behalf of the town not an individual councillor. Councillor Paul said she would call the Dept of Municipal Affairs tomorrow to validate this conversation. Councillor Butt said that it was a wonderful thing she did donating the plaque but it has to come from yourself. Councillor Paul said she was acting in her capacity as councillor running Badger Day. Mayor Patey said that chairperson of committees do the ground work but they must bring the information back to Council for a decision. Councillor Paul said she would contact the Dept of Municipal Affairs tomorrow to verify the information. Mayor Patey said he is only repeating what he was told. Councillor Paul felt there were more pressing issues for Council to deal instead of wasting time with this issue and that's what bothers her most of all.

Correspondence:

1. Recreation Newfoundland and Labrador will hold its Central Regional meeting in Grand Falls-Windsor on Saturday, November 19 from 10:30 to 1:30 with lunch included. Councillor Mercer is the chairperson of our Recreation Committee. Discussion held.
Mayor Patey and Councillor Greene will attend. If any other councillor would like to attend please advise the Town Clerk/Manager. Deadline to register is November 15, 2016.

Correspondence continued:

2. Received from Central Regional Service Board is a copy of their 2017 Budget and Tipping Fees information. General discussion. Mayor advised that the Joint Council is working on this matter. The west coast is not part of the program; however, the central region cannot operate this system alone.

Short break taken 8:50pm to 8:55pm

3. A copy of the Policing Report for September and October 2016 was received from Staff/Stg Kelly Bryan of the RCMP Detachment in Grand Falls-Windsor.

Finances:

1. Accounts payable.

Town Clerk/Manager presented summary of the following reports:

AP Transaction Journal and Petty Cash. Items discussed. Councillor Paul questions service contract on photo copier. The billing covers toners and cleaning.

Motion #080-2016 **B. Mercer/C. Paul**

Resolved that Council approve the accounts payable journal, dated November 8th, 2016 totaling $18,381.90.

In Favor 7: Opposed 0. Abstained 0. CARRIED.

2. Reimburse Petty Cash.

Motion #081-2016 **B. Mercer/C. Paul**

Resolved that Council approve the Petty Cash Reimbursement Journal totaling $260.50.

In Favor 7: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.

Finances continued:

3. Presentation of the proposed Operating Budget for 2017.

Copies of the presentation was given to each councillor. Mayor Patey explained that we have to deal with a proposed 2% wage increase for employees before we continue with the Budget presentation. He said that the information we got from the Dept of Municipal Affairs was to have two motions one for the proposed raise and the other would be for the remained of the Budget. That way councillors who are in a conflict of interest would still be able to vote on the remainder of the Budget.

Councillor Paul said that she spoke to Ed Goodyear and Martina of the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding her voting on a budget that contained a wage increase. She said she wanted to be sure that Councillor Hurley and herself would not be considered in a conflict of interest by voting and be challenged and may loose their seats on Council. She also discussed with the Department that since the finance committee was recommending a raise it would be unlikely they would vote against their own proposal and since there were only five councillors remaining the raise would be accepted. She said the Department suggested we get a legal opinion on the matter. Councillor Paul wanted the opinion in writing just in case there were any questions in the future. Town Clerk/Manager will call Stewart McKelvey tomorrow for the information. The discussion on the legal opinion and the presentation of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget will continue on Monday, November 14th, 2016 at 6:30pm

Motion #082-2016 B. Mercer/P. Bridger.

Resolved that we contact Stewart McKelvey and get a legal opinion on councillors being in a conflict of interest if they vote on the budget that may contain a wage increase even if they do not vote on the actual increase.

In Favor 7: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.

Other Business:

1. Councillor Paul asked if town employees had job descriptions. No there are no job descriptions for town employees. Mayor Patey said we are not that big and we only have three public works people.
2. Councillor Paul brought forth a HR issue which was discussed by Council which the Town Manager will address.
3. Councillor Greene suggested Council initiate a program to recognize youth in the community involved in sports, recreation, the arts and community involvement this recognition would generate awareness of the contributions they are making in our community.

Motion #083-2016 S. Greene/ C. Paul

Resolved that Council initiate program called "Tomorrows Leaders" this is a program that promotes youth achievements and aims to celebrate and recognize youth in the community of Badger who have made extraordinary contributions in sports, arts, music and community spirit.

In Favor 7: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.

The information and nomination form for this program will be posted on the Town's web site.

4. Councillor Greene wondered about having a annual food drive to support the Food Bank in Grand Falls-Windsor. Town Clerk/Manager asked if town residents could use the services of the Food Bank in Grand Falls-Windsor and was advised that they could. It was agreed that we would put a box at the Town Office and at the Lighting of the Town Christmas Tree on Tuesday, November 29 to collect non-perishable food items.

5. Each councillor received a copy of the muneu for the Mount Peyton.

6. Deputy Mayor Bridger read an appreciation card received from the family of the late Gordon Patey.

Other Business continued:

7. Mr Fred Card was the only person to bid on the scrapped garbage truck and dump for a truck we advertised for sale. His bid was one dollar ($1.00) for the old garbage truck and the box for the dump truck both of which were scrapped. Mr Card is responsible for the removal of the equipment.

8. We received a list of surplus equipment from the Dept of Transportation and Works and checked on the loaders but they were not in good working order. There are three in Labrador that they maybe moving to the Island. We did make an application for a utility trailer and a front plow for our dump truck. We should know this week if we got that equipment. They would cost five hundred dolls each. Loaders cost one thousand dollars.

9. Town Clerk/Manager advised that she would not be available for the next meeting. It was agreed by all present that our regular December meeting would be held Monday, December 5th, 2016.

Adjournment:

Motion #084-2016 **B. Mercer/G. Hurley**

Resolved that Council will now adjourn to meet again on Monday, December 5, 2016 at 7:30pm in Council Chambers.

In Favor 7: Opposed 0: Abstained 0. CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm

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Mayor

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Town Clerk/Manager