

Monthly Council Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2022

Present

Mayor Basil Stewart
Deputy Mayor Norma McColeman
Councillor Bruce MacDougall
Councillor Justin Doiron
Councillor Barb Ramsay
Councillor Cory Snow
Councillor Greg Campbell
Councillor Brian McFeely
Councillor Carrie Adams
Kristen Dunsford, Director of Financial Services
Gordon MacFarlane, CAO
Brian Hawrylak, HR Officer
Members of the Media
Members of the Public

Call to Order / Approval of Agenda / Any Conflict of Interest Declaration

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stewart

Motion It was moved and seconded;
That The Agenda be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration – There were no conflicts declared by any Council member with any item on the agenda

Councillor Doiron declared a conflict of interest for Resolution COS 22-127 in light of remarks he made at the November 1 Special Council meeting and stated he will step out of the room for that item

Approval of the Minutes

Motion It was moved by and seconded;
That The minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated October 17, 2022 and the minutes of the Special Council Meeting dated November 1, 2022 be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried

Financial Services – Chair, Deputy Mayor McColeman

Report:

“Good evening to my colleagues on City Council and to the residents and businesses of the City of Summerside.

We are starting to plan for the preparation of our 2023-24 budget and will provide further details once the schedule has been confirmed. Our preliminary financial results as of October 31, 2022, project a small surplus for our 2022-23 fiscal year. The department is continuing to review and adjust their projections to March 31, 2023, so please be aware that these are preliminary results although we do not expect them to change significantly.

My report tonight continues with the status of our utility accounts receivable as of November 14, 2022:

- *Total overdue balance is \$163,600 compared to \$124,400 on November 16, 2021.*
- *Approximately 8.1% or \$13,200 of the overdue balance is greater than 60 days past due (this compares to 2.7% or \$3,400 on November 16, 2021).*

Our collection process continues with overdue notices being generated and mailed to customers and when necessary, disconnection of service for non-payment has occurred. Customers who have outstanding balances and have not requested a payment arrangement are strongly encouraged to contact Financial Services at 902-432-1230.

If you have any questions regarding our utility customer portal, payment options or our budget billing program please see our website www.summerside.ca, email us at customerservice@summerside.ca or call us at 902-432-1230.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this report, and either myself or the CFO are available to take your questions.”

Planning Board - Chair, Councillor Brian McFeely

Resolution COS 22-127 It was moved and seconded;

WHEREAS an application was received from PEI Housing Corporation for a Restricted Use for PID # 310730 to allow a “Men’s Shelter” at 287 Winter Street in the Institutional (I) zone under the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw*;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with section 5.7 of the zoning bylaw, Council shall consider the following general criteria, as applicable:

- Conformity with all requirements of this Bylaw;
- Conformity with the Official Plan;
- Suitability of the site for the proposed development;
- Compatibility of the proposed development with surrounding land uses, including both existing and projected uses;

- Any comments from residents or other interested persons;
- Adequacy of existing water, sewer, road, storm water and electrical services, city parking, and parklands for accommodating the development, and any projected infrastructure requirements;
- Impacts from the development on pedestrian/vehicular access and safety, and on public safety generally;
- Compatibility of the development with environmental, scenic and heritage resources;
- Impacts on City finances and budgets;
- Other matters as specified in this Bylaw;
- Other matters as considered relevant.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve a Restricted Use for *Men's Shelter* at 287 Winter Street, PID # 310730, in the Institutional (I) zone under the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw*, subject to the following conditions:

1. Should additional parking be required, the property owner will have to secure additional off-site parking to the City's satisfaction;
2. The applicant maintains the operational and staffing model as presented;

This bears the recommendation of the Planning Board Meeting of November 15, 2022.

Deputy Mayor McColeman brought forward a motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor McColeman and seconded by Councillor Campbell

To defer the vote on this item to the January 16, 2023 Council meeting

Motion defeated 2-5 Councillors Campbell and Deputy Mayor McColeman voted for, Councillors Snow, Ramsay, MacDougall, Adams and McFeely voted against. Councillor Doiron did not vote as he left the room as he declared a conflict of interest with this agenda item earlier

Discussion:

Councillor Ramsay stated that she was trying to figure out the best way to move ahead and received many phone calls and listened to many speak and received many emails both for and against the application. She stated that she has spoken with housing Minister Mackay on the phone along with Ms. Ann Drake. She stated that Ms. Drake expressed the interest in being good neighbors and this property was purchased to deal with housing needs. Councillor Ramsay stated that Minister MacKay stated that there would be many renovations completed as required and installing a fence should not be an issue. Councillor Ramsay stated that she hears what the residents are saying and the concerns about home values, the safety of the neighborhood and the surrounding businesses. Councillor Ramsay inquired if this application could be approved for one year, to give it an opportunity. She stated that people will be sleeping outside in the winter and the province is offering a place to sleep. Councillor stated that she would like some conditions put on the application in order to move forward.

Councillor Snow stated that he has tried to put himself in the neighbors, government, those living on the street shoes. He said he would like everyone to move forward and keep an open mind as there are people struggling.

Councillor MacDougall stated that he missed the first meeting, but has watched it and has been on both sides of the fence. He stated that he would like to have an amendment on it for a review. He said when he got up this morning and on television, there was a man who was saved by a similar project. He stated that he is sorry if he disappoints some people, but if this project saves one person he is for it. He added that he would like to see an annual review attached to the application.

Councillor McFeely stated that he is very conflicted, he stated that there is a tremendous need for it but is not sure if this is the right location. He stated as a community, they have to look beyond this as there is a bigger issue. He stated that there might be an opportunity to look at a long term strategy to deal with homelessness. He stated that the Rotary is looking for a new major project to take on and the City has struggled with vacant properties and he wondered if there is an opportunity to repurpose some existing vacant properties into a new shelter in the downtown core.

Deputy Mayor McColeman stated based on the fact that she represents the Ward, the people do have some concerns, they recognize the need, but due to emotional comments, they were uncomfortable to speak and ask questions to alleviate their fears. She stated that not enough planning was done to consider the overall impact on the neighborhood. She stated that the concern is a decision based on three exiting members on Council is being made. She stated that neighbors are scared and afraid and Council has to make a decision based on relevant facts and cannot vote on emotion. She stated that it is a worthwhile project and there is an opportunity for success but should take some time to do some vetting.

Councillor Campbell stated that he would like to take the time and be proud of what they are doing. He would like to see this tabled for the new Council.

Councillor Adams stated that it was brought to her attention that she might be in a conflict in regards to comments she made after the presentation. Looking back at the video, she didn't feel that she was and people she referred to legally agreed. She said it was a provincial issue and not just the City, which she said was a fact, she asked for people to bring information forward on why it should and should not be approved, she noted that the homeless are residents and live with us daily, they need assistance and asked people to remain open minded through the process. She stated that this issue is the current Council's application to deal with.

Mayor Stewart asked staff if the new Council could revoke the application during the 21 day appeal period. CAO MacFarlane stated that Council could revoke a restricted use if the conditions that are placed on the restricted use are not met.

Mayor Stewart told Mr. Dalton that there was not unanimous support for additional comments while there are in middle of a vote.

Councillor Ramsay stated that she would like to see more conditions placed on the application.

Councillor Snow stated that he said a member of the public may have been misquoted.

Councillor Ramsay addressed Mrs. Dalton and stated that she thought she said that because she in the yard just behind that a fence would, not that it would make it okay...

Ms. Dalton (inaudible)

Councillor Ramsay thanked Mrs. Dalton and stated that she would like to see a fence and stated that Minister MacKay said a new roof would be put on. She stated that she would like to see regular communication on the shelter.

Councillor MacDougall stated that he would like to see the amendment from Councillor McFeely, that it be approved for a year and then reviewed. Councillor McFeely stated that a key piece of that is that someone in the community take ownership to try and advance a longer term strategy and look at other options. Councillor McFeely stated what he was proposing is that the year would be a temporary solution until they found a more permanent solution in the downtown to try and repurpose some existing buildings.

Councillor Ramsay asked what happens if regular assessments are going well?

Councillor McFeely stated that the need is greater than 6 beds and a year would give the opportunity to explore options. Councillor state that is the process would go on longer than the year it would be delat with them.

Councillor Snow state that he they are over thinking it as the province and native council will be doing that, but what is in front of them is the application for Winter Street.

Councillor Ramsay stated that the conditions she would like are continuous assessments over the year, in a year, reassess, make the changes that need to be made, if there are concerns, look at the concerns, and see how to make them better. With Ms. Drake and the Native Council working with the City, she stated that hopefully the issues can be addressed as it is important to keep the assessment going.

Councillor MacDougall stated that he would like to add an amendment to conditions of the original motion, Moved by Councillor MacDougall and seconded by Councillor Snow that

- 3) the area is to be fenced
- 4) Quarterly reviews to be taken place between the city and the province

Motion carried 6-1 (Councillor Snow voted against and Deputy Mayor McColeman abstained)

Resolution Carried 6-1

(Councillor McColeman voted against and Councillor Doiron declared a conflict of interest with this agenda item earlier and did not vote)

Mayor Stewart stated that Council would now allow comments from a member of the public.

George Dalton thanked Councillor McFeely for coming over to his house he said he extended an invitation to other Councillors to come to his house and there were no-shows. He stated that they had three meetings and no City Councillors showed up. He said that they have about 2 hours of video from the meetings that they haven't had time to bring forward. He stated that the feeling he is getting from residents is that City Council doesn't care about them. He stated that he has spent almost \$40,000 from putting two roofs on from the hurricane, if he has to move or sell, he said he loss may go up to about \$80,000. He asked Councillor Ramsay if she thought if that was nice.

Councillor Ramsay stated that none of this was nice and she did listen to everyone speak, and has listened to him speak three times. She spoke with Minster MacKay in terms of what they could do with the concerns that people have.

Councillor Dalton stated that they now have an official citizens group and will be discussing events in the community every month. He stated the whole system has been flawed. He stated that he best decision would have been to put it off until January. He asked Councillor Ramsay why she did not attend any of his group's meetings.

Deputy Mayor McColeman stated that she voted against the resolution. She said she is standing with her residents in Ward 6. She stated that they were invited to the meetings, but she said she hopes people understand that they have to remain impartial and cannot do that when they go to one off meetings, that is why the public meetings are held so people hear all the information at the same time. She stated that she does not condone what she feels Mr. Dalton thinks is his right to shame Council, she state that Council tries very hard.

Mr. Dalton stated that they had a meeting and they realized that Council has a job to do.

Deputy Mayor McColeman stated that Council has to remain impartial during the process.

Mr. Dalton stated that they are looking to bringing in grief counsellors as the fear is there because of this application. He stated that people aren't sleeping and they are hurt.

Councillor McFeely stated that as Chair of Planning Board, they have a very defined process and welcomed people if they had something to say and encouraged it. He stated those were the forums to get the information. He stated that their process is the public is process and followed it as it is defined in the bylaws.

Mayor Stewart stated that a similar situation with the halfway house, Council had to follow the process and remain impartial.

Councillor Doiron stated that he along with six others at the fire department work for the coroners office and has yet to pick up people off the frozen ground, but he refuses to do something that he had a chance to prevent.

Deputy Mayor McColeman stated that she stood with the residents in her ward, but realizes the need of the application and sees the project worthy.

Electric Services – Chair, Councillor Greg Campbell

Report:

“Work Tasks Highlights:

- *Power Plant and Technicians Maintenance consisted of:*
 - *Community fridge has been wired up and energized.*
 - *Christmas lighting is being tested for installation later this month.*
 - *City Hall emergency generator circuitry was tested.*
 - *Street lighting downtown repaired along with Foundry parking lot.*
 - *Boardwalk lighting repaired several times for bollard damages.*
 - *Repaired traffic lights at Granville and Walker Avenue.*
 - *Read corner lift station demolition disconnection.*
- *The City-wide outage on October 31 was conducted and finished the required annual substation maintenance for Summerside Electric and allowed MECL to progress with the line upgrade that feeds Summerside Electric from their transmission system. A final outage is required on November 20, 2022, to finish that upgrade necessary due to growth on the Summerside Electric customer needs.*

- The new electric utility digger derrick truck has been ordered and is due to arrive in 2023.
- The months worked fully concentrated on cleaning up left-over items from the hurricane and to service the needs of new facilities and upgrades for electric heat.
- The Microtel hotel by the Credit Union Place was energized this month.
- Two new reclosers and one voltage regulator were replaced this month.
- Sunbank Project Quick Update:
 - o 32,000 panels installed of 48,000 for the project.
 - o Racking structures have 160 left to do out of 1846 for the project.
 - o The new line is being constructed through the west end of the city. (Seaweed road, south drive to water street, rufus street, along north market street).
 - o The berm and Bayview drive realignment has been finished with trees being planted in the spring.
 - o Completion date expected in the second quarter of 2023.
 - o December of 2022 the City will be presenting the project to the Atlantic Canada Solar Summit Conference in Halifax.

GENERAL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS:

Electric Utility:

- 42.5% of our Electricity came from wind this month.
- The generator's run hours were 20.5 hours.
- 146 service calls for electricity customers (Fiona aftermath continued into October)
- 34 new electric customers and service upgrades were completed this month.
- 13 new poles were installed and 0 removed.
- 13 transformers were installed and 3 removed.
- 348 meters of secondary wiring installed and 770 meters of primary wiring.
- 6 streetlights were installed this month.
- 9 appliances have been sold for Heat for less now program this month. Total now at 533 units.

On my recent door to door campaign there were concerns that most of us have heard. Affordable Housing, Homeless, Food security, speeding etc. One Concern that is unique to Wards 1, 2 and 8 is the Maritime Electric customers within the City of Summerside boundaries. This has been an issue in every election campaign since this city has been formed. Each and every term I have brought this issue forward to council and tried to have it dealt with but each time Council/staff have run into a brick wall. Your worship, during this campaign the message was slightly different..... It was not that it would be nice to be on Summmerside electric, The message was clear... We want and deserve to be on Summerside electric. I certainly agree with them especially after the recent Hurricane Fiona where power was quickly returned to its residents and Maritime electric customer were days. As you are well aware your worship, we have tried and this can has been kicked down the road for far too long. I have a resolution that I hope each councilor will support."

Resolution COS 22-128
Be it Resolved

It was moved and seconded
That the outgoing council of the City of Summerside request that the new City Council (effective December 5, 2022) immediately set up a public meeting with the Maritime Electric customers within city limits to discuss and provide steps forward in the process to convert the Maritime Electric Company Limited customers into Summerside Electric customers.

Motion carried 8-0

Report:

“The sewage treatment plant performed the following major maintenance this month:

- *Annual inspection of hoisting and lifting devices completed by outside firm this week, few minor repairs to make.*
- *Replaced failed sump pump at Lagoon UV building.*
- *Annual Dryer Maintenance was performed.*
- *75% of the fertilizer in stock was delivered to farmers this month.*
- *Staff removed blockage from polymer pump in blend building*
- *Annual gearbox oil changes at secondary clarifiers were completed.*
- *Cleaned and calibrated Dissolved Oxygen Probes on BNR (6).*
- *Cleaned primary clarifiers of floating debris.*
- *Traffic line center painting continues (construction areas).*
- *Crosswalks/intersections/parking spaces are all complete for the year in painting.*
- *Street sweeping will continue for fall pickup until temperatures go below 0 degrees Celsius during the day.*
- *Fiona debris pickup program is completed. Street sign repairs will continue from damage until winter.*
- *Patching continues until the end of the month as it has been delayed since the explosion at the plant.*
- *Operations are preparing all winter equipment for operations in the coming month. **Residents are reminded of the parking ban overnight for snow removal efforts.***
- *Speed radar sign was relocated from West Drive to Mackenzie Drive.*
- *Staff supported the event for traffic control of the witches of water street. Barricade put up and removal.*

GENERAL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS:

Water and Sewer Utilities:

- *32 water samples were taken with clear of bacteria, water chemistry samples were collected with results to come in.*
- *24 chlorination samples taken all within parameters.*
- *2 water main breaks this month were repaired. (Mill crescent and highland avenue)*
- *8 new water services turned on this month.*
- *14 sewer calls this month.*
- *1 Fire Hydrant replaced on Chandler and MacEwen Road. (Rusted out), 1 fire hydrant relocated at Putters Lane.*
- *Sewer effluent to harbor (285,242 cubic meters treated).*
- *200,136 gallons of septage received to the plant from outlying areas. (Servicing the county).*
- *338 Tons of Bio fertilizer was created this month at the Sewage Treatment Plant.”*

Technical Services – Chair, Councillor Justin Doiron

Report:

“The 2022 construction season is still continuing. The construction and the inspection of these jobs will continue for a few weeks yet. The Watermain replacement work continues on the Central Street project. The majority of the reinstatement is completed, the crews are waiting for the final testing of the last sections to complete the rest. The Sewer replacement project is now completed on Chandler and that crew has moved to Cedar St. The Curbing, Paving and Sidewalk projects are completed, the status of those projects, as well as other projects, are updated weekly on our website. The infill tender continues, they are wrapping up the work on Glenn Dr. and Hallie Dr to complete this project for this year. The storm project on Glover Shore road is nearing completion, they still have to tie in the work at the Water St Intersection. The Active transportation trail is continuing on Greenwood Drive from McLead St. down to Water street.

Staff continues to review and assist the public with pending developments and building permits to be issued for this year. Staff have been busy again this month with a few planning related items brought before council.

12 building permits with a value of a little under \$2.6 M were issued for the month of October with a total year to date of 194 permits, for a value of \$44.57 M. We issued 4 permits for single family residential and issued 4 permits for Semi Detached. We have also issued 1 permit for Demo, 1 permit for industrial, as well as 2 for Commercial alterations or Fit ups.

Developers are stopping in and speaking to staff for assistance with their proposed projects for 2022. Citizens are also encouraged to continue to ask for assistance with their projects that they may still have planned for the remainder of 2022.”

Councillor Doiron stated that the work going on Central Street at Maple Avenue is one of the locations that had to be accessed for the water main. The work has been completed for this season and will continue in the spring toward Pope Road. Councillor Snow asked about the length of the project. Staff stated that the water main project is an ongoing project.

Economic Development – Chair, Councillor Brian McFeely

Report:

“I wish to present the departments monthly report, its again been a very busy month for the department servicing existing business inquiries, new investors looking at opportunities in Summerside and forging ahead with planning for 2023 economic development initiatives.

*The majority of the efforts this month has focused on scanning our business community through our **Business Retention and Expansion survey** – In the departments ongoing efforts to support local business, understand their issues and opportunities the department is gearing up to undertake its 3rd BR&E survey. This survey is critically important to our City to ensure we understand the challenges and opportunities of our business, to ensure we stay connected and seize on opportunities through this important survey and understand how e can assist in moving our*

economy forward in a strategic way. Our goal as always is to engage businesses and report on observations generalizable to the broader business community, while also allowing for the identification of potential expansion or retention opportunities, which staff can follow-up on business-by-business.

Labour demand and supply continue to take centre stage with the department. The office is working hard to understand, catalogue and sort through our business communities labour demands and find unique ways in which to connect candidates with these amazing opportunities. 2023 the office will be focusing much of its focus on creating collaborative relationships with supply networks to share and promote some amazing employment opportunities in Summerside. Summerside is certainly on a growth trajectory and with this growth Summerside, like other jurisdictions, Summerside is challenged in several areas to support this economic activity, with labour being one of dominate issues. Summerside strongly believes given its economic fundamentals and strong quality of life case, that attracting the needed labour force among other things is achievable.

In closing we certainly have some amazing projects, opportunities and advancements in growing our community and in the coming months we will look forward to sharing in detail some exciting times for Summerside.”

Councillor McFeely stated that there will be an announcement in the coming weeks regarding a project for the core block.

Police/Fire& Emergency – Chair, Councillor Barb Ramsay

Fire Report:

October 2022 Report

There were 39 calls paged out during the month:

- 9 - Medical First Responder Calls*
- 10 - Alarm Panel Calls*
 - 1 - Structure Fires*
 - 2 - Motor Vehicle Fires*
 - 1 - Electrical Fires*
 - 2 - Appliance Fires*
 - 1 – Flue Fire*
 - 1 - Carbon Monoxide Call*
 - 1 - Indoor Smell of Smoke*
 - 1 - Outdoor Fire Violation*
- 3 - Smoke Complaints*
- 1 - Mulch Fire*
- 1 - False Alarm*
- 2 - Cancelled Calls*
- 3 - Miscellaneous Calls*

Firefighters trained for a total of 290.5 hours in the following activities during the month.

Oct 01/22 - Pump Operators Course
Oct 01/22 - Truck Check
Oct 03/22 - RIT Discussion
Oct 10/22 - PEIFFA Live Fire Training
Oct 11/22 - OHS Building Inspection
Oct 17/22 - Aerial Ladder Training
Oct 17/22 - BA Training
Oct 17/22 - Study Revised SOG's
Oct 18/22 - OHS Meeting
Oct 24/22 - MFR Training
Oct 24/22 - Pump Training
Oct 22 - Fitness
Oct 24/22 - Hydrant Training
Oct 22-23/22 - Teach Level 2 PEIFS
Oct 25/22 - Remove Equipment from Engine 3
Oct 22-23/22 - Teach Level 2 PEIFS
Oct 29-23/22 - JAWS Practice
Oct 31/22 - Halloween Duty

Notes:

- Chief Enman and firefighters recently hosted an “Employer Appreciation Evening”. During the evening it was noted the importance of having local employers that are willing to let their employees leave during business hours and help residents and other businesses deal with emergency situations. Certificates of appreciation were passed out to all companies that employ our firefighters. Thank you to all.
- Once again, with Covid gone, our department hosted our annual “Lunch & Learn” program. Each day of Fire Prevention Week 12 students are picked up at lunch time from their school in a firetruck and taken to the firehall for an hour of fire prevention learning and good eats on the barbeque. This is a program initiated by Chief Enman 15 years ago and it is still as popular now as it was in 2007. Great Job Chief.
- Firefighters are well into the final stages of planning for our December 2 Santa Claus Parade. This is the first regular parade we have had since pre covid days, so we really look forward to seeing everyone then.

Police Report:

“Committee and Volunteer Work

Members continue to attend several regular meetings for the month including Crime Stoppers, Bridge meetings for people at risk, Victims of Family Violence Act Steering Committee, Canada Games Security meetings, National Amber Alert Working Group and EMO meeting at the Oval.

Training and Service Enhancements

Cst. Kennedy and Cst. Quinn attended two-weeks of Tactical Troop training in Nova Scotia with the RCMP. Cpl. Driscoll and Cpl. Corish were involved in a mock hostage taking/active shooter scenario at the Charlottetown Airport on the 19th. They were both part of the event as Crisis Negotiators.

Community Policing Activities

A meeting was held this month at the RCMP regarding SIRT (Serious Incident Response Team) operations on PEI. New Brunswick has now become part of the Nova Scotia SIRT. Members attended the Crime Stoppers Awards Dinner in Charlottetown as part of the Police Officer of The Year awards. The Deputy attended the Chamber Breakfast with the Premier. As we are all aware, Chief Poirier retired during the month. On behalf of the police service we would like to thank the city for the retirement recognition event at the CUP for Chief Poirier. It was nice to see a long-term employee recognized on his exit after 45 years.

Occurrence Statistics

The following is a list of some of the occurrence totals for three months for comparison.

<i>PROS Files</i>	Oct	Sept	August
<i>Calls for Service</i>	649	676	655
<i>Traffic Accidents</i>	33	28	27
<i>Reported Crimes of Assaults & Threats</i>	28	31	23
<i>Theft Reports</i>	44	42	43
<i>Impaired Driving Offences (Blow Over 80, Refusal, Etc.)</i>	11	9	11
<i>Highway Traffic Charges (Includes Speeding)</i>	106	51	67
<i>Break & Enter Reports (Business & Residential)</i>	11	10	9
<i>Drug Enforcement Charges (Does not include JFO charges)</i>	5	6	4

Community Services – Chair, Councillor Cory Snow

Report:

“October kicked off with ice-crews putting the ice-in the Island Petroleum Energy Centre following September’s events and in advance of the Summerside Western Capitals home opener. To that, after nearly

a month on the road the Caps took on the Fredericton Red Wings on October 8th in front of nearly 3,000 fans. The Caps took that one along with 3 more in the month of October going 4 and 0 on home ice in the month.

The Aquatics Centre at the Credit Union Place hosted Summerside Dolphins Swim Club's Regional swim meet on October 29th drawing numerous swimmers from across the western portion of Prince Edward Island. Public swimming lessons registration for the Fall Edition opened in late October and filled up almost instantaneously. Lessons are offered to a variety of skill levels from toddlers up to adults.

The Maritime Chess Festival took place inside the Veteran's Conventions Centre (VCC) at Credit Union Place (CUP) October 7th – 10th. With 50 chess players registered from all over the Maritimes, the festival featured the Maritime Chess Open – A six-round event with players competing in two games per day. Side tournaments included the Maritime Rapid Chess Championship on October 7th, the Maritime Amateur Chess Championship on October 8th and the Maritime Junior Chess Championship and Maritime Blitz Championship on October 9th.

The VCC in the month of October was busy with 58 rooms booked. The VCC combined forces with Explore Summerside to host a massive craft fair which was led by both LJM Events Craft & Vendors Market, as well as PEI Craft Trails, whose event was initially scheduled to be outside. However, was rained out. The craft fair filled the VCC and part of the CUP lobby. The building felt alive and full of excited patrons.

Active Living Summerside had no shortness of programs throughout the month of October offering a weekly walking program, Thanksgiving turkey bowling at the CUP, Halloween PD Day Camp, Pumpkin Carving Party, and their very first Summerside Haunted Dome! The Haunted Dome was a tremendous success as the Summerside Dome seen over 1,000 people part take in the spooky festivities throughout the daytime session and night-time sessions."

HR & Legal Affairs, Culture Summerside and Policy & Bylaw Review Committee

Human Resources and Legal Affairs Report:

- The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee as well as department sub-committees continue to meet on a regular basis
- The department provided support at various meetings this month
- A review of the City's Occupation Health and Safety program is ongoing
- Cindy Hierlihy was recently hired as the Steno/Receptionist in the Technical Services Department
- Staff training for WHMIS was held
- Advertisements are currently underway for a Steno/Receptionist in Technical Services, applications are being received for volunteer firefighters, and Credit Union Place is looking to hire lifeguards
- Staff attended Workers Compensation Board educational sessions
- The annual City Hall fire drill was held in mid October
- Congratulations to Deputy Police Chief Jason Blacquiere on his promotion

Culture Summerside Report:

Ghost Walk

- *Volunteer actors brought to life the history of Halloween and the darker side of Summerside and Island history in the annual Ghostwalk that took place on October 20th. Each of the 313 plus attendees experiences 10 vignettes, researched from historic sources, and written with all ages in mind. Guided tours of 30 plus people left every 10 minutes. Feedback has been very positive. The community was happy to return to the traditional walk format over the Ghost Walk stage shows that were offered during the early COVID days.*

A Symbol of Courage

- *A Symbol of Courage was presented at the Harbourfront Theatre on November 9th to mark the 100th anniversary of the Prince County Soldiers Monument. The evening was well attended with almost 400 at the theatre. Feedback has been positive. It was an honor to present this program to the community. A recorded version of the event will be available later this month.*

Christmas Program

- *Culture Summerside is fine tuning the details of its 2022 Christmas Program. Specifics on scope and breadth of the program will be released shortly.*

Museum Collections

- *Culture Summerside continues to focus on museum collections projects and regularly applies for project funding from the Community Museums Association of PEI. These projects support the ongoing work of cataloguing and managing museum artifacts, from our various sites and collections. We are currently in phase one of a collections organization project and we will seek funding later this month for further phases.*

Adjournment

Council members each spoke and thanked Council members who were not returning, Councillor Campbell, Councillor McFeely and Mayor Stewart for their dedication and commitment to the City of Summerside.

Mayor Stewart reflected on the issues and successes during his tenure as Mayor over 30 plus years. He wished the incoming Council all the best.

Motion It was moved and seconded;

That The meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

Basil L. Stewart
Mayor
Brian Hawrylak
HR Officer