

## Monthly Council Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2016

### **Present**

Mayor Bill Martin  
Deputy Mayor Brent Gallant  
Councillor Bruce MacDougall  
Councillor Frank Costa  
Councillor Gordie Whitlock  
Councillor Norma McColeman  
Councillor Brian McFeely  
Councillor Greg Campbell  
Councillor Tyler Desroches  
Bob Ashley, Chief Administrative Officer  
Rob Philpott, Director of Financial Services  
Brian Hawrylak, HR Officer  
Lorri Laughlin, Director of Communications  
Members of the Media  
Members of the Public

### **Call to Order / Approval of Agenda / Conflict of Interest Declaration**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Martin

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

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

## Approval of the Minutes

**Motion** It was moved by Councillor McFeely and seconded by Councillor Campbell;  
**That** The minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated August 15, 2016 and the minutes of the Special Council Meetings dated August 15, 2016 and September 6, 2016 be approved as circulated.

**Motion Carried**

## New Business

City Council made a special presentation to Darian Foy, who saw flames going up the side of a house on Jennifer Street and alerted the homeowner of the fire. Darian was presented with a certificate and Honourary Junior Firefighter badge from the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Mayor Martin and Councillor McColeman. Chief Peters stated that Darian's actions prevented a more serious incident.

Mayor Martin congratulated both Councillors McFeely and McColeman on their recent bid to seat the respective nomination for Summerside-Wilmot.

## Mayor's Report

Mayor Martin stated that over the last month he has hosted the Korean Ambassador to Canada, he had attended the opening of the national baseball championship, along with the induction ceremony for the three inductees to the Legends Field. He has attended the announcement regarding PEI Hosting the 2023 Canada Games and the expansion to the Prince County Hospital.

The Mayor stated that he is encouraged by the local construction taking place throughout Summerside. He also stated that a proposed policy on delinquent electric accounts is not a done deal and that Council has received feedback from numerous people and the input will be given consideration when it comes time to approve a new policy.

## Financial Services

**Report:**

Councillor Costa:

*"Tonight, I will present a resolution to seek Council support to commence an energy management project, which will produce improvements in our energy utilization and performance, and build upon our efforts as a leader in the areas of innovation and energy efficiency.*

*I have included a financial summary as part of my report. A detailed update was provided at the Committee of Council a couple of weeks ago.*

Overall, the City's utilities continue to perform well, including the electric utility whose financial results were \$136,000 better than expected. As noted in our previous reports, electric consumption by customers was less than forecasted from last year due to a mild winter heating season, thereby resulting in revenue being \$150,000 less than forecasted. But this also means that less power was purchased, somewhat offsetting the effect of the reduced revenue.

The offsetting effect of reduced costs for power purchases is magnified in 2016, because prices for purchased energy have been less than forecasted. The overall result of lower-priced energy has added up to a savings of \$800,000 due to:

- reselling of excess power for profit
- improved administration of transmission costs
- the shift in energy from on peak pricing to off peak pricing and
- the need to purchase less, due to decreased consumption

In conclusion, even though the consumption of electrical energy has decreased from 2015, the overall effect on the utility has been minimal due to the following factors:

- timing of our billing cycles
- demand versus energy revenue streams
- rate increases, and
- growth in the size and numbers of customers in the various classes of industrial, commercial and residential

In addition, consideration should be given to preparing for significant future upward expense pressures on the utility, due to the large anticipated capital costs of the new interconnection cables being installed by the Province, and the new application to IRAC by Maritime Electric for increased transmission rates. It is expected that there will be a significant impact annually on the cost of transmission.

As well, the City was recently notified of the results of a review of our purchases to determine whether we were eligible for any additional HST refunds, rebates, or to recoup any taxes paid in error. We are pleased to report that \$63,000 in total has been refunded to the City thus far (this amount is net of the fee paid to MRSB for their services). Discussions continue with the Province on additional amounts which are under appeal.

Finally Your Worship, staff are hard at work preparing for the upcoming public consultation that will be taking place on the 2017 Budget. This is scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup> at Credit Union Place, and we look forward to continuing to engage with the community on our fiscal requirements and future directions."

**Resolution** It was moved by Councillor Costa and seconded by Councillor McColeman;  
**WHEREAS** the City is an energy leader whose efforts have been recognized regionally, nationally and internationally,  
**AND WHEREAS** the City is always seeking opportunities to become more efficient in terms of its energy consumption, performance and management, and to build upon its prior successes in energy efficiency, the City recently advertised an RFP with the intention of working in partnership with a qualified vendor to identify these opportunities and to develop a plan to achieve them, whether it is through changes in operational practice, capital improvements, or a combination of the two,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council hereby appoints Honeywell Inc. as the vendor of record to work with the City to identify and implement opportunities to improve its energy performance.

This bears the recommendation of Committee of Council on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**Resolution Carried**

**Economic Development**

**Report:**

Deputy Mayor Gallant stated that he has spoken to many area businesses and they seem to be having a great year in relation to previous years and he stated that things are moving in the right direction in Summerside.

Deputy Mayor Gallant:

*“An interesting read from a study published in 2015 on the importance and value of bilingualism in New Brunswick, which has direct relevance to Summerside and the region.*

*The report outlines eight direct benefits arising from having access to bilingualism as well as six significant opportunities that can be leveraged as part of a bilingual strategy. The report confirms that the bilingual advantage does not just benefit bilingual people, but in fact shows that unilingual persons benefit even more. Aside from the obvious advantages of two languages, including the capability to conduct commerce across Canada and around the globe in a customer’s native tongue, it helps local communities attract and retain a vibrant and diverse culture.*

*English remains the dominant language in both PEI and Summerside (spoken by 92.2 percent of all residents) with French the second most prevalent language (3.7 percent in PEI and 5.2 percent in Summerside). Those speaking both official languages account for 0.3 percent of PEI’s population and 0.4 percent of Summerside’s. It is obvious from this report that two languages is an important economic asset in our growing global economy and our opportunity now is in finding how we can better understand and embrace the untapped potential for our economic growth. While Summerside is centred in the bilingual region of PEI, we have to find ways to better embrace and tap into this key differentiator for business.*

*To read the full report and recommendations, please visit: <http://officiallanguages.nb.ca/>*

*The IOS Call centre has officially moved into its new Summerside location at 56 Central Street. The building has undergone significant renovations over the past 4 months to accommodate this new firm in Summerside. The City of Summerside in partnership with ACOA, Innovation PEI and IO Solutions have finalized the re-investment opportunity in downtown Summerside that saw significant rehabilitation to an existing underutilized multi-tenant commercial property. IOS will see an initial 100 jobs start up within the next 4 months with the potential to grow to 140 jobs. IO Solutions Call Center Inc. (IOS) is a business process outsource (BPO) based in PEI and has selected Summerside through a competitive process for its required expansion opportunities. The official opening is scheduled for Friday September 30th at 10am*

*We are all well aware of the advantages of the “green movement” and the importance it plays in the future of our environment and business competitiveness. Investing in and having green technologies and infrastructure as part of a municipalities’ arsenal of attributes is becoming more and more prevalent with companies, both existing and*

potentials, looking to invest in a community, and the city is positioning itself to be a leader in this regard, but much work is left to do.

Aside from the obvious advantages to business in Summerside by having a municipality which owns and operates its own critical infrastructure, critical to running a business, Summerside is showing itself as a leader of all municipalities on Prince Edward Island in this regard by taking a strategic priority in investing in a wide offering of green municipally services.

Summerside's Economic Development Division is issuing an RFP within the coming weeks to engage a team to assist in the development of a road map for success. The goal of this RFP is to assist internal and external stakeholders, led by the City to develop an action orientated strategy and execution plan for ensuring we maximize the City's potential given its available, but underutilized assets in the "Green/Eco Sector" as well as Summerside's intrinsic sectors of excellence. Critical to this project, aside from inventorying and understanding our assets and their cross capabilities, is assisting the City in developing a plan to seize economic development opportunities that will grow and sustain our economy."

### Technical Services

#### Report:

#### Councillor MacDougall:

"The 2016 construction season is getting to the final stages for most projects. For the North Dr. project, thanks for everyone's patience as it has been a long project to replace the Water, Sewer and Storm on North Drive. For the South Drive portion, they replaced the storm main and the sidewalk. The 2016 Infills are now completed on Lockwood and Valley as well as Reihl. We still have a few streets left to pave and a few more curb locations to be completed this fall. A complete list and map of all the capital work for 2016 can be found on our city's web site.

Staff continues to review and assist the public with development and building permit information. Again this month people are in getting permits for renovations, fences, decks and accessory buildings as well as some larger stuff. A couple more semidetached have started in the D&D subdivision. Another multi-unit building on upper Duke Street has been completed, that now makes 6, with room for another 2 multi-unit buildings on the MacCormack property. It is good to see empty parcels of land within the City getting developed; this is a great example of infilling existing land. The second 30 unit building has now begun construction on Pope Road and should be another nice addition to the inventory of rentals in our City. The new car dealership on Pope Road has begun construction, again nice to see another option for vehicles coming to our City.

We had some planning issues to deal with this month. We approved a preliminary 16 lot subdivision on Gamble Ave and construction work is expected to begin any day now. The Review of the zoning bylaw is underway; a draft had been circulated to Mayor and council, we had a couple of open houses in August. The process will continue in September"

Councillor MacDougall reminded Council of the opportunity to provide input of the draft new Municipalities Act.

Summerside will be hosting the Atlantic Mayor Congress in the spring of 2017.

### **Police/Fire & Emergency Planning**

#### **Police Report:**

##### **Committee Work**

*Our Police Service is involved with a number of committees, a full list which our Chief of Police can provide. These committees/groups address a number of family, social, educational, and security concerns. During the month our members assisted the Prince County Hospital with a lockdown exercise procedure as we do with quite a few organizations throughout the year. These lockdowns occur when there is a serious situation in the works, such as situations that occur on a regular basis in other jurisdictions when a shooter for instance may enter a school with the intent of doing harm to others.*

##### **Occurrence Statistics**

*A complete account of the month's occurrences will be made available to Councillors and the media upon request. The following is a list of some of the totals for July;*

*Traffic Accidents – 19*

*Crimes Against Persons (Assaults, Threats, etc.) - 28*

*Crimes Against Property (Thefts, B & E's, Mischief, etc.) – 96*

*Impaired Driving Offences – 10*

*Parking Tickets Issued – 131 & 15 Warnings*

#### **Fire Report:**

*There were 19 paged calls for the months of August; the breakdown is as follows:*

**1** - Structural Fires

**1** - Rescue Call

**3** - Alarm Panel Calls

**2** - Cancelled Calls

**2** - Electrical Fire

**1** - Mulch Fire

**1** - Grass Fire

**1** - Smoke Complaint

**7** - Miscellaneous Calls

There were 11 training opportunities for the month totaling 29 hours; the breakdown is as follows:

Aug 01/16 - Tear Down FireFit Grounds	1.5 hrs
Aug 10/16 - Fire Extinguisher Training	4 hrs
Aug 14/16 - Strip Eng. 3 for Transport to Moncton	2 hrs
Aug 15/16 - Pump Work	1 hr
Aug 15/16 - Company Practice	2 hrs
Aug 15/16 - Laddering Practice	1.5 hrs
Aug 18/16 - Reload Eng. 3 post Moncton	2.5 hrs
Aug 29/16 - Station 2 Practice	2 hrs
Aug 29/16 - Ladder Co. Practice	1.5 hrs
Aug 29/16 - Repack Eng. 2	1 hr
Sept 10/16 - PTSD Seminar	10 hrs

- On Aug 27 the community of Sherbrooke and the city of Summerside suffered a huge loss as the *Green Diamond Farm Equipment* dealership completely burned to the ground. Firefighters fought in very tough conditions for over six hours, but winds and lack of fire hydrants in the area could not be overcome.
- Summerside would like to thank the invaluable assistance provided by fire departments from Miscouche, Kensington, New London and a local group of farmers using their tanker trucks to shuttle water to the scene.

### Community Services

#### Report:

#### Councillor DesRoches:

*"On August 20<sup>th</sup>, CBC's Tragically Hip's concert from Kingston Ontario was broadcast live at Green's Shore. Close to 3000 people attended the event, and over \$4,000.00 was raised for the Canadian Cancer Society.*

*The U21 Women's Canadian Fast-Pitch Championships & 15U Boys National Baseball Championships were a huge success at Queen Elizabeth Park. An economic impact assessment is currently being evaluated for both events.*

*Eastlink Arena was filled with screaming dancing youth for the Family Channel's Big Ticket Summer Concert. The youth created their own dance space behind the seats on the floor. Even some parents were seen up dancing to the music!*

*Ice has been installed in the IcePad. Various minor hockey camps have taken place as well as the Western Capitals Training Camp.*

*A 'Swim to Survive Plus' Camp was added to the summer aquatics mini-camps. It is the first of its kind to be offered on the island. All other camps went very well with a greater number of participants than last year.*

*Private swimming lesson registration is up compared to last year. They are offered every morning for 9am-12pm with most time slots full*

*There were 11,363 visits to walking track, fit stop, pool and bowling*

*The Fit Stop received a ParticipACTION Teen Challenge Grant for a Teen Yoga program. Program will run for 10 weeks starting Sept. 12 and is free to students in grades 7-9.*

*Many exciting changes have been ongoing in the bowling lanes. New rates have been introduced, including pre-school children now bowling for free when accompanied by a playing adult. Food service will also be available beginning mid-September.*

*The Annual Aquatics Centre closure is currently underway. Identified maintenance is on schedule. The new rock wall for the lap pool will be installed during this closure, and will be operational as soon as the aquatic centre re-opens on September 19<sup>th</sup>. "*

## **HR/Legal Affairs/Heritage & Culture**

### **HR Report:**

- Congratulations to Chad Fraser who has started with the City as a Waste Water Treatment Operator and as well to Sandra Zarvie who has moved into the HR Department filling in for Ashley Schurman while she is on maternity leave.
- Congratulations to Ashley, and husband Tim, on the recent birth of their daughter Ruby.
- The Department provided Council support this month at Committee & Council meetings
- The Quit and Win program in conjunction with the Canadian Cancer Society to encourage staff to quit smoking continued through the month.
- The Green Commute Club continues with close to 30% of our staff participating and having active commutes to and from work.
- The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee continue to meet on a regular monthly basis as well as department sub-committees

**Culture Summerside:**

*“September is always a busy month for the staff of Culture Summerside. Tours of the Wyatt Historic House Museum are steady, as are requests to visit the International Fox Museum. Full time staff step into the role of museum tour guide as summer students and corresponding grants have come to an end for the season.*

*Culture Summerside in partnership with Wyatt Heritage Properties Inc. is working on the development of new content for the next Island Storytelling Festival scheduled to begin on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September and conclude on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. These events will be delivered at the Eptek Art and Culture Centre.*

*Development is also underway on the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Wyatt Heritage Properties Ghost Walk set for the evening of October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Vignettes are presented by volunteer actors throughout the historic district of Summerside. Ghostwalk features new stories each year as discovered and researched through the MacNaught History Centre and Archives. If possible they are presented on the location in which they happened. The guided tours begin at 6:30 pm and run every ten minutes through to 8 pm.*

*Grant applications are being developed and submitted this month for some summer programming scheduled for 2017.*

*Culture Summerside received a Museums Assistance Grant (MAP) for the upgrade of our existing Collections Management Software and required hardware. This upgrade will take place this fall.”*

**Governance, Policy and Strategy Committee:**

The Governance, Policy, and Strategy (GPS) Committee met on August 17th and welcomed the newest citizen member John E Clow and we look forward to John’s input from the community.

The committee is heavily focused on completing the process for a number of initiatives that have been front and center for several months. After receiving further direction and feedback from Committee of Council (CoC) these current by-laws, policies or reviews are on their way through the process:

- Cosmetic Pesticide Bylaw
- Dangerous, Hazardous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw
- Facility Fees Policy
- Creation of an Open Flame Burning Bylaw
- Community Grants Policy
- Collections Policy

The GPS committee also has a priority list of upcoming projects endorsed by the CoC which are now slated to be worked on in the days and weeks ahead. A few of them are:

- Communications Policy
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Staffing By-Law
- Local Procurement Policy

Council has clearly indicated support for a pesticide bylaw. He stated that staff has been actively working on a bylaw over the last number of months. The GPS committee has had a presentation on it, along with alternatives.

It is a worthwhile process to review, amend, create by-laws and policies but we are making progress. Our upcoming September will focus on corporate sponsorship as well as a discussion on the committee, ourselves and our progress in achieving our goals.

**Resolution**

Moved by Councillor McFeely and seconded by Councillor DesRoches

Whereas the City of Summerside wishes to expedited the process of dealing with recurring offences under the Dangerous, Hazardous, and Unsightly Premises Bylaw;

Be it resolved that By Law Amendment SS-18-A1, a By Law to amend the Dangerous, Hazardous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw SS-18 be read a first time

Resolution carried

Dangerous, Hazardous, and Unsightly Premises Bylaw SS-18

Amendment SS-18-A1

Section 8.2 of the City of Summerside Dangerous, Hazardous, and Unsightly Premises Bylaw to be amended and to have the words "12 months" be deleted and replaced by the words "48 months" so it shall read:

- 8.2 A Resolution passed by City Council under section 8.1 shall be in effect for forty-eight (48) months from the date of passing and enables the Inspector to re-enter the property at any time to remedy a recurring condition.

**Resolution**

Moved by Councillor McFeely and seconded by Councillor DesRoches

Be it Resolved the first reading of Bylaw Amendment SS-18-A1 a bylaw to amend the Dangerous, Hazardous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw be hereby approved.

Resolution carried

**Resolution**

Moved by Councillor McFeely and seconded by Councillor DesRoches

Be It Resolved that Bylaw Amendment SS-18-A1 a bylaw to amend the Dangerous, Hazardous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw be referred back to committee for review and recommendation

Resolution carried

### Report:

Councillor Whitlock:

*“Plant effluent for the month of April was within regulated requirements for the month. The plant treated 235,808 cubic meters (51,877,760 gallons) of raw sewage while producing 298 tons of Exceptional Quality fertilizer from its waste sludge processing and processed 81,900 gallons of primary sewage from the surrounding area. All regulated effluent parameters met the operating permit for the sewage treatment plant continuing to protect the environment and the Summerside Harbor front. This month staff performed maintenance on one of the primary clarifier tanks to inspect the concrete tanks and moving parts in the tank as part of its annual maintenance requirement.*

*The City’s sewer collection efforts focused on service to 10 residents in distress, performing cleaning to all lift stations, performing 3 sewer lateral videos for customers, and replacing one sewer lateral. The Sewer utility would like to advise its customers that with the upcoming rainy season that sump pump connections should be run to the outside of the home and not into their sewer lines as the increased water from rains puts undue pressure on the treatment and collection systems of the City of Summerside.*

*The City’s water utility efforts continued their focus on service to read all water meters, performed 14 shut off and turn ons, tested and maintain chlorine levels for safe drinking water 15 times throughout the month with all systems operating normally, and water testing the full 8 wards and 10 water supply wells for safe drinking water. This month the Utility had to resample water from background bacteria count which immediately tested clear of any bacteria and testing error was determined the cause of the bacteria presence in the sample. Two water main breaks were repaired on Water Street and repaired one water service this month.*

*The City’s public works efforts concentrated on completing traffic markings for crosswalks, parking spaces, traffic signage additions and catch basin repairs. New crosswalk signage was installed in South Drive and a brand new crosswalk installed on Duke at Hawthorne to assist with the pedestrian traffic towards Elm Street School. In the upcoming month the concentration will be to prepare for the upcoming snow season and secure all markers for fire hydrants and curbing and other items of note are well identified for the operations of the plowing and salting operations.”*

Councillor Whitlock mentioned that a boil water order was placed in a certain area in the City while repairs were being made. Upon completion of the work, the tests came back clear and the boil water order was lifted.

### Explore Summerside

As liaison for Explore Summerside and the City, Councillor Whitlock stated the SummeRide Bike Rally had 834 registered riders with numerous events planned over the 3 days. He stated that the Beef and Blues event will be held at the Shipyard Market this year on September 30.

## Electric Services

### Report:

Councillor Campbell:

*“Generation this month tallied 5,963 kilowatt-hours; this was for 2 runs on August 3, and 31 consisting of 7.6 engine run hours. One generation run was for planned maintenance and the other for testing under load conditions. The plant staff have been working on completing the commissioning of the automatic voltage regulators for engines #1 and #5 as the units are not working consistently enough. Other work is on the fuel system for number 8 engine. Work continues on the removal of old fuel tanks for number 8 engine with new ones to be installed in September.*

*Wind power production was a little higher in August than in July with 34.3% of our power this month coming from renewable wind energy. 7.0% of the time Summerside Electric customer’s electricity needs were met with all wind power and zero greenhouse gas emissions. Revenue from electricity sales decreased from July as less electricity is used in the summer months as well as a short meter reading cycle of 25 days where normally it is 30 days between billing cycles. It is expected that sales will increase in September as the transition of seasons into Fall from Summer. Exports of power totalled 127 MWh’s for the month due to excess wind power.*

*The City’s heat for less now consumer program continued its efforts on servicing units in the field and developing the marketing strategy for the upcoming heating season. The tally of appliances in the community remained the same as in July at 322 which represents 7,732,641 kwh’s of electricity being used from our wind farm to displace fossil fuels in the community. It is expected that sales will increase slightly as heating season comes upon the community.*

*The City’s Electric Utility had 3 service upgrades and 8 new customers this month. The electric utility experienced 13 customer outage events this month with a trouble area on Dekker road being found and repaired. It is expected the number of Customer items will reduce in September. The Utility continues to upgrade its street lights this month seeing 5 street lights changed to LED type and upgraded the County Fair Mall area street lights upon request from the customer. Line upgrades were conducted on Saint Stephen Street, Water Street, Central Street, Second Street and MacEwen road continues. 20 pole replacements being completed by the contractor GSD bringing the total replaced to 150 of the expected 163 to be completed this year.”*

## Committee of the Whole

### **Motion**

It was moved and seconded;

### **That**

That we move into Committee of the Whole after a brief Recess.

### **Motion Carried**

***Open Session Resumed***

No report

***Adjournment***

***Motion***                    It was moved and seconded;  
***That***                        The meeting be adjourned.  
***Motion Carried***

Bill Martin  
Mayor

Brian Hawrylak  
HR Officer