



MINUTES GEORGETOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Monday
January 20th, 2014

Mayor Lewis Lavandier
Deputy Mayor Wade Williams
Councillor Allan Gallant
Councillor Michael Gallant
Councillor Ronnie Gallant
Councillor Faye McQuillan
Councillor Mark Stephen
CAO Tonya Cameron



The regular monthly meeting of the Georgetown Town Council was held in the Council Chambers on 1/20/2014, at 7:00 p.m.

Council Attendance: Mayor Lewis Lavandier
Deputy Mayor Wade Williams
Councillor Michael Gallant
Councillor Ronnie Gallant
Councillor Mark Stephen
Councillor Faye McQuillan

Regrets: Councillor Allan Gallant – L.O.A.

Gallery Attendants: Angus MacPhail, Eastern Graphic Residents, Mike LaVie, Robbie LaVie, Paul Gotell, Mark Gotell, Lorne Billard, Ian Haddow, Aaron Blackett, Cyndie Stephen, Gordon Leger, Dennis McQuillan and John Hebert;

1. Call to Order

Mayor Lewis Lavandier called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda: 1/20/2014

Moved for approval by Councillor M. Gallant.
Seconded by Councillor W. Williams. Motion Carried.

2.1. Additions to Agenda – None

2.2. Conflict of Interest Provision

Part V1, Section 23 of the *PEI Municipalities Act*, which maintains that no member of Council shall derive any profit or financial advantage from his/her position as a member of Council and, where a member of Council has any pecuniary interest in or is affected by any matter before the Council, shall declare his/her interest therein and abstain from voting and discussion thereon.

None.

2.3. Be advised that we are recording these proceedings; If anyone else is recording we would ask that you please declare same. **Angus MacPhail advised he would be recording on behalf of the Eastern Graphic.**

3. Business/Presentations from the Floor: Mayor Lavandier turned the floor over to Georgetown resident, Michael LaVie. Mr. LaVie addressed council regarding issues

he recently had with the Fire Chief and his recent dismissal from the Fire Dept. Mayor Lavandier thanked Mr. LaVie for his presentation. Town Council appreciates the volunteer service that all the members have been providing and certainly that anytime there is a dispute within the Fire Dept. it is of grave concern to Council. He further advised that he would be more than happy to assist Mr. LaVie to get on the agenda for the next Fire Dept. meeting, and that he himself along with Council would also attend the meeting to address his concerns and the Fire Dept. concerns internally. We will do everything possible to work with everyone concerned and get more information from both sides. Further advised that a meeting should be put together as soon as possible.

4. Minutes

Council Meeting(s):

4.1. December 16th, 2014 Regular Council Meeting;

4.2. Adoption and Business thereof.

- **Moved for adoption by Councillor M. Gallant that the minutes of the December 16th, 2013 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as presented, seconded by Councillor F. McQuillan. Motion Carried.**

5. Financial Statements (Unaudited)

5.1. General Operating Account-to December 31st, 2013

- **Moved for approval as presented by Councillor M. Gallant, Seconded by Councillor F. McQuillan. Motion Carried.**

5.2. Sewer Corporation-to December 31st, 2013

- **Moved for approval as presented by Councillor M. Gallant, Seconded by Councillor F. McQuillan. Motion Carried.**

6. Outstanding Expenditures (preliminary & supplementary list)

- **Moved by Councillor M. Gallant for approval to pay all outstanding expenditures as funds become available, seconded by Councillor W. Williams. Motion Carried.**

7. List of Correspondence from December 17th, 2013 to January 20th, 2014:

General Agreement of Council that all N.A.R. items (7.1, 7.4 – 7.10) are tabled as presented, and to only deal with those that require action.

7.1. Active Communities Re: Free information session on eForcePEI online training;
No action required.

7.2. Georgetown Port Inc. Re: Request for the Town to partner with steering committee to fund Sustainable Tourism Enterprise Program; **Action Required.**

General agreement of Council that this be deferred to be dealt with through budgetary process – response to be sent.

- 7.3. Georgetown Fire & Rescue: Re: Correspondence carbon copied to Town regarding Fire Department internal affairs; ***Action Required. Correspondence pending, to be deferred until after the next fire department meeting.***
- 7.4. Active Communities: Re: Reminder: Volunteer Board Development Workshops; ***No Action Required.***
- 7.5. PEI Senior Citizens Federation: Re: Acceptance and funding by the LEAP program; ***No Action Required.***
- 7.6. Public Affairs Solutions for Atlantic Canada: Re: Request for meeting space at Civic Centre; ***No Further Action Required. (already approved via email).***
- 7.7. Southeast Environment Association: Re: Contact information for the Southeast Environment Association Project Coordinator; ***No Action Required.***
- 7.8. Montague Rural Action Centre: Re: RACFacts: Looking for a summer intern?; ***No Action Required.***
- 7.9. Community Economic Development & Infrastructure: Re: Volunteer board development workshop series; ***No Action Required.***
- 7.10. FPEIM: Re: 2014 FPEIM Annual meeting-Call for resolutions and nominations for awards; ***Action Required. Council to work on for further review.***

8. Committee Reports

- 8.1. ***Finance, Government Relations - Mayor Lewis Lavandier, Chair:*** Mayor Lavandier submitted the following written report:
Monthly Meeting – January 2014

On January 1st I attended the annual tradition in Montague on their New Year's Levee.

On Thursday January 16th I was involved in the opening ceremonies of the Norseman Tournament at the Wellness Centre in Montague. It was great to again host that tournament in Georgetown, it was really well attended.

After reading two articles concerning a panel of three youths that unveiled a study of P.E.I. Youth under the Vital Signs research program, I feel that we should invite this panel to Georgetown to make their presentation. Councillor Stephen, I would like to ask you to get a hold of the theatre to see if they can make space available for this presentation and if they can book them for that. It is imperative that we work with our youth going forward and find out what they want and what they are looking for, as they are where our future is.

Celebrations are going to be big this year, with all the funding we were fortunate enough to receive at the Playhouse for the 2014 celebrations, this will be a great year coming up, lots of Plays and entertainment at the Playhouse.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Lewis Lavandier, Mayor*

Motion(s) from Report:

- **Moved by Councillor M. Gallant to adopt Mayor L. Lavandier's report as presented, seconded by Councillor M. Stephen. Motion Carried.**

8.2. *Public Works, Property, Main Street Programs, Sewer & Water Utilities-Councillor Williams & Community Heritage and Beautification, Committee Chair:*

Councillor Wade Williams submitted the following written report:
January 2014

Public Works, Property and Utilities: West St. Lift Station and Kent St. sewer line have sent a lot of expensive repairs in 2013. Frequency of problems is starting to be a concern. Going forward Council should look at both areas as a future infrastructure project. Lumping them together may cut down costs and deals with both problems at the same time. I have been in talks with EXP several times over the last few months regarding these issues.

Mild weather and lots of snow in ditches caused a minor problem. Once areas were cleared of snow things flowed very well. Problem areas will always be an issue – until proper storm drainage system is put in place.

Eastern PEI Coalition: Myself and Councillor Mike Gallant attended the first meeting of the Eastern PEI Municipal Coalition in St. Peters.

Concept: Bringing Eastern PEI Municipalities and Unincorporated areas together. To provide a Regional Forum where we can contribute/share ideas, increase communication and better align efforts in a regional way. First steps are to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be signed by Municipalities and unincorporated areas to demonstrate buy in and commitment to the initiative. Then to develop comprehensive inventory of assets in Eastern PEI, Shared Calendar of Events, co-ordinated marketing strategy and convey a united message – long term mutually beneficial projects / initiatives may bring investment and stronger communities.

GADC: GADC Retail Shops have been able to secure two new tenants for the 2014 Season. Great to see more small businesses coming to Georgetown. I will update details in future.

Community Heritage / Beautification: In process of costing out and developing possible beautification projects for specific sites. Will bring these ideas forward when finished.

Will try to do more work at A.A. Macdonald Memorial Gardens this summer season.

On a heritage note, myself and his worship met with James Schaffer. He has a background in film and video work. Part of the discussion was to do some work with our oldest citizen (Francis Llewellyn) if possible. She is a treasure and a wealth of knowledge for sure. Looking into possibility of capturing this incredible lady. It will be interesting to see this story told.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Wade Williams, Councillor*

Motion(s) from Report:

- ***Moved by Councillor M. Gallant to adopt Councillor W. Williams' report as presented, seconded by Councillor R. Gallant. Motion Carried.***

8.3. *Community & Media Relations and Seniors Affairs: Councillor McQuillan, Committee Chair:* Councillor McQuillan sent her regrets and submitted the following report:

Councillors Report – January 2014:

Seniors: Seniors started their LEAP program last week... They are doing Rug Hooking this year. We have 26 in the class and all seems to be enjoying it.... We are still waiting on a few grants we put in for. Lisa checked into them and we should hear by end of January.

Three Rivers Sportsplex Fundraising: We are Fund Raising for Three Rivers Sportsplex. The Summer Days Committee and the Three Rivers Sportsplex Board of Directors are working together to have a Bingo to Raise money for the Rink. We are having it at the Playhouse, canteen sales back to the Playhouse. So far it has been going well; we are getting more people each week and are getting great feedback on the prizes and the Bingo itself. Hopefully the crowd will pick up week to week.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Faye McQuillan, Councillor*

Motion(s) from Report:

- **Moved by Councillor M. Gallant that Councillor F. McQuillan’s report be adopted as given, seconded by Councillor M. Stephen. Motion Carried.**

8.4. Three Rivers Sportsplex & Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department, Committee Chair Councillor Ronnie Gallant: Councillor Ronnie Gallant gave the following written reports:

Written Fire Dept., Three Rivers Sportsplex and Civic Center Reports submitted by Councillor R. Gallant:

Three Rivers Sportsplex: The Sportsplex fundraising bingos are going okay. I would like to thank Councillor Faye McQuillan and the Summer Days Committee and Rink Board members for all their hard work. I would also like to thank the King’s Playhouse for their help and the use of their facility.

Civic Centre: The Civic Centre is going through too much oil. I have been reviewing the bills and we burned roughly \$2,000 of oil in the last 45 days. I will have Lisa call Irving Oil tomorrow and have them come out and do an efficiency test and find out what is going on.

Fire Dept.: I would like to turn the floor over to Fire Chief Mark Gotell as he is here in person to present his report tonight.

Fire Dept. Report submitted by Mark Gotell, Fire Chief in person:



Fire Chief’s Report From Nov. 30, 2013 – January 20, 2014

Fire Calls	EMS Calls	MVA Calls	Forestry Calls	Training	Meetings
2	3	0	0	1	1

Snow Removal: Once again this year snow removal has been an issue from the very first storm we had. Following the two major dumping of snow we had in

early December, the hydrants went without being cleaned out and accessible, we had a lot of snow in a very short time, so to give the contractor time to get things caught up, I waited 4 days (which was entirely too long to go without access to water). Following the 4 days the hydrants were still not accessible and did not appear they would be any time soon.

On Friday December 20th I went to Councillor Ronnie Gallant's house to talk to him about the hydrants, when there was no answer, I proceeded to the Town Office to look for Councillor Gallant or Mayor Lavandier, I spoke to the Administrator Assistant (Councillor Mark Stephen was also in the office) and asked her to forward a message on to both the Mayor and Councillor R. Gallant, that the contractor had until Saturday at noon to clean out the Hydrants or that I would hire someone to do so. Apparently from my understanding later on that day the contractor was in the Office and the Administrator Assistant mentioned the hydrants to him, he proceeded to tell her that he only had a couple left to do, which turned out to be an obvious lie.

The next day on Saturday December 21st around 1 pm I drove around Town and there was not a hydrant accessible in the Town, this is day number 5 after the storm, I am not sure how Council members feel if their homes had caught on fire and we had no access to water only the water in the trucks. I was not prepared to explain that to any resident or take on that liability for it, so I proceeded to get in contact with Morley Anear Ltd and their driver to go clean out the hydrants and the Fire Hall properly. I immediately contacted Councillor A. Gallant Chair of Finance to advise him what took place.

This issue has been going on way to long in fact I have a letter here that I wrote to council in February 2011 concerning the very same issue and with the very same contractor. If this council wants to play Russian roulette with people's lives then that's your business, I certainly do not want to play that game. Once an emergency call comes in, it is a little too late to be on the phone wondering why the Fire Hall or the hydrants are not accessible, emergency calls just don't come in 8 - 5.

On Thursday January 16th I was in the Town Office to drop off some bills to the Administrator Assistant, when I was approached by Mayor Lavandier and Councillor Williams in regards to hiring a contractor to clean out the hydrants. After a heated argument with both of them coming aboard me and going up one side of me and down the other, I threw my pager on the desk and walked out, first of all Mayor Lavandier and Councillor Williams there are more than just you two on Council and you had no right to address me in that manner.

I made a decision in the best interest of the tax payers of Georgetown and Georgetown Royalty who pay taxes for Fire Service. A decision that I do not regret making, a decision that I would make again, if it meant protecting the

Residents. You people are elected to make decision on the best interest of tax payers but when it comes to snow removal your heads are stuck in a snow bank.

I have here my official resignation as Fire Chief, but after 26 years of serving the taxpayers of Georgetown and Georgetown Royalty I am not about to give that up. I serve the Taxpayer not Town Council.

So from here on in if Council has any concerns, in regards to the Fire Department they will be brought up in a meeting with the whole council and Fire Department Executive and none of this 2 on 1 back room.

Mark G. Gotell,
Fire Chief

We Make House Calls!

Motion(s) from Report:

Mayor Lavandier thanked Fire Chief Gotell for his report and advised that Council are only too glad to meet with the Fire Dept. and that we are planning to meet with the Fire Dept. at the next Fire Dept. meeting to hear both sides of the issues and move forward.

Councillor R. Gallant also thanked Fire Chief and discussed reviewing the issues at the upcoming meeting with the Fire Dept.

- ***Moved by Councillor M. Gallant to adopt Councillor Ronnie Gallant's reports as presented, seconded by Councillor M. Stephen. Motion Carried.***

8.5. *Planning & Community Development, Friends of Georgetown School Parent Group and King's Playhouse, Councillor Michael Gallant Committee Chair: Councillor M. Gallant submitted the following verbal updates:*

Councillor's Report for January 2014:

PLANNING: Nothing new to report.

GEORGETOWN SCHOOL: Nothing new to report.

OFFICIAL PLAN and DEVELOPMENT BYLAW: Verbal update. Mayor Lavandier and myself met with resident Helen Smith last Wednesday to review her correspondence we received last month. We agreed at that session that things would remain status quo.

Motions from Report: none

8.6. Youth & Recreation and King's Playhouse: Councillor Mark Stephen, Committee Chair presented the following written report(s):

Youth Activities: Just received some correspondence on some playground equipment, which I feel is needed for West St. Beach or other areas of the Town for that age group.

King's Playhouse: Jimmy the Janitor Jan. 27th, Music PEI on Jan. 29th, and a Valentines show that they are working out a package with Joel at the Inn for a Dinner and a Show package. It would be nice to see everyone there for those shows. They have already begun booking Weddings for the upcoming season and they seem to have a nice season of productions for the 2014 celebrations. I wish them a very successful season.

Motions from report:

- **Moved by Councillor M. Gallant to adopt Councillor M. Stephen's report as presented, seconded by Councillor F. McQuillan. Motion Carried.**

8.7. Finance and Georgetown & Area Development Corporation: Councillor Allan Gallant, Committee Chair

Councillor A. Gallant is on a leave of absence.

8.8. Administrator's Report: Tonya Cameron, Chief Administrative Officer:

Tonya Cameron, CAO gave the following written report:

Vacation: Had a great vacation, but glad to be back home in Georgetown!

Canada Day: Councillor Faye McQuillan and Lisa put together a great application for Canada Day Activities which I reviewed and Lisa submitted last week.

Scotts Canada Grassroots Grant: Will be working with Councillor W. Williams in the upcoming month on a small grant through this program.

Christmas Contest: I received a suggestion from two residents that perhaps we could have signage made for winners that could be reused each year, so that after the contest is over, people can see the yards that won each division.

Upcoming Budget: Council should consider calling a presentation forum for the general public, community groups, committees & boards of public consultation as soon as possible to review budgetary requests.

Islander Day: Friendly reminder February meeting falls on Tuesday Feb 18 due to the Islander day holiday.

Congratulations to the all the volunteers and supporters of the Three Rivers Sportsplex Bingo, its wonderful to see this taking off and will be a great help to the rink in the upcoming season.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Tonya Cameron, C.A.O.*

- **Moved by Councillor F. McQuillan to adopt the C.A.O.'s report as given, seconded by Councillor M. Stephen. Motion Carried.**

General agreement to have a flyer sent out for the third Tuesday in February 2014 for the public meeting forum for budget 2014.

9. New Business:

9.1 Regional Group – Mayor Lavandier, Councillor M. Gallant and Councillor W. Williams advised Council that at the Regional Group meetings it was asked to bring back to each municipal Council to suggest to put some funding aside for this year's budget process. Monies raised for this could go towards sharing services, planning, event calendar, etc.

9.2 Smoke Free Policy – General discussion regarding implementing a new smoke free policy as suggested at last month's meeting. General discussion regarding working towards smoke free area and Smoke free zones discussed. Discussions included the inability to enforce such a policy and whether it is feasible. Council expressed a strong desire to show that they are being proactive with regards to smoke free policies. General agreement to move ahead with the proposal for smoke free policy on municipal properties the same as other communities.

- **Moved by Councillor M. Gallant that all municipally owned properties are to become smoke free by June 2014, seconded by Councillor W. Williams. Motion carried.**

Adjournment:

- **Meeting be adjourned as there is no further business.**

Minutes recorded and submitted by:
Tonya Cameron, C.A.O.
February 18th, 2014

Lewis Lavandier, Mayor

Tonya Cameron, C.A.O.