

Community of Malpeque Bay
November 23, 2017
Regular Council and Special Meeting-Spring Valley Hall

Present: Jamie Crozier, Herb Clark, Paul Brown., Ghislaine Duplain, Tyler Pickering, Myles Hickey, Trent Caseley,

Administrator: Joanne McCarvill

There were 28 residents in attendance.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by the Chair.

2. **Agenda**

Motion 2017:24 It was moved by Paul Brown and seconded by Myles Hickey that the Agenda be approved. **MOTION CARRIED**

3. **Minutes**

Minutes of the October 11, 2017 meeting were approved as circulated.

4. **Business arising from minutes**

4.1 **Key pad lock update** It was noted that Council had purchased 5 keyless lock systems for three community halls, Keir Memorial Museum and Princetown United Church. The locks were donated to these organizations so that the community at large would have access to the AED's in case of an emergency. Community members will identify combinations and provide the information to community members.

4.2 **Remembrance Day Service** Ghislaine Duplain laid the wreath at the Cenotaph in Malpeque on Remembrance Day on behalf of residents.

5. **New Municipal Government Act – Transitions timeline** Chairman Crozier read through the Transitions timeline provided to the meeting which elicited a number of questions and concerns.

- Why do we need another level of service within the community when services are already provided by Access PEI?
- Unincorporated areas will continue to use the services provided by Access PEI – why are municipalities being asked to take on more responsibilities when the same services will continue to be offered to unincorporated areas?
- Why can't the municipal office be centrally located in Kensington? Most residents of the community make at least one trip a day into Kensington?
- The municipality does not have office space for rent within the community. The options presented by Council included building onto one of the existing halls or purchasing land and building a new structure. Both options were met with opposition. Residents from Indian River having to travel to an office located in Spring Valley would be going out of their way to obtain information easily obtained from a location within the town of Kensington.

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- It was noted that the municipality could dissolve and it could become a fire district similar to New London.
- There was a comment that communities need to be proactive and that local decision making is key to maintaining a viable community directing its affairs.
- A resident expressed his concern and disappointment in Government imposing additional requirements on municipalities without consultation. He indicated that he believed we are not being governed in a democratic way.
- Because talks of amalgamation has coincided with the introduction of the new municipalities act many people are of the understanding that the two are the same. Education needs to be provided by the Province to better inform Islanders of its expectations with this new Act.

6. New Municipal Government Act – Budget Forecast 2022

- Why should taxes increase for duplication of service?
- Can service be best provided through current administration with an office in Kensington?
- Tax groups – creation of a higher tax on non-residents was discussed.

7. New Municipal Government Act – Municipal Office Plan

- A resident identified he heard the Minister say that communities can share offices.
- Council is to explore this idea, as well as shared staffing for development officer.
- A suggestion had been made to Council to consider Spring Valley as an office location, it was considered that the use of gas tax dollars could be used to enhance a Hall with an addition of a multi-purpose room.
- Some residents of Spring Valley expressed that they wanted to maintain their autonomy over their hall.
- Spring Valley is having a meeting next Wednesday, November 29th to provide the community with information gathered from this meeting and to set a date for voting on whether to move ahead with the proposed multi-purpose room addition to the Hall.
- If the Province is wanting to reduce its current 73 municipalities down to 20 why is it adding the stress and financial burden onto small municipalities? If it intends to create larger municipalities in the future, why not create Regions now?

8. New Business

It was noted that the Council donates money at Christmas on behalf of area residents to the following organizations: Kensington Lion's Club/Christmas Basket program, Malpeque Bay Christmas Tree of Hope campaign, and the QEES Home and School Association.

Motion 2017:25 Myles Hickey moved the payment of \$250.00 to both the Lion's Club and the Christmas Tree of Hope and \$500.00 to the QEES Home and School Association. The motion was seconded by Ghislaine Duplain. **MOTION CARRIED**

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9. Next Council Meeting – January 10, 2018

A request was made to Council to try to have either the Minister or Deputy Minister attend the next Council meeting to answer questions related to the new Municipal Government Act. Joanne will send a letter to the Minister's office with the request and report back to Council.

10. Adjournment

Paul Brown moved for adjournment and the meeting was adjourned by the Chair.

Jamie Crozier, Chairman
Community of Malpeque Bay

Joanne McCarvill, Administrator
Community of Malpeque Bay

Dated: November 23, 2017 at Kensington, PE

Next meeting January 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm – Sea View Hall – Storm Date January 11, 2018