

TOWN OF ST. STEPHEN
REGULAR COUNCIL
73 MILLTOWN BLVD., SUITE 112
JANUARY 18, 2010 @ 7:00 P.M.

1. PRAYER
2. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Mayor G. L. (Jed) Purcell; Deputy Mayor Jim Maxwell; Councillors Ralph Williams, Robert Tinker, Barb Donovan, Jeremy Copeland and Gavin Toumishey; CAO/Clerk John Ferguson; Treasurer Tim Tozer; and, Assistant Clerk Joan Flewelling.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Tinker
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Maxwell

01/10 THAT the Agenda be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts declared.

5. READING OF PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

February – Heart Month – Proclamation

Mayor Purcell proclaimed the month of February 2010 as Heart Month:

Whereas:

the effects of heart disease and stroke are responsible for widespread suffering and create serious hardship in our community; and

Whereas:

the Heart and Stroke Foundation of New Brunswick is taking positive action to reduce disability and death from heart and stroke disease through:

- (1) a planned, priority research program
- (2) an accelerated public and professional heart health promotion program; and

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Whereas:

the Heart and Stroke Foundation of New Brunswick's Annual Person-to-Person Campaign is being conducted during the Month of February 2010.

Now Therefore:

I, G. L. (Jed) Purcell, Mayor of the Town of St. Stephen, hereby proclaim the month of February 2010 as Heart Month in St. Stephen and urge all citizens to cooperate in the Heart Fund Drive and all civic, social and fraternal organizations and business establishments to give this campaign the greatest possible support.

6. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

No notices of motions.

7. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councillor Tinker
Seconded by Councillor Williams

02/10 THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on December 14, 2009 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councillor Donovan
Seconded by Councillor Williams

03/10 THAT the Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on December 21, 2009 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

8. ACCOUNTS

PAID BILLS

Moved by Deputy Mayor Maxwell
Seconded by Councillor Toumishey

04/10 THAT paid bills in the amount of \$1,464,796.84 (one million, four hundred and sixty-four thousand, seven hundred and ninety-six dollars and eighty-four cents) be ratified. **CARRIED**

9. COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATION FOR INFORMATION FILE

Moved by Councillor Williams
Seconded by Councillor Toumishey

05/10 THAT Communication for Information, note and file, be adopted. **CARRIED**

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COMMUNICATION FOR ACTION

No communication for action.

10. **APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

Moved by Councillor Tinker

Seconded by Councillor Copeland

06/10 THAT the Minutes of the Committee of Council meeting held on January 4, 2010 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

Moved by Councillor Donovan

Seconded by Councillor Copeland

07/10 THAT the Minutes of the Committee of Council meeting held on January 5, 2010 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

COMMITTEES MEETING

Moved by Councillor Williams

Seconded by Councillor Tinker

08/10 THAT the Minutes of the Committees meeting – Public Safety & Environment; Finance & Administration; Community Services; and Planning & Priorities held on January 6, 2010 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

Moved by Deputy Mayor Maxwell

Seconded by Councillor Copeland

09/10 THAT the Minutes of the Committee of Council meeting held on January 14, 2010 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

11. **STAFF REPORTS**

STAFF REPORTS

Moved by Councillor Williams

Seconded by Councillor Copeland

10/10 THAT the following staff reports for the month of December 2009 be adopted: Treasurer; Director of Operations; Director, Parks & Recreation; Fire Chief; By-Law Enforcement Officer; and Development Officer. **CARRIED**

12. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business.

13. CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

No by-laws considered.

14. NEW BUSINESS

SCHEDULE "A" – BY-LAW NO. W-1, "A BY-LAW RESPECTING WATER AND SEWER RATES AND CHARGES"

Moved by Councillor Copeland

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Maxwell

- 11/10 THAT** the attached revised "Schedule A" of By-Law No. W-1, "A By-Law Respecting Water and Sewer Rates and Charges" be accepted retroactive to January 1, 2010. **CARRIED**

WATER AND SEWERAGE FUND 2010 OPERATING BUDGET

Moved by Councillor Williams

Seconded by Councillor Tinker

- 12/10 THAT** pursuant to paragraph 189(4) of the *Municipalities Act*, the total budget for the Municipality of St. Stephen Utility for the ensuing year would consist of total revenues of \$1,977,804 (one million, nine hundred and seventy-seven thousand, eight hundred and four dollars), and total expenditures of \$1,977,804 (one million, nine hundred and seventy-seven thousand, eight hundred and four dollars). **CARRIED**

GENERAL FUND 2010 OPERATING BUDGET

Moved by Councillor Williams

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Maxwell

- 13/10 WHEREAS** the base rate calculated under section 5.01 (2) of the *Property Tax Act* is \$1.4941, and
WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of St. Stephen has deemed the revenue requirement for the Municipality to be greater than the amount generated by this rate;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The sum of \$7,041,069 (seven million, forty-one thousand and sixty-nine dollars) be the total budget of the Municipality, that the sum of \$5,157,675 (five million, one hundred and fifty-seven thousand, six hundred and seventy-five dollars) be the Warrant of the Municipality for the ensuing year, and that the tax rate for the Municipality be \$1.5500 (one dollar and fifty-five cents), in accordance with subsection 5.01 (3) (b) of the *Real Property Tax Act*.
The Council orders and directs the levying by the Minister of Local Government of said amount on real property liable to taxation under the *Assessment Act* within the Municipality of St. Stephen.

ADOPTED this 18th day of January, 2010 by the Council of the Town of St. Stephen, New Brunswick. **CARRIED**

The CAO commented on additional expenses of \$10,000 and higher in the 2010 Operating Budgets as compared to 2009.

**FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES (FCM) 2010
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW**

Moved by Councillor Williams

Seconded by Councillor Tinker

- 14/10 THAT** the Council of the Town of St. Stephen authorizes an amount, not to exceed \$2,500.00 (two thousand, five hundred dollars), for Councillor Gavin Toumishey to attend the FCM 2010 Sustainable Communities Conference and Trade Show February 10 – 12, 2010 in Ottawa, and the expenditure to be paid from budgeted amounts in the Environmental Sustainability Committee and the remainder unbudgeted for 2010. **CARRIED**

Councillor Toumishey thanked Council for its support and stated that it is important to look into the future as many citizens are interested in maintaining the quality of life by living in a sustainable community. He encouraged Council to review the preliminary conference program entitled “Growing the Green Economy: Practical Solutions for Sustainable Communities”, and Councillor Toumishey will provide a summary of the Conference and Trade Show at a future Committee meeting.

15. **REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS**

Deputy Mayor Maxwell

- Attended various meetings.
- Attended the official opening of the new border crossing and was very pleased that Prime Minister Harper and Minister Thompson recognized his close friend, Jim Purcell, who was a member of the Maine-New Brunswick Trade Corridor Committee, and was instrumental in making the third bridge become a reality.

Councillor Donovan

- Attended and very much enjoyed her first Mayor’s Levee and was touched by the recognition given to the two women, recipients of the Order of New Brunswick and Red Cross Humanitarian Award.
- Impressed with the official opening of the new border crossing and honoured to be in attendance.

Councillor Williams

- Attended many budget meetings as Chair of the Finance & Administration Committee.

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- Very pleased with the total change from last year's budget process and stated it was well done.
- Disappointed with the tax increase but stated it is necessary.
- Attended the Mayor's Levee and was pleased to hear the background information on Diane Ganong, recipient of the Red Cross Humanitarian Award, and Shirley Downey, recipient of the Order of New Brunswick, and stated that it is the Mayor's wish to recognize citizens who make significant contributions to their community.
- Attended the official opening of the new border crossing and was very pleased that Prime Minister Harper and Minister Thompson recognized Jim Purcell, who was a member of the Maine-New Brunswick Trade Corridor Committee, and was instrumental in making the third bridge become a reality after many years of planning.
- Thanked Jim Purcell and all members of the Maine-New Brunswick Trade Corridor Committee for their dedication to the Committee.
- Stated that Honourable Greg Thompson will be missed in the community and appreciates all that he has accomplished for the area.

Councillor Toumishey

- Attended the official opening of the new border crossing and pleased that it has become a reality.
- Attended and enjoyed the Mayor's Levee.
- Echoed Councillor Williams' comments with respect to Honourable Greg Thompson who will be greatly missed and appreciates his many accomplishments.
- Attended many meetings and looks forward to working in the future with a mutual team from Council and the CAO and his staff.

Councillor Tinker

- Pleased to hear that the draft Municipal Plan is being reviewed by Department Heads.
- Stated that three areas that should be addressed in the Economic Development Plan are:
 - Milltown Blvd. from Miss D's to the Ferry Point Bridge;
 - Area along new highway leading to the new border crossing; and,
 - New entry into Milltown Heights from the new border crossing.

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The CAO stated that the strategic priorities need to be put to action, an operational plan needs to be created, and work plans need to corroborate with the operational plan.

Councillor Copeland

- Attended and enjoyed his first Mayor's Levee.
- Attended various Town meetings.
- Stated that hopefully there will not be many unbudgeted expenditures during 2010.

Mayor Purcell

- Attended the official opening of the new border crossing and was very pleased that his brother, Jim Purcell, was recognized for his dedication to the Maine-New Brunswick Trade Corridor Committee.
- Stated that Honourable Greg Thompson's resignation is unfortunate, but he leaves a great legacy.

16. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

17. ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Deputy Mayor Maxwell
Seconded by Councillor Williams

15/10 THAT the meeting adjourn at 7:45 p.m. **CARRIED**



Mayor



CAO/Clerk