

Monthly Council Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2020

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
Rob Philpott, Chief Administrative Officer
Kristen Dunsford, Acting Director of Financial Services
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 at 6:30pm.

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

Approval of the Minutes

Motion It was moved by and seconded;
That The minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated December 16, 2019 be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried

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 monthly basis,
- We are pleased to announce that Kenny Blanchard and Clay Moase have been promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief within our Fire Service. As well, we welcome Cst. Jesse McCabe and Cst. Colby Landrigan to our Police Service as Part Time members.
- We currently have a competition open for the position of Recreation Coordinator within Community Services.
- HR staff have been busy with budget preparations and planning health and wellness initiatives for 2020/21

Culture Summerside Report:

The following report captures some highlights of Culture Summerside's activity from the mid Dec. to the mid Jan. time period.

- Culture Summerside's annual Christmas program took place through the month of December. For the first time in its 19-year history the event was opened up to the general public and offered with evening hours.

The 2019 format also offered an expanded exploration of the Wyatt Historic House Museum and incorporated piano playing, refreshments, singing, interpretation and storytelling. Early housekeeping staff of Wanda Wyatt's were part of the program offering a glimpse into the days of working in the home. Positive feedback from the community was plentiful. It was clear that our citizens want to spend more time in the Museum during the holidays and participate in "Christmas at the Museum" type events. Community members considered the event "a gift to the community".

The school component was also well received. Each student, teacher and chaperone participating walked away with a new perspective on the Wyatt Museum. The program topics change each year and are written to correlate with curriculum and connect to the holidays. Among other objectives, this event was focused on creating greater accessibility to our museums and cultural sites

- Deadlines are being met in the area of grant writing; proposals and reports are being submitted to several government organizations.

Mayor Stewart asked that Council be kept up to date as planning for the Lobster Carnival begin.

Policy & Bylaw Review Committee Report:

In November, Council passed second readings for amendments to several bylaws in order to bring them into compliance with new Municipal Government Act. The current catalogue of bylaws is now up to date in terms of consistency in formatting, references, and numbering for retrieval purposes.

This work is primarily legislative housekeeping, which means that all bylaws remain subject to Council review and revision for as the need arises for improving their content, language, and application.

New Bylaws Mandated by the Province

Previous BPR reports have indicated that the City has been waiting to receive models of two new bylaws mandated by the new Municipal Government Act. The two required bylaws are the Access to Information Bylaw and the Retention of Records Bylaw. Proposed versions of these bylaws have been specifically drafted for inclusion in the City of Summerside's bylaw catalogue, and the City's external legal counsel will be here tonight to answer any questions on the proposed content.

The new deadline for passage of these new bylaws is February 28th, 2020. First reading should take place at the January meeting of Council and second reading in February to meet the deadline.

Taxi Bylaw

Council has directed the Bylaw and Policy Review Committee to review the current Taxi Bylaw and to bring recommended changes back to Council. This Council direction is a response to hearing a growing number of concerns registered by taxi operators, taxi rides and the public in general. It has been suggested that existing Taxi Bylaw is outdated, irrelevant in some respects, and difficult to enforce. This review process is underway and will include outreach to local stakeholders before the revised bylaw comes back to Council.

Iain MacCarville, from the City's external legal counsel, Key Murray Law, provided some background on the two new bylaws CS-29 and CS-30. Hard copies were made available for members of the public if requested.

CS-29 Access to Information and Protection of Personal Information Bylaw is bylaw to provide for public access to certain information in the custody or control of the city of Summerside and to protect personal information pursuant to sections 147 and 148 of the MGA.

Resolution COS 20-002 It was moved and seconded;

Whereas the City of Summerside Bylaw CS-29 Access to Information and Protection of Personal Information Bylaw was presented at the Monthly Meeting on January 20, 2020 for a first reading

Be it resolved That the City of Summerside Bylaw CS-29 Access to Information and Protection of Personal Information Bylaw be hereby declared read a first time and be referred back to committee for review and recommendation

Resolution Carried 8-0

Council members had a number of questions in terms of CS-29.

CS-30 Records Retention Bylaw a bylaw to provide for the retention and disposal of records for the City of Summerside.

Resolution COS 20-003 It was moved and seconded;

Whereas the City of Summerside Bylaw CS-30 Records Retention Bylaw was presented at the Monthly Meeting on January 20, 2020 for a first reading

Be it resolved That the City of Summerside Bylaw CS-30 Records Retention Bylaw be hereby declared read a first time and be referred back to committee for review and recommendation

Resolution Carried 8-0

Financial Services – Chair, Deputy Mayor McColeman

Report:

While the City is showing a shortfall in the December operating results, we do not expect to be reporting a deficit at the end of the fiscal year (March 31). We have a number of options available to offset the additional operating and capital expenditures (e.g. street sweeper) which were approved subsequent to the budget being adopted.

In addition to these added operating and capital expenditures we are expecting our wind energy revenue to be lower than budget. This is due to a couple of reasons:

- We have seen much lower levels of wind, compared to the same time last year
- Two of our wind turbines were damaged by post-tropical storm Dorian, and were not in operation for approximately a month-and-a-half

We have also incurred significant cost related to the cleanup and restoration of operations following post-tropical storm Dorian. However, we expect to recover some or most of these costs over the course of time from insurance claims and through the PEI Disaster Financial Assistance Program.

Capital spending overall is over budget as of the end of December but it is not necessarily attributable to any one project. \$7.0 million has been spent on capital projects as of the end of December, against a year-to-date budget of \$6.0 million.

On a final note, we have commenced our 2020-21 budget deliberations with senior managers and will be presenting a draft budget to council in mid-February. This process will take us through to mid-March, when we will present our proposed 2020-21 Budget to residents.

Technical Services – Chair, Councillor Justin Doiron

Report:

The 2019 construction season has ended. Staff are in the process of preparing budgets for the 2020 capital projects. Staff are in the preliminary stages of designing and preparing some tenders for next season.

Staff continues to review and assist the public with pending developments and building permits to be issued for this year. A few building permits were issued for the month of December. They mainly had to deal with repairs and renovations to demolished or fire damaged buildings. The total value of building permits issued for 2019 was \$38.6 million. A good portion of those permits were represented in new residential dwellings, \$14.5 M in apartments, \$4.7 in new semidetached and \$4.3 M in new single family. Another \$10.7 M were issued in additions for commercial and institutional permits.

Developers are stopping in and speaking to staff for assistance with their proposed projects for 2020. Citizens are also encouraged to ask for assistance with their projects that they may have planned for 2020.

Report:

On January 14th the three Levels of Government and our Private Sector Partner Samsung Renewable Energy announced Summerside Sunbank Project. This \$68 Million-dollar project is Summerside and Samsung SRE next step along the innovation journey, phase two of our long-term partnership.

So, what is Sunbank, its over 61,000 solar panels predicted to generate over 21 Megawatts of Solar Energy and a 10 Megawatt, 20 Megawatt hour Utility scale Renewable Energy system. The project is funded through a collaborative model under the new Invest Canada Infrastructure Plan as well as Private Sector Financing.

Some facts about Sunbank as it is envisioned to

- ✓ Enhance stability, security, reliability and resilience of supply
- ✓ Increase level of renewable energy generated from local sources
- ✓ Reinforce independence from electricity imports
- ✓ Increase flexibility in infrastructure for future needs
- ✓ Enhance local knowledge and skills in advanced technology deployment and operations
- ✓ Establish the City's energy back-bone for smarter innovations longer term
- ✓ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions attributable to the City's footprint

The City of Summerside and Samsung SRE ... Is a true International Partnership

Summerside and Samsung SRE built a relationship founded on like mindedness. In 2016 while at an International Trade event hosted by the Federal Government, Samsung SRE and the City of Summerside connected. Based on several enabling factors including the City's robust infrastructure, its innovation ambitions, depth in electrification and its Living Lab Program along with Samsung's global expertise and capabilities in renewable energy and real smart city solutions, the parties struck a mutual collaborative agreement to further innovation on renewable energy projects inside the City of Summerside.

The basis of this partnership was to enhance Summerside's leadership position in Canada by deploying next generation technical solutions while showing other jurisdictions in North America how to replicate Summerside's approach whilst partnering with a leading global company in Samsung SRE.

The Summerside Sunbank Project is a collaboration between mutual partners to move our community forward based on innovation, energy, economic development and environmental sustainability, while bringing technology reliability and application to the Province of PEI. We want to thank Samsung SRE and look forward to their involvement, investment and networking to grow our community.

This project will have significant benefit to the residents and our hats are off to Minister McKenna, MP Morrissey and all the team for bringing this 2.5 year in the making project a reality.

I will be providing a more fulsome update during next month's meeting, but given the significance of this project I did wish to bring forward and recognize what a project for Summerside

Police Report:

Committee and Volunteer Work

During December, SPS members took part in two programs. The first one titled '**Cops for Christmas**' involved several members volunteering at the CUP trying to fill the police truck with toys & sporting equipment. It was a very successful event with the fruits of our labour turned over to a local charity for distribution to the less fortunate. The second event titled '**Cops Shop With Kids**' involved several members taking 6 children shopping to buy gifts for their siblings & parents. Donations & food was supplied by local businesses. Again, a very successful event.

Training and Service Enhancements

- ⇒ Several members certified in the '**Use of Force**' training
- ⇒ Several members re-certified in domestic violence prevention training

Community Policing Activities

- ⇒ One member volunteered at a charity concert at the College of Piping
- ⇒ One member volunteered with a Summerside Pathfinders fundraising initiative
- ⇒ Several members volunteered with the Salvation Army kettle drive
- ⇒ Assisting Kensington Police with their annual Xmas parade
- ⇒ Several members assisting in delivering food hampers to the less fortunate
- ⇒ Several members attended the **National Day of Remembrance** service at a local church

Occurrence Statistics

The following is a list of some of the occurrence totals for December 2019 and totals for all of 2019.

Calls for Service – **515 (Total for 2019 is 7191)**

Traffic Accidents – **28 (Total for 2019 is 306)**

Reported Crimes of Assaults & Threat– **21 (Total for 2019 is 278)**

Theft Reports – **33 (Total for 2019 is 491)**

Impaired Driving Offences – **10 (Total for 2019 is 98)**

Provincial Traffic Offences – **52 (Total for 2019 is 1317)**

Break & Enter Reports (Business & Residential) – **11 (Total for 2019 is 85)**

Drug Enforcement Charges – **7 (Total for 2019 is 95)**

Councillor Ramsay provided an update from the School Resource Officer at Three Oaks.

Fire Report:

There were 24 calls for assistance during the month of December.

There were 9 training opportunities during the month totaling 21 hours.

Notes:

- Summerside Firefighters would like to thank Miscouche and Wellington Fire Departments for their invitation to their respective Christmas banquets.
- It's always a treat to entertain groups of kindergarten children, but especially fun during the holiday season. Thank you for paying us a visit!
- Chief Enman worked with EMO and the Prince County Hospital on an evacuation plan in the event of an emergency.
- Chief Enman and Acting Deputy Chief Moase spent three days in Winnipeg verifying and confirming all of the specs for the new fire engine being built for Summerside.
- Summerside Firefighters answered a mutual aid call to Tyne Valley Fire Department in the recent loss of their community rink.
- Congratulations to Safety Officer Wally MacAusland, who was recently awarded our 2019 Firefighter of the Year at our Christmas Awards Banquet.

Councillor Ramsay stated an update on the new firehall committee will be made a future meeting.

Community Services – Chair, Councillor Cory Snow

Report:

December was here and gone with the hustle and bustle of the Holiday Season.

Commemorative 5-Game Flex Passes for the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge went on sale just in time for the Holiday's. The premier hockey tournament will be coming to PEI in November and bringing the world's best young hockey talent right here to Summerside.

Active Winter was launched for the Winter season that offers residents a variety of outdoor winter activities, including ice-skating, fat biking, snow-shoeing, tobogganing and more. Crews monitor and prepare for these outdoor activities on a daily basis and are available to the public throughout the winter.

The Five Days of Christmas returned for the first week of December that offered customers various promotions and saving during the five-day span. Each day featured a new promotion within Credit Union Place.

The Aquatics Centre and bowling lanes had a busy month as Toonie Days were offered from December 13 – 27, 2019.

New Year's Eve festivities took place on December 31 at Credit Union Place that offered residents an evening packed with family fun. Everything from inflatables, face-painters, entertainment, balloon art, bowling, swimming, a free Caps game and much more! Despite the conditions, over 3,000 people braved the weather and enjoyed the festivities.

Summerside Western Capitals had a quiet month at home going 2-1, while maintaining top spot in the Eastlink North Division and continue to be ranked nationally in the Canadian Junior Hockey League top-10. The annual school day game took place at 11am on December 19 that had over 3,400 students packed inside the Eastlink Arena.

The Veteran's Convention Centre was busy during the month of December with 32 bookings throughout the month, which is up 13 from last year.

The Parks and Green Spaces division continues to focus on walkways, facility repairs at Credit Union Place, and maintaining and preparing the outdoor ice surfaces and trails for Active Winter.

Municipal Services – Chair, Councillor Bruce MacDougall

Report:

- Staff assisted with the installation of Holiday Season lights for the downtown area of the City.
- The new wellfield ran on generator power many times this month to allow for electrical infrastructure construction along putter's lane – new subdivision – for the relocation of pole line.
- Tree trimming was performed in the rights of way where branches were hanging low hitting trucks and equipment travelling for snow removal and general traffic safety.
- Several new water connections along Dory View subdivision were completed this month.
- Assisted Community services in the placement of age friendly benches in 8 areas of the City. New rest and relaxation areas identified by the Age Friendly committee.
- In tracking the new operations costs at the waste water treatment plant for treating the wastewater and making fertilizer the costs for this part of the process is reduced since August 2019 by 10% since the installation of the new centrifuge system.
- The following snow removal efforts were completed this month:
 - 4 Road plowing events
 - 4 Sidewalk Plowing events
 - 12 road salting events
 - 10 sidewalk salting events
 - 1 downtown clearing event

GENERAL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS:

Water and Sewer Utilities:

- 32 water samples were taken with clear of bacteria.
- 15 chlorination samples taken all within parameters.
- 3 water main breaks occurred this month, one on Curran Drive, one on Phillips Avenue, and one on Notre Dame Street (Christmas Day).
- 1 water service laterals were repaired this month.
- 1 sewer lateral video occurred this month.
- 1 sewer lateral piping was replaced this month.
- 9 sewer calls this month
- Sewer effluent to harbor all within regulated parameters. (336,690 cubic meters treated)

- 51,290 gallons of septage received to the plant from outlying areas. (servicing the county).
- 352 Tons of Bio fertilizer were created this month at the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Electric Services – Chair, Councillor Greg Campbell

Report:

- Electrical Infrastructure continues being installed along Putters Lane in the MacKenzie Drive subdivision.
- Substation repairs were completed in December and all preparations for winter loadings are ready.
- The circuit that feeds Gavin Subdivision and Pope road area is being maintained due to frequency of power outages in this area, the infrastructure is being reviewed for reliability.
- A large Christmas Tree was constructed on top of the power plant smoke stack and was well received within the community to bring all into the festive season. It is planned to be erected each December for the next 10 years.
- This month operations vacated the 94 Ottawa Street building as renovation to the building will start in January of 2020 and it is expected to be completed by end of May. The public is reminded that if any contact is needed for the electric utility operations that the new main office is at 99 Harvard Street.
- All meter changes have been completed for 2019 – a total of 1500 meters were changed in 2019. (20% of the meters)
- January 14th announcement of new Solar and Battery Project:
 - Green-house gas emission for the Summerside electric utility electricity will be reduced to that of half of neighboring provinces.
 - Expected to be completed by May 2022.
 - Reuse of the Land at the new wellfield along MacKenzie Drive
 - The battery initiative was part of the Capacity Resource Plan received by the City a year ago. (Dunsky Report). See below for reference of the timeline.

GENERAL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS:

Electric Utility:

- 38.2% of our Electricity came from wind in December.
- Generator run hours were 8.5 hours.
- 11 new electric customers energized this month.
- 4 Electrical Service Upgrades
- 6 customer outage events this month. (one City wide on December 20th for substation preparations for winter loading, final repairs).

Resolution COS 20-001 It was and seconded;

WHEREAS Phase 1 of the City of Summerside's Solar/Battery Integration Project located at Credit Union Place has been a successful undertaking in terms of significant energy savings and GHG reductions, and:

WHEREAS The City of Summerside is now positioned to move forward with Phase 2 of the Solar/Battery Integration Project to further its renewable footprint under the *Invest in Canada Infrastructure Program* (ICIPP), and;

WHEREAS several partners are working jointly towards project approvals in 2019 from several sources,

THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED that Council endorses the Solar/Battery Integration Project, Phase 2, and directs staff to apply for a Low Interest Loan/Grant Funding opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Green Municipal Fund (GMF), and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Summerside will commit \$3,284,300 as its share towards the overall costs of the project.

This bears the recommendation of Summerside City Council

Resolution Carried 8-0

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

Report:

No report

Adjournment

Motion It was moved and seconded;

That The meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

Basil L. Stewart
Mayor

Brian Hawrylak
HR Officer