

Police & License Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 4, 2009
Town Council Chambers

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Councillor S. Cameron
Councillor W. Cormier
Mr. J. MacDonald
Sgt. T. Perry
Cst. R. Bouchard
Special Cst. S. Smith

D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
M. MacDonald, Observer

Absent with Regrets

Mr. S. MacIntosh

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Mr. J. MacDonald

"That the Agenda be approved with additions." Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

- May 7, 2009 Minutes

Moved by Councillor W. Cormier

Seconded by Sgt. T. Perry

"That the Minutes of the Police & License Committee meeting held on May 7, 2009 be approved as circulated." Motion carried.

Business from Minutes

- Landlord's Association

Chair, Councillor J. MacPherson was advised by Mr. J. MacDonald that he had made contact with the Towns of Wolfville and Acadia, both of which have Landlord Associations. Additional information will be forthcoming.

- Police Advisory Board

Chair, Councillor J. MacPherson noted he had received a list of representatives from the County of Antigonish for the Police Advisory Board, however, only one layperson is listed, whereas the Town has two. This matter will require clarification from the County.

The Chair noted he would be contacting Sgt. T. Perry by e-mail to arrange a meeting for the near future.

- Trade and Licensing By-law

The Trade and Licensing By-law which was previously distributed was reviewed. It was noted that the main concerns relates to non-permanent companies coming into town to sell vehicles and other goods, such as new items by auction.

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Councillor W. Cormier

“To recommend Mr. S. Day provide CAO D. Kampen with the applicable sections of the Land Use By-law and Muncpal Planning Strategy for inclusion in the Trade & Licensing By-law.”

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor W. Cormier

Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron

“To recommend to CAO D. Kampen, that Section 10 of the Trade & Licensing By-law be changed to reflect a penalty of a maximum dollar amount of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).” Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Councillor W. Cormier

To recommend to CAO D. Kampen that Section 20 1(i) of the Trade and Licensing By-law be included for the term “Liquidators”, which shall be defined as the retail sale of any new goods, which shall not be permitted.” Motion carried.

It was noted that a housekeeping matter is required to Section 23 (c) to change the words ‘North Eastern Exhibition’ to the ‘Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition’.

- Police & Licensing Policy

The amended Police & Licensing By-law was reviewed.

Reports

- St. F.X. Dean of Students

Mr. J. MacDonald noted that he did not have a formal report for this month, however, he did update the Committee on recent activities which included a ‘test’ of their Emergency Response Plan. He noted that all universities are now coming up with a protocol in this regard. In response to a query from Deputy Clerk, D. Wilson, Mr. MacDonald advised that a meeting was held between the Town’s 911 Co-ordinator, the University and a 911 representative, and that civic addressing for the university campus is moving forward.

- RCMP Report

Sgt. T. Perry’s Report was reviewed and in response to a question regarding the number of noise complaints, he noted that these numbers would include all noise complaints, including those from commercial establishments, and probably also as a result of warmer weather. He noted that the owner of the James Street Plaza will be installing ‘no loitering’ signs applicable to specific times of the day, which will then allow loiterers to be prosecuted.

Sgt. T. Perry advised that Mr. M. Wilson is to be replaced on the Street Crime Unit, and that a new Corporal would be in place on Monday. He noted that the Town’s resources are in good shape, and that a couple of maternity leaves will be upcoming.

The Committee was advised that a speed check was carried out in an effort to determine the feasibility of a cross-walk to be located near the trailer park at the top of Hawthorne Street.

Chair, Councillor J. MacPherson advised that two members of the business community provided positive feedback on an increase in foot patrols in the downtown.

In response to a query regarding the formal report on a recent crosswalk fatality, Sgt. T. Perry noted he would see if he could move things along with this matter.

It was noted that various rumors are circulated regarding the relocation of the existing 'Dooly's', and concern was raised with the possible location fronting on Main Street.

- **Special Constable Report**

Special Constable S. Smith reviewed his report and advised that a successful mock disaster was held at the Dr. J.H. Gillis High School which involved both Town and County Fire Departments.

Special Constable S. Smith advised that he is now requesting those applying for non-motorized parade permits to contain their parade to the sidewalk. Councillor W. Cormier briefly spoke on the issue of insurance and noted that the Strait Regional School Board actually pays to have insurance coverage for non-school related activities. Sgt. T. Perry advised that as long as due diligence is being followed the Town should be okay however, he suggested the Town might wish to check with their solicitor on the matter of liability for parades.

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Councillor W. Cormier

"To recommend the Town adopt a policy that all non-motorized parades, with the exception of the 'Big Bike Ride' be limited to sidewalks." Motion carried.

Other Business

- **Students Engagement for Success**

It was noted that this matter was inadvertently placed on the Agenda.

- **Amendments to Noise By-law**

Councillor W. Cormier advised that he recently obtained information from a Councillor of the Halifax Regional Municipality with respect the enforcement of their Noise By-law. He suggested that the Town's Noise By-law be amended so that the RCMP would first issue a warning, levy a fine is if a second call is received within a specific period of time, and also fine the landlord if a third complaint is requested to the same address. Special Constable Smith noted he was of the opinion from a legal view that a fine could not be given to someone who was not there. Special Constable Smith noted that the landlord listing is updated each September.

Sgt. T. Perry suggested that the Town might wish to look into the 'Safe Homes and Communities organization. He noted they would do a visit to investigate a complaint, and if deemed warranted, can ban subjects from specific properties for 90 days.

Councillor W. Cormier brought this matter of the Minimum Standards By-law forward and it was briefly discussed. Councillor W. Cormier agreed to obtain additional information on this By-law.

- **By-law Enforcement Vehicle**

Councillor W. Cormier raised concern with the delay in the Town obtaining a vehicle for By-law Enforcement. In response to a query from Deputy Clerk D. Wilson, Mr. J. MacDonald advised that their Request for Proposals for a Security Vehicle for campus went out on a Monday. Proposals were received until that Friday. The Proposals were reviewed the following Monday and they were in possession of a vehicle within three weeks.

Councillor W. Cormier noted he would like to see a vehicle purchased as soon as possible and questioned whether unsecured funding could be had following the purchase of a vehicle. He noted that a Request for Proposals could be put out without the benefit of having all funds in place.

Councillor S. Cameron questioned what, if any additional training would be required for the By-law Enforcement Officer once a vehicle was secured, and Sgt. T. Perry suggested that no specific training would be required, however, he did suggest that the By-law Enforcement Officer might wish to carry pepper spray and agreed to check to see if this would be possible.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor W. Cormier

Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron

"That the meeting be Adjourned." Motion carried.