



**SOURIS TOWN COUNCIL and
SOURIS SEWER AND WATER UTILITY CORPORATION**

**MINUTES
Wednesday, October 14, 2009**

Time:	REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.	Shelley MacInnis Administrator 902-687-2157 town@sourispei.com
Location:	Town Hall Council Chambers 75 Main Street, Souris PEI	

Council Present: Mayor Joanne Reid, Denis Thibodeau, Thelma MacDonald, Christina Whyatt, Wanda Bailey, David MacDonald, Donnie Aitken

Guests: Nancy Willis, Tanya Murchinson

1. Calling the Meeting to Order and Quorum

Mayor Reid called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Agenda

2.1. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by C. Whyatt, seconded by C. David MacDonald to approve the agenda as circulated. All in favour. Motion Carried.

2.2. Additions to the Agenda

Letter from Transportation & Public Works re K-12 School
Request for Funding – Spring into Reading
Snow Removal Quote

2.3. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Part VI, Section 23 of the 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.

C. Whyatt in conflict (4.2)

3. Approval of Minutes – September 14, 2009

Motion by C. Aitken, seconded by C. Thibodeau to approve the minutes of September 14, 2009 as circulated. All in favour. Motion Carried.

4. New Business

4.1 RCMP Report for the month of August 2009

Mayor Reid advised she was in contact with Corporal MacInnis and that the quarterly report would be presented at the next Council Meeting.

4.2 Report from Planning Committee re PID 102194-000, 18 Church Ave. (Minutes attached)

Mayor Reid stated that a letter from Aaron Coffin was received at the Town Hall today regarding opposition to the rezoning of this property.

C. Aitken advised that Planning Board held a meeting on September 30, 2009 re



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Mr. MacLellan's property and due to various issues, including lack of parking space (Bylaw 5.2), lack of necessary setbacks (Bylaw 10.7(i)) and lack of open space (Bylaw 10.8(iii)), the Planning Board advises Council to deny Mr. MacLellan's application to rezone his property to commercial.

Motion by C. Aitken to deny application due to above stated issues. Seconded by C. Thibodeau. All in favour. Motion passed.

4.3 Christmas Parade Week – Swap Meet

Mayor Reid updated council on plans for Swap Meet. On Sunday, November 29, 2009 from 1:00-8:00 pm at the St. Mary's Parish Hall there will be an opportunity for residents to exchange items such as ornaments, jackets, skates, etc. A donation can will be set up with proceeds going to the Food Bank, and if children are wishing to sell tickets for any fundraising events, they will be able to. There will also be entertainment from 6-8pm.

4.4 Upcoming Municipal Election November 2, 2009

Mayor Reid reminded Council that the deadline for nominations is Monday, October 19, 2009. This Council should invite new Council to the November meeting. C. David MacDonald noted that this meeting should be a short meeting to deal with any outstanding business and approve and pay outstanding bills. The formal swearing in would be conducted afterwards with the Justice of the Peace attending. All in favour.

4.5 Renaming CN Park

Mayor Reid discussed the option of renaming CN Park to Cheverie Park. C. Whyatt remarked that there are still CN employees in the area. C. David MacDonald stated that there had already been a surname request regarding the CN Park. C. Aitken noted that, as previously discussed, when the K-12 School is built there will be a new road constructed and since the Cheverie family were the settlers of a "new frontier" and the K-12 School would also be a "new frontier", it would be fitting for this road to be named for the Cheveries. It was noted that the option to name a new street after the Cheverie settlers had been voted on at a previous meeting, and so there is no need for council to vote again. All in favour.

4.6 Communities in Bloom

Mayor Reid stated that Souris faired out very successfully this year with 5 blooms and special mention for our Main Street upgrades. In our 1001-3001 category, we scored only a few points below the highest score in Gibbons, Alberta. Joanne Dunphy to give a full report at the next meeting. The CIB judges had a few suggestions, such as a tree inventory be completed, which Mrs. Dunphy suggested could be done by one of the SRHS classes. C. David MacDonald suggested we use the PEI forestry to help with this. Also, they suggested we preserve our heritage. C. David MacDonald got the opinion that perhaps the area by the harbour be fixed up a little. C. Thibodeau remarked that SHAI does have plans for next summer to do work at the Lighthouse and Lagoon area. Once the water



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problem running down MacPhee Ave. is addressed, the Irving land will be properly grassed and such. Mayor Reid mentioned that the CIB judges were very impressed with Sterling and that Edna really did a wonderful job and put a lot of hard work into the Town's beautification. C. Whyatt noted that our EDA workers, Emily and Karen, also put a lot of hard work into keeping beds weeded and watered. C. Bailey stated that more should be done in the area by the high school. Grass and weeds are a problem between the high school and the mobile home park. C. Aitken remarked that there is Government work being done in that area presently.

5. Financial Information

5.1 Financial Statements/Income Statements as of Sept 30, 2009

5.2 Outstanding Invoices for Approval as at October 9, 2009

(a)	Town of Souris – General Account	\$20,643.25	
(b)	Town of Souris – Sewer and Water Utility Corp.	<u>\$418.93</u>	
	Total		<u>\$21,062.18</u>

Motion by C. Thibodeau and seconded by C. Aitken to approve \$418.93 Payables in the General Account. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion by C. Thibodeau and seconded by C. Whyatt to approve \$20,643.25 Payables in the General Account. All in favour. Motion carried.

5.3 Cheques Issued During the Month of August for review.

(c)	Town of Souris – General Account	\$61,434.29	
(d)	Town of Souris – Sewer and Water Utility Corp.	<u>\$9,698.24</u>	
	Total		<u>\$71,132.53</u>

6. Council Reports & Administrator Report

1. Mayor Joanne Reid *report attached.*
2. Councillor Wanda Bailey *report attached.*
3. Councillor Donnie Aitken *planning board meeting & RCMP report attached.*
4. Councillor David MacDonald *report attached.*
5. Councillor Thelma MacDonald reported that she had met with Todd LaBrech re Main St. Progress. Paving will be completed from Nov. 24-26, weather permitting. Sidewalks and curbs will be completed in late November/early December. The seal coat may not happen this fall either. She will be calling our Representative on this matter. Work is to begin immediately on fixing the water



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problem on lower Main St in front of A.M. Auto. C. Thelma MacDonald also read correspondence sent by Earl Woods, Chad Cormier and Wade Peardon to the Province looking for 10 years of property tax relief on Lot 6, MacPhee Ave. They are requesting that the Town help them in this matter. C. Thibodeau stated that Council should pass this on to the Administrator; she should check to see if other Senior properties get a break on their taxes and to report back at next meeting.

6. Councillor Denis Thibodeau *report attached.*
7. Councillor Christina Whyatt *report attached.*
8. Admin. Report

7. Correspondence Received

- **Thank you letter from Friends of Mohammed.**

8. Other Business and or additions

8.1 K-12 School Land Options

Mayor Reid specified that she had received a letter from Tyler Richardson, Transportation and Public works concerning land that the Town was willing to donate for the new K-12 School. C. Whyatt expressed that the Town did not state that we were "donating" the land. Mayor Reid suggested that if Council agreed to donate land, the new school would be built on Town property and not outside Town limits. C. Thibodeau stated that if we donate the land we could request other funding. Council decided to refer back to our letter of support and report back at next meeting. C. David MacDonald stated there is no reason to destroy current playing fields, leave them as they are and turn over use of them during school hours. Also, that if they build the school outside Town limits, the water & sewer costs involved would drive their project costs up. He requested that Council meet with TOP to discuss matter. C. Thibodeau requested that the Council should meet with the Parents for Learning in December to get things started.

Motion by C. Thibodeau for Council to write letter to Tyler Richardson regarding the requests on page 2 of their letter. C. David MacDonald seconded. All in favour. Motion carried.

8.2 Spring into Reading – Request for Funding

Motion by C. Thibodeau to donate \$300 to this worthwhile cause. Seconded by C. Whyatt. All in favour. Motion carried.

8.3 Snow Ploughing for Souris Municipal Streets

Correspondence was received today from Chapman Bros. Construction, seeking the one-year contract (Nov-April, 2010) for \$49,000.

Motion by C. Thelma MacDonald to accept this bid pending endorsement from Administrator. C. Whyatt seconded. All in favour. Motion Carried.



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- 8.4 Mayor Reid had a verbal request, from the Special Events Co-ordinator, looking for the Council to sponsor a free skate during the Christmas Festival Week. **Motion** by C. David MacDonald and seconded by C. Thelma MacDonald for the Town to sponsor this skate. All in favour. Motion carried.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Council Reports Submitted:

Mayor Joanne Reid

The focus this month was on communications regarding the improvement to the creative and heritage elements in the town as well as discussions regarding the urgent need for expanded municipal (or at least voting) boundaries in the region.

I've continued discussions with various volunteers regarding the upcoming Christmas Festival Week.

Deputy Mayor Dennis Thibodeau

David MacDonald ~ Parks and Recreation

With the aid of a Provincial grant from cultural Affairs and the excellent work of our maintenance staff, both Souris ball fields now have new dugouts. These will be a welcome addition as the Souris minor ball association will host a Provincial Playoff Division this fall. We would also like to thank the minor ball people for their excellent work on the McCormack fields this summer.

Despite a series of problems over the past two years, Souris was able to host a soccer match on the local pitch as part of the Canada Games. A second match was cancelled due to lack of preparation on the part of the Games planning group. After two years of patience, our local soccer association now has an excellent pitch for future use.

A series of meetings between the Council and the Directors of the Sportsplex have taken place recently due to financial considerations at the Sportsplex. The two groups have dealt with the issues and we expect the Sportsplex to operate as usual this year.

Councilor Christina Whyatt

September 18, 2009 Attended the 169th Eastern Kings Exhibition and 300 students toured the exhibits on the Friday School Tour at the Eastern Kings Sportsplex, Souris, P.E.I.

Septemeber 18, 2009 Attended the Youth Talent Competition which was open to non-



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professional performers between the ages of 13 and 21 years. The Provincial Finals will be held in 2010 and the Judges will select one winner at the 2010 Youth Talent Competition held on P.E.I. This person will represent P.E.I. at the 2010 National Conference.

September 19, 2009 Attended the 169th Eastern Kings Exhibition at the Eastern Kings Sportsplex, Souris, P.E.I. They are having a big event on their 170th next year 2010 on Souris' 100th Anniversary.

October 1, 2009 Attended the CAFÉ Potluck Dinner at the Ecole La-Belle-Cloche-Souris, Fortune, P.E.I.

Councillor Wanda Bailey

September 23rd, Wednesday, attended a meeting on the Christmas Parade at the Town Hall at 7:00pm.

October 7th, Wednesday, attended a meeting for the Eastern Kings Exhibition at 6:30pm at the Town Hall.

October 8th, Thursday, attended Island East Tourism Information Session at Perrin's Villa-Rotary Meeting Room in Montague.