

Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, April 9, 2019 @ 6:15pm

In attendance: Mayor Grace Cameron, Councillors Bernadette McInnis, David Stewart, Bradley MacDonald, Arthur Baker, Chief Administrative Officer Ron Coffin

Regrets: Councillors Anne McPhee, Danelle Elliott

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Mayor Grace Cameron at 6:15 pm. A quorum was present so the meeting could proceed.
2. Conflict of Interest Declaration – Regarding item 6(e) on the Agenda, a conflict of interest was declared by Arthur Baker, David Stewart and Bradley MacDonald as they are involved with the Volunteer Fire Department.
3. Agenda Approval – The Agenda was amended by deleting Item 6(e) since there were insufficient councillors to have a full discussion once Arthur and Bradley recused themselves; two items added included the next date for a Council Meeting and attendance at the Federation of PEI Municipalities Annual Meeting. It was moved by Arthur Baker and seconded by Bradley MacDonald that the Agenda be approved as as amended; all were in favour and the motion was carried.
4. Approval of Minutes from the March 27, 2019 meeting –It was moved by Bradley MacDonald and seconded by Arthur baker that the Minutes be approved as presented; all were in favour and the motion was carried.
5. Chief Administrative Officer's Report – See Appendix 'A'.

6. Old Business:

- a) CAO Ron presented options for investment of two term deposits currently held at the CIBC and which matured in early April; after comparing rates at both the CIBC and the Souris Credit Union, it was clear that a better return could be obtained at the Credit Union. Accordingly, a resolution was presented to move the term deposits to the Credit Union, investing \$15K for two years and another \$15K for three years. Resolution was moved by Bernadette McInnis and seconded by David Stewart; the resolution was passed.

Discussion also ensued about moving the Gas Tax funds currently held at the CIBC in a non-interest bearing account; again, the Credit Union offered an interest rate of 2.2% plus no service charges on the account. Resolution was presented to move the Gas Tax funds to the Credit Union; it was moved by Bradley Macdonald and seconded by Arthur Baker and the resolution was passed.

- b) CAO Ron has inquired of three accounting firms as to whether or not they could provide our year end auditing services for the financial accounts for 2018-2019; results will be reported at the next Council meeting.

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- c) Geo Link, a provincial service which would enable Council to get an improved view of the landscape for permitting purposes, is under discussion but enrollment is deferred pending receipt of further information on the cost associated with the service versus the usage and benefits to Council.
- d) Development of Municipal Website is moving ahead with a contract given to Eastern Media; Wallace Rose and Grace Cameron will spend some time formatting and putting content into website and making arrangements for the launch of the site. Efforts are underway to decommission the previous website and have users redirected to the new site. More undated information on the Fly Program will also be obtained for the website.

7. New Business:

- a) More work is required to complete preparation of the remaining bylaws required under the Municipal Government Act; probably will not meet the current deadlines, but work will continue.
- b) Pursuant to applications received, a resolution was presented to approve the Small Grants as outlined below; in addition, it was agreed that the current form and process be revised in conjunction with preparation of a Grants Bylaw and Policy and for posting on the new Municipal Website.

Souris Regional School	\$500
Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation	\$1,500
Friends of Elmira	\$3,000
Eastern Kings CAP Site	\$2,000
Eastern Kings Community Centre	\$4,000
Crime Stoppers	\$500
Total	\$11,500

The resolution was moved by Arthur Baker and seconded by Bradley MacDonald; all in favour and resolution was approved.

- c) The next scheduled Council meeting was to be on April 23rd but this is in conflict with the provincial election; it was proposed that the April 23rd meeting be cancelled and Council just move forward to the next scheduled meeting on May 14, 2019. The motion was moved by David Stewart and seconded by Bernadette McInnis; all were in favour and the motion was carried.
 - d) Council agreed that the Municipality of Eastern Kings should be represented at the Annual Meeting of the Federation of PEI Municipalities being held in St. Peter's on April 29, 2019 with the Mayor to attend; cost is \$155.00. The motion was moved by Bernadette McInnis and seconded by David Stewart; all were in favour and the motion was passed.
8. Adjournment – It was moved by Arthur Baker and seconded by Bradley MacDonald that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 7:35 pm. All were in favour and the motion was carried.

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APPENDIX A

CAO Report

April 9, 2019

Balance regular chequing account – at 3/31/19 - \$76,497.70

Balance Gas Tax Account - \$39,722.66

Regarding the Fly Program, I have rec'd a resume and had a short meeting with Michael Patey, graduate from Souris Regional School. I am working with Vaughan and Lyndsie to determine if we have a need for a 3rd person to work on the fly program. There are issues to be considered, sickness and time off, and the potential to develop another resource into the fly program. The financial impact of the 3rd person will also have to be assessed and determine what might be possible. Michael is not a student, but there might be other options for salary support for the new position should we clearly identify a need, and create a viable plan. The Fly Program is currently underway. Last week's weather created some negative and unfavourable conditions to be in the field.

We have rec'd notice regarding our Gas Tax, there is to be an increase to our regular allocation for 2019 / 20. The 'Top Up' will be in addition to our regularly scheduled allocations, which are based on the Census Data. The Amount of the additions is not disclosed at this time. The addition is as a result of Federal Gov't one-time top up to the GAS TAX FUND.

I have a quote for yearend Audit Services and awaiting information regarding the other proposals. We have heard from Fitzpatrick, have communicated with MRSB and awaiting word from Grant Thornton. Fly Program Data should be available to the web site development later this week.

Remuneration Bylaw / tax rate Group Bylaw / Grants Bylaw / Council Size Bylaw / Shared Services Bylaw / Reserve Fund Bylaw / Reserve Fund Policy – were to be in place prior to the MGA taking effect.

We have our Election Bylaw / Procedural Bylaw / Code of Conduct Bylaw / Remuneration Bylaw, I've found PDF files for these and trying to locate the hard copies.

We need our Grants Bylaw / Emergency Management Bylaw / Shared Services Bylaw / Reserve Fund Bylaw / Council Size Bylaw.

The Souris Credit Union is offering significantly better investment rates for our term deposits, and resolutions to make changes to the investment are here included.

GEOLINC is services offered by the province, it will require a login process, and a deposit that can be paid to Access PEI, the minimum deposit is \$25. The service is pay as you go. It appears there is a minimum account balance of \$150. I am awaiting further details on the costs and the service.

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Signed in accordance
Municipal Government Act S.116(4)



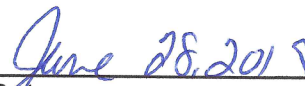
Grace Cameron – Mayor



Date



Ron Coffin – Chief Administrative Officer



Date