

The 20th meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay was held on February 27, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. and called to order by Mayor Leo Abbass.

Present:

Mayor Leo Abbass
Deputy Mayor Stan Oliver
Councillor Dean Clarke
Councillor Paul Tsibidis
Councillor Bill MacKey
Councillor Madelyn Kelly
Councillor James H. Saunders
Town Manager Al Durno
Town Clerk V. Sheppard
Director of Tourism, Parks and Recreation Ken Anthony
Recording Secretary Donna Jones

1 **DELEGATION, Herb Brown**

- a) Mr. Brown addressed the Council on behalf of the Big Land Challenge Dog Team Committee and their request that Council assist them with race insurance under the town's insurance.

Mayor Abbass advised that it was the consensus of the Council, after receiving advice from our insurers, that this race cannot be covered under the town's insurance policy. Insurance to cover this race event would cost \$2,000 and the Town cannot pay this amount for the Big Land Challenge Dog Team Committee.

b) **DELEGATION, Gerald Dyson**

Mr. Dyson addressed the Council regarding the proposed water treatment facility; how much asphalt, not chip seal, will be placed on the Trans Labrador Highway; the Quebec five rivers hydro project; and the status on the auditorium.

2 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA OF THE 20th MEETING**

It was moved by Councillor B. MacKey seconded by Deputy Mayor Stan Oliver to adopt the agenda of the 20th meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay as presented. Motion Carried unanimously.

3 **ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF 19th MEETING**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor J. Saunders to approve the adoption of the minutes of the 19th meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay as amended. Item 8 should have read Councillor B. MacKey rather than Councillor D. Clarke as chair of Tourism Parks and Recreation Committee. Motion Carried unanimously.

4 ACTION REPORT

- a) No action items.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

There were 16 Incoming Letters and 5 Outgoing Letters in the Council Package.

6 MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Councillor James H. Saunders

It was moved by Councillor J. Saunders seconded by Councillor P. Tsibidis to adopt the Municipal Services Report as presented. Motion Carried unanimously.

a) **Permit Report**

Enclosed in Council's Package is the permit report as of February 20, 2007.

b) **Land Application – Roger Giles**

Application received from Roger Giles for Crown Land 150 x 300 feet on the Trans Labrador Highway to be used for a cottage. Committee recommends that Council approve the request subject to the following condition: a) approval be granted for a seasonal residence (cottage) only as per the Rural zoning by-laws as outlined in the Town's Development Regulation.

c) **Land Application – Dan Bursey**

Application received from Dan Bursey for land on Hillcrest Road behind the existing Rumours Night Club to allow access to the property from Hillcrest Road. Committee recommends that Council sell the parcel of land for the appraised value of the lot plus HST conditioned upon:

- a. the applicant being responsible for all the associated costs, i.e., appraisal, for the transfer of the property
- b. the existing parcel of land and the new parcel to be consolidated to form one parcel, and
- c. the existing drain to be retained and to be made accessible to the Town for further maintenance.

d) **Business Application – 6 Markland Road**

Application received from Donald Newman to operate a Laundromat at 6 Markland Road. Committee recommends denying this request as the location is

zoned Residential Medium Density and Laundromats are not a permitted use.

e) **Clean and Safe Water Workshop**

Committee recommends that Superintendent of Works – Water and Sewer Normore, Scott Lyall and Chairman of Municipal Services Committee, Councillor Jim Saunders attend the Clean and Safe Water Workshop- Emergency Preparedness, Planning and Procedures for Small Water Systems on March 20-22, 2007 in Gander, NL.

f) **Update on Water Supply – Information**

Councillor Saunders briefed Council.

7 **TOURISM PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE - Councillor B. MacKey**

It was moved by Councillor B. MacKey seconded by Councillor D. Clarke to adopt the Tourism Parks and Recreation Report as presented. Motion Carried unanimously.

a) **Tourism Parks and Recreation Committee Report**

Tourism Parks and Recreation Committee Report for January 24 – February 15, 2007 enclosed for information.

b) **SnoBreak 2007**

SnoBreak 2007 will be held during March 10- 18, 2007. Councillor MacKey has information on the **5 Star** rating SnoBreak 2006 received under the 2006 National Winter Lights Celebration Program.

c) **Events During SnoBreak 2007**

- a. Big Land Dog Team Challenge – March 10, 2007
- b. 7th Annual Big Land Loppett – March 17, 2007
- c. Cain's Quest Snowmobile Endurance Race – will be arriving in Happy Valley-Goose Bay March 12 and departing March 14, 2007

d) **9th Annual Community Awards**

The 9th Annual Community Awards are scheduled to be held on Saturday, April 21, 2007

e) **Letter**

Committee recommends that Council write the Hon. John Hickey, Minister of Labrador Affairs requesting that

he intervene on our behalf with regard to our list of projects for the 2005/2008 Multi Year Capital Works Program.

f) **Letter**

Committee recommends that Council write the Music Industry Association supporting Carol Best's group in hosting the 2009 awards in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

g) **Letter**

Committee recommends that Council write a letter of congratulations to Alex White, Samantha Lewis and Atshapi Andrew on their awards received in Skate Canada Provincial Championships.

8 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Councillor M. Kelly

It was moved by Councillor M. Kelly seconded by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver to adopt the Economic Development Committee Report as presented. Motion Carried unanimously.

a) **Sector Report**

Enclosed in Council's package is economic development list of priorities for the Town.

b) **Economic Department Strategic Working Document**

Enclosed in Council's package is the Economic Department Strategic Working document to set priorities for the department.

c) **Central Labrador Economic Development Board**

Enclosed in Council package is the Central Labrador Economic Development Board Statement of Work budget year 2007.

d) **Letter of Approval – Student UAV Competition**

Enclosed in Council's package is a letter of approval from Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development for the Student UAV Competition.

e) ***The Telegram* Business Supplement Advertising**

Enclosed in Council's package is information regarding advertising in the Business Supplement. Committee

recommends purchasing an ad at a cost of \$500 for story and a banner.

f) **Meeting Request**

Committee recommends that Council request a meeting with the Minister of National Defence to discuss issues regarding our Town. Further to this an expression of disappointment of not being invited to this month's meeting with Minister Ottenheimer.

g) **Emergency Response Centre**

Councillor Clarke commented on the recent announcement of an emergency response center for Gander, NL which has been endorsed by the Premier. He queried how this could be when this was an idea presented by the Goose Bay Coalition Committee and Serco to the Deputy Prime Minister of the country.

Clarification on this will be obtained from Minister Hickey.

9 **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
– Deputy Mayor S. Oliver**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor P. Tsididis to approve the Finance and Administration Committee Report as presented. Motion Carried unanimously.

a) **Letter from Town of Labrador City – Hydro Rates**

Request received from the Town of Labrador City requesting Council support their objection to NL Hydro's 2006 general rate application subject to obtaining further information from the Town of Labrador City and the Public Utilities Board.

b) **Fuel Prices**

Enclosed in Council package is fuel rate information for December 21, 2006, January 4, 11, 18, 2007 and February 1, 8, 2007

c) **Expo Labrador – Chairs**

Committee is reviewing and will report back to the next committee meeting.

d) **Fines Report**

Enclosed in Council's package is the traffic fines report for January 2007.

e) **9th Community Awards Presentation**

Request received from the 9th Community Awards Committee for Council to sponsor an award at a cost of \$500. Committee recommends sponsoring the Builders Award.

f) **2006 Annual Fire Report**

Enclosed in Council's package is the 2006 Annual Fire Report. Councillor Saunders commended the Fire Chief and volunteer firefighters for an excellent annual fire report and their efforts put forth in fire prevention.

g) **Request for Donation – Big Land Challenge Dog Team Race**

Request received from the Big Land Challenge Dog Team Race for a donation. Committee recommends contributing \$250.00.

h) **Request – Expo Labrador 2007**

Request received from Expo Labrador 2007 to renew our Gold level sponsorship. Committee recommends approval.

i) **Request for Donation – Northern Blades Fencing Club**

Request received from Northern Blades Fencing Club for a contribution to attend the 2007 Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse in March 2007. Committee recommends contributing \$150.00 each to Amy Casey and Tara Price.

j) **Fuel Prices**

Enclosed in Council's package is the heating fuel rate as of February 15, 2007.

k) **Request for Assistance – Festival 500**

Request received from Festival 500 for assistance in hosting the Festival 500 in Happy Valley-Goose Bay May 22-24, 2007. Committee recommends contributing \$250.00 and in-kind service.

l) **RCMP Statistics**

Enclosed in Council's package is the RCMP Statistics for January 2007.

m) **Permit to Operate – Water Distribution System**

Committee recommends that staff complete the municipal administration compliance statement.

n) **Memorandum of Understanding – Municipal Enforcement Officer**

Committee recommends that Council enter into the RCMP Memorandum of Understanding – Municipal Enforcement Officer.

o) **Mealy Mountain Collegiate – Scholarship Program**

Request received from Mealy Mountain Collegiate for Council's continued \$1,000 Scholarship. Committee recommends approval and that Councillor Kelly will be the Town's Scholarship representative.

p) **Volunteer Firefighters**

Committee recommends that Council prepare a thank you plaque to the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay Volunteer Firefighters.

q) **Donation – Big Land Loppett**

Committee recommends that Council contribute \$250 towards the Big Land Loppett.

r) **Director Economic Development**

This item referred to the next committee meeting.

10 **APPROVAL OF CHEQUES**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor M. Kelly to approve cheques in the amount of \$61,497.02. Motion Carried unanimously.

Cheque Number	Pay to the order of:	Cheque Amount
60016045	Arvo McMillian	\$ 2,137.50
60016076	Minaskuat Limited Partnership	1,267.41
60016092	CONA	2,800.00
60016100	Labradorian Printers	1,123.47
60016102	Labrador Motors Ltd.	755.63
60016115	Ontrac Equipment	1,105.62
60016116	Parts for Trucks	617.92
60016119	Snap on Tools	565.55

60016120	Speedy (Labrador) 8143	1,958.37
60016122	Toromont Cat	2,155.60
60016129	Combined Councils of Labrador	3,000.00
60016131	Parts for Trucks	3,279.28
60016134	Sears Canada	663.27
60016135	Newfoundland Exchequer	20,434.23
60016147	Goose Bay Wholesalers Ltd	1,638.22
60016154	Lahave Equipment Ltd.	3,545.84
60016162	Receiver General	1,332.00
60016164	Stephco Electrical	3,112.20
60016182	Multi-Materials Stewardship	3,586.00
60016184	Toromont Cat	6,418.91
	TOTAL	61,497.02

11. 2007 Municipal Budget and Tax Rates – Deputy Mayor Stanley Oliver

a) 2007 Municipal Budget

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by D. Clarke that the 2007 Municipal Budget in the amount of \$8,292,431.00 be approved as presented. Motion Carried unanimously.

b) Municipal Tax Rate

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor M. Kelly that the attached Municipal Tax Rates be approved effective January 1, 2007. Motion Carried unanimously.

c) Discount Rate

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by P. Tsibidis that a 5% discount be ordered on current property tax, business tax, and utility tax if paid in full

within thirty (30 days of the billing date and provided all arrears are paid in full.

d) **Interest Rate**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor D. Clarke that an interest rate of 1% per month be charged on all arrears that are not paid in full by their due date.

e) **Due Date**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor D. Clarke that effective January 1, 2007 the due date for all current municipal taxes will be June 30. Further to this for miscellaneous billings the due date will be thirty days from the billing date.

f) **Ball Field Rental Fees**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor B. MacKey that Council approve the enclosed Ball Field Rental fees effective January 1, 2007.

g) **Equipment Rates**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor M. Kelly that Council approve the enclosed equipment Rates effective January 1, 2007.

h) **Miscellaneous Rates**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor P. Tsibidis that Council approve the enclosed Miscellaneous Rates and Fees schedule effective January 1, 2007.

i) **Exemption Policies**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor S. Oliver seconded by Councillor J. Saunders that Council approve the enclosed Property Tax and Business Tax Exemption policy effective January 1, 2007.

Deputy Mayor Oliver thanked Town Clerk Valerie Sheppard for all the work she did for the 2007 budget process, and asked that thanks also be extended to all management staff who were involved in the budget process.

12. COUNCILLORS FORUM

- a) Councillor MacKey agreed that the budget was a long and drawn out process. He noted now the Council

needs to look into the water quality in the Valley area of town so residents there have the same quality of water that is provided to residents of Hamilton Heights who are getting their water from Spring Gulch.

- b) Councillor Tsibidis thanked everyone for work put into the budget.
- c) Councillor Saunders advised that the Municipal Services Committee is working on obtaining high quality water for all areas of the town.
- d) Councillor Saunders noted the proposed sewage treatment facility is also a priority.
- e) Councillor Kelly noted that raising taxes may not be accepted but this town does provide good service. Government cut backs on the town's Municipal Operating Grant, and Grant in Lieu of Taxes has resulted in a loss of funding.
- f) Mayor Abbass noted the last time taxes were raised was in 2003.
- g) Mayor Abbass commented on the athletes from the area who will be attending the Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse and wished them good luck.

Mayor Abbass advised that he, along with Deputy Mayor Oliver, attended a Life Membership function at the Kinsmen Club honouring Robert Wagner. He is only the 5th person in the club's 34 year history to receive this recognition.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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MAYOR LEO ABBASS

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TOWN CLERK VALERIE SHEPPARD