

**1Community of Malpeque Bay
Annual Meeting
March 9, 2010-7 p.m.
Spring Valley Hall**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Smith at 7:05 p.m.

It was moved by Grafton Cole and seconded by Darren Cousins to accept the Agenda as circulated. **Motion Carried**

The minutes from the 2009 Annual meeting were read by Joanne McCarvill. Joanne moved that the minutes be accepted as read, seconded by Dave Cody. **Motion Carried**

A question regarding the need for an audit was raised. It was noted that all communities who had expenditures above \$50,000 were required by legislation to have an audit conducted by a public accounting firm. The community was not able to seek assistance in conducting the audit from local qualified individuals because the audit had to be conducted by a public accounting firm. It was suggested that Council send a letter to the province requesting that the \$50,000 audit limit be increased.

The Financial Statements for 2009 were presented. Dave Cody moved and James Carruthers seconded the adoption of the Financial Statements as submitted. **Motion Carried**

The proposed budget was reviewed. It was noted that the fire dues were contracted out to the Town of Kensington and that since Council's budget planning meeting the Town had increased the fire dues by \$5.00 per property to bring the total for fire dues to \$64,370, an increase of \$4,690. The new total for the budget is \$85,320. A motion to accept the proposed budget was moved by Darren Cousins and seconded by Dave Cody. **Motion Carried**

The proposed tax rate recommended by Council was 6 cents per \$100 of assessed value, however, this number was based on a budget of \$80,630. It was moved by Bob Beirsto to set the tax rate at 6 cents. It was seconded by Russ Haines.

A discussion followed including consideration of setting the rate at 6.5 cents which would result in revenues of \$85,382 for the year. An amendment to the motion regarding the tax rate was presented by Jimmy Carruthers to set the tax rate at 6.5 cents. The amended motion was seconded by Winston Cousins. **Motion Carried**

A resident identified a concern regarding the Thunder Cove Road and public access to the shore. Concern was also expressed about the vandalism occurring during the shoulder season and the amount of broken glass and refuse on the beach. A suggestion was made to request that the RCMP include regular police checks of the area. A suggestion was made to seek funding for a couple of summer students under the young environmentalists program to patrol beach/pick up garbage and for the community to provide garbage cans. Jeremy identified that the Kensington

North Shore Watershed group may be able to help in this area. He identified that he would bring the request to the group and report to Council.

Jeremy provided an update on the progress of the Official Plan identifying that a recent application for additional funding was submitted. He reported that a newly formed group of landowners from the agriculture community was established with Winston Cousins as the Chairman and he hoped that the planning board and the agriculture committee could work together to create a positive community plan respecting residential commercial agriculture, fishing and tourist needs.

As Chair of the Agriculture Committee, Winston Cousins submitted a report to council containing two motions for consideration and debate. The report reads:

Report to the Municipality of Malpeque Bay from the Agricultural Committee

Agricultural Committee have met on a weekly basis to review and develop land use policies for the purposes of establishing regulations and by-laws for the municipal plan.

Since we are just in the middle of our review process, much more time will be required to achieve the required objectives.

We can report to you, Mr. Chairman, that these agricultural land owners are serious about agriculture in this community and have devoted a lot of time to ensure the agriculture industry moves forward with a positive sustainable approach for growth and development of this industry within the municipality.

We are currently analyzing the Thompson report, simultaneously looking at various policies which are in place and what should be in place in order to develop the by-laws and regulations from an agricultural viewpoint.

We have 3 to 4 weeks of hard study and then we will have to invoke the assistance of a third qualified independent party to formulate the results of this Agriculture group. After this period of time, the members of this agriculture group will be coming into the busy summer season so it will likely be well into the fall before we have a report.

Since funds will be required to pay the third party to formulate these recommendations and put this report in place, we hereby request funds from this Council to fund this endeavour, and as such we will put forth a couple of motions as follows:

Motion 1 - Whereas the Agricultural Committee hereby requests the Malpeque Bay Municipal Council to allocate funds as required to a minimum level of \$10,000. This would enable the Agricultural Committee to contract a qualified independent third party to formulate into by-laws and regulations, the finds of the Agricultural Committee for presentation to Council.

This motion was withdrawn by Winston after considerable discussion. It was agreed by

members of the committee and the planning board that they could work together in establishing by laws and regulations concerning the agriculture community.

A second motion read by Herbie Clark and seconded by Winston reads:

Motion 2 - Mr. Chairman, in the event that the funds requested to contract and pay a qualified independent third party are not received from or through the Malpeque Bay Municipal council, that the Agricultural Committee requests endorsement from this annual meeting to apply directly to the Minister of Finance to obtain the required funds for the development of the bylaws and regulations. **Motion Carried**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dave Cody and seconded by Jamie Crozier at 9:00 pm **Motion Carried**