

**1Community of Malpeque Bay
Annual Meeting
March 16, 2011
Spring Valley Hall**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Carruthers at 7:00 pm.

Agenda It was moved by Ross Harrington and seconded by Grafton Cole to accept the Agenda as circulated. Jamie Crozier asked that the proposed radio tower in Baltic be addressed. The Chair identified that this item would come under Other Business. **Motion Carried**

Minutes 2010 The minutes from the 2010 Annual meeting were read by Joanne McCarvill. Joanne moved that the minutes be accepted as read, seconded by Bob Beirsto. **Motion Carried**

Financial Statements The Financial Statements for 2010 were presented. It was noted that the Equalization Grant would no longer be offered by the Province to the Community of Malpeque Bay as the transition funding to assist our community has ended. Payments are made to municipalities on a monthly basis rather than quarterly. Joanne indicated that this loss of revenue in her opinion would not affect the community's overall bottom line in any great way. It was identified that the Auditor's for the Community are BFM currently known as BDO and that Patrick McSweeney is the partner the community works with. Joanne moved that the financial statements for 2010 be accepted as presented and the motion was seconded by Bob Beirsto. **Motion Carried**

Setting Tax Rate for 2011 A discussion regarding setting of the tax rate followed. It was noted that the actual Total Market Value for the Community was \$140,764,516 and not \$134,402,371 as indicated on the proposed budget sheet. A 6 cent levy would generate revenue of \$84,458 and 6.5 cents would bring in \$91,497. It was recommended by Council that the Community set the rate at 6 cents as this would allow the community to reduce the surplus by approximately \$4,000. based on the budget forecast of \$88,595 for 2011. Ross Harrington moved to set the tax rate for 2011 at 6 cents per \$100 of assessed value which was seconded by Lloyd Pickering. **Motion Carried**

Update on the Official Plan The Chair asked that Jeremy Stiles update the meeting on the status of the Official Plan. Jeremy identified that a new planner had been hired. Her name is Janice Harper. Hal Mills had decided not to finish out the contract for health reasons. It is hoped that a public meeting will be held in mid to late April and that Jeremy will email all the contacts with the intended date. In the meantime the planning board will meet with the local agriculture committee to work out details for bylaws which would be included in the upcoming public meeting. It is hoped that a fairly good document will be available to present to the Province by September.

Council Vacancy The Chair called for nominations for the Council vacancy. Bob Beirsto nominated Herbie Clark. Herbie accepted the nomination as was declared elected by acclamation. Jimmy welcomed Herbie to the Council.

Other Business Darren Cousins noted that the long term commitment made by Dave Smith to the community should be recognized by way of a plaque or some form of appreciation. It was noted that Dave has served the community since 1995 and assumed the role of chairman in 1997. A discussion followed and it was agreed that Joanne would look after getting something for Dave which would be presented by Council at a later date. A budget of \$100 was set by the meeting.

Lloyd Pickering suggested that Council place larger more detailed ads for future meetings. It was noted the annual meeting did not include an agenda in the newspaper as the agenda for annual meetings is consistent from year to year. He also identified that Council should be conducting more regular meetings especially since they were trying to 'push the official plan through'. Jeremy noted that the past year has been one of transition for the official plan with not much happening and so there were not many meetings. He indicated he would update the web site with the proposed schedule of upcoming planning meetings.\

Lloyd Pickering noted that the provincial buffer zone regulations and the \$3000 fine associated with driving on a buffer zone needed to be changed. A discussion followed. Lloyd also suggested that Council should have more consultation with residents. Jimmy identified that Council was open to receiving calls from residents anytime and would welcome the opportunity to assist citizens in any way.

Lloyd Pickering asked if the watershed groups would be part of the official planning process and Jeremy identified that the landowners association and local watershed groups would be engaged in the process now that the plan was getting to the stage where very specific details were being considered and worked out.

Lloyd Pickering identified that he had given Jeremy a petition requesting changes be made to the restrictions on buffer zones. It was noted that buffer zones was a provincial regulation and asked Lloyd to bring the letter to the next official plan meeting for consideration as Jeremy did not have the petition.

It was noted that the naming of Plug Street would remain in place and the portion named Keir's Shore Road would also remain. Council believed this to be a fair and reasonable approach to all concerned groups.

Jimmy moved for adjournment seconded by David Pickering. The meeting adjourned at 8:20.