

Annual Meeting
Community of Malpeque Bay
Malpeque Hall, March 12, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by the Chair, Jimmy Carruthers.

Agenda

The Agenda was approved as circulated.

Minutes from 2011 Annual Meeting

Jeremy Stiles read the minutes from the 2011 Annual Meeting. The Chair asked if there were any errors or omissions. There being none, the minutes were approved as read.

Review of Financial Statements

The financial statements for 2011 were circulated, presented and discussed. Winston Cousins moved and Lloyd Pickering seconded a motion to accept the statements for the Community of Malpeque Bay including the statements for the Official Plan as presented. **Motion Carried**

Approval of Estimates for 2012

The budget for 2012 was presented and reviewed. It was noted there should be a reduction from \$11,000 to \$4,500 for the budgeted item, **Completion of Official Plan**, reducing the total budget from \$98,460 to **\$91,960**. Ross Harrington asked how the rate for fire dues was calculated. Joanne identified that properties with one building were charged at a rate of \$65.00, properties with 2 buildings on it are assessed at \$85.00 and properties which included 3 or more structures were charged at a rate of \$125.00. He identified that he understood that fire departments were to establish themselves as Fire Companies, to include a number of fire departments and that a flat rate for fire protection would then be charged per property. The Chair identified that Council was not aware of this possible change. Ross Harrington moved to accept the budget with a total of \$91,960 budgeted for expenditures in 2012 and Jamie Crozier seconded the motion. **Motion Carried**

Setting Tax Rate for 2012

It was noted that Council had not yet received the community's total dollar valuation from the Province, and so, their recommendations were based upon last year's number of \$140,000,000. Also noted was that residents set the rate at 6 cents for 2011 down .5 cents from the previous year. A discussion followed regarding the tax rate and a number of options were presented and debated. It was moved and seconded to keep the tax rate at 6 cents for 2012. **Motion Carried**

Update on Official Plan

Jeremy Stiles updated the meeting on the official plan process. He noted that the document was available on the web site. Initial feedback identified that it contained too much information and terminology that was difficult to interpret and needed to be greatly reduced in volume and reworked. Jeremy Stiles indicated that he and Janice Harper, the consultant hired to complete the official plan, were working to have the 70 pages of bylaws reduced to a 25-30 page document and that the actual document for the official plan was nearly complete.

Effort now was being focussed on the bylaws which needed to reflect the uniqueness of our rural community and the wishes of all residents. It is hoped that a revised document would be available for early April and groups would be contacted at that time and a meeting set up to review the draft bylaws. He noted that there was one instalment left to pay to Janice Harper under the contract for \$10,000. One of the major goals of the process of creating a community official plan is for the community to assume control of the special planning area presently controlled by the Province. This included the area up to Park Corner but would not extend beyond this point as it is out of the community's jurisdiction.

It was identified that Council would be meeting monthly, every third Wednesday of the month at various halls within the community and that the location of meetings would be advertised on the web site. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18th at the hall in Spring Valley at 7PM.

The cost of implementing a plan and the infrastructure needed to do so was being looked at by a committee which included Jamie Crozier, Bob Beairsto and Jeremy Stiles. One of the initial contacts was to Geoff Baker, Town Manager in Kensington, as a possible person to assist council with the ongoing administration of bylaws if the plan was adopted and council was responsible for issuing permits and administering the plan.

Jimmy Carruthers encouraged everyone to study the plan carefully and be aware of what it entails so that everyone could make informed decisions.

Other Business

A lively discussion was held regarding the final payment to Janice Harper for her work on the official plan. The general consensus of the meeting was that too much money had been paid out to date and that the plan was lacking and did not currently meet the wishes of residents. It was noted that the process was taking too much time and a suggestion was made to give Ms. Harper a deadline. A number of scenarios were presented such as withholding a percentage until the plan was completed to the satisfaction of the community. Jeremy Stiles questioned whether or not it would be fair not to pay Janice Harper until the community accepted the plan because of the possibility that the community won't accept it on the basis that Ms. Harper has already done the work and as such is entitled to be paid for her services.

A motion not to pay Janice Harper any more money until the Community receives a final draft of the official plan which is acceptable to the community was made by Winston Cousins and seconded by Billy Pickering. **Motion Carried**

Trent Cousins identified that he believed Janice Harper would be challenged by this motion to continue her good work and would work to meet the needs of the community in a timely manner.

Jeremy Stiles noted that the contract Council had with Janice Harper included the provision to only issue final payment once an acceptable final draft had been received by Council.

Meeting adjourned.