

Minutes of the General Government Committee Meeting

Held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Jack Clark, Chairperson
Ron Lane, Mayor
Kevin Woestenenk, Councillor
Scott McDougall, Citizen Rep
Paul Flanagan, Citizen Rep
Annette Clarke, CAO/Clerk
Steve Maxwell, Deputation

Addition to Agenda

Moved by Ron Lane

Seconded by Scott McDougall

THAT the Purvis Lift Out Agreement be added to Section 6 v) of the January 20, 2015 General Government Agenda.

Carried

1. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

2. Adoption of Minutes of the December 2, 2014 Meeting

Moved by Kevin Woestenenk

Seconded by Scott McDougall

THAT the minutes of the December 2, 2014 meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

3. Deputation

i) Steve Maxwell

Jack introduced Steve to the Committee and explained that he was invited to the meeting to outline his success story with the completion of a Waterfront/Marina Video and to hear his ideas about possible ideas to market the Town and draw new people/businesses to the Community.

Steve began the meeting by asking each member of the Committee what they think the challenges are facing Gore Bay.

Responses included lack of funding to accomplish the things we would like to do to attract new business, residents and tourists; create an opportunity to create a subdivision to provide additional housing; relocate Tourist Information Centre to corner of Hwy 540 and 540B; Cost sharing/amalgamation with other municipalities; need for increased assessment; possibility of either raising taxes or cutting services; addressing lack of involvement of local people and businesses; how to get ages 20 – 40 involved in their community; lack of interest by some of the business community to work together for improvements.

Steve stated that many of the statements were of concern to him as well. He feels there has been a decline in population since 1985. He feels videos and websites are a great tool to market the community in a positive way. Gore Bay and Western Manitoulin need more interested, energetic, creative, enthusiast, entrepreneurial people/families moving to our communities to live and work. Small towns/villages are losing their vitality. Gore Bay is lucky to have supporters in the form of donations from a local family, the Smiths, which spearheaded the making of the Marina video and an interest for him to develop another video featuring the Town as a whole.

The turn around in mentality could take up to ten years but efforts must be made in the right direction. Steve feels the best tool is the internet ie. websites, telling stories, videos – all to attract people here. The “Town” has to portray a truly welcoming, business friendly reception. The Town should assign someone to be the Ambassador to meet and greet and assist newcomers to the Community.

In general, the Committee agreed although it was noted that the Town has been working towards that goal throughout the last term of Council and will continue to do so. Unfortunately, it is sometimes, the Town people themselves that choose to be negative about their own community. Ron explained that the Town is moving forward in this direction by working on a new Strategic Plan and the development of a Community Improvement Plan.

It was agreed that partnerships with Western Manitoulin Communities is also an opportunity to market our communities as a whole and to look at ways communities can work together and support each other.

ii) Delroy Prescott – By-law Officer’s Report

Delroy was unable to attend the meeting. He prepared a report which was circulated to the Committee for review.

Annette was asked to look into the status of demolition at 11 New Street. Committee feels there are safety issues at the site. Annette will speak to Dan and, if necessary, ask him to attend to explain the process.

4. Business Arising out of the Minutes

i) **Old Firehall Renovations** - Annette advised that the Seniors are very excited about the prospect of relocating from the basement of the Medical Centre to the old Firehall. Annette will continue to seek funding for this project.

ii) **Manitoulin Health Centre re: Physician Recruitment** – Staff report circulated

Discussion ensued. It was agreed that Gore Bay should support the program. The Committee agreed with the staff report with regard to the municipal breakdown for cost sharing. Given the fact all municipalities benefit from the health services provided, all municipalities should be contributing to the program.

Moved by Jack Clark

Seconded by Scott McDougall

THAT the General Government Committee recommend to Council that the Town of Gore Bay contribute \$3,000.00 to the Physician Recruitment Program subject to participation by all participating municipalities;

FURTHER [redacted] be appointed to represent the Town of Gore Bay on the Physician Recruitment Committee.

Carried

iii) **Red Roof Pavilion** – staff report circulated

Discussion ensued. It was agreed that the Pavilion should be advertised for lease as one unit (inclusive of all floors). It was also agreed that the rental of the space needs to be reconsidered based on the fact it is a seasonal business and tenants must pay rent, taxes, insurance, water/sewer and hydro. The Town does not want to be perceived as subsidizing a business that competes with other Gore Bay businesses.

Annette was directed to advertise the space in local newspapers, website, kijiji, etc. with rent to be negotiable.

If anyone comes forward with a proposal the committee will meet to negotiate the terms of the lease.

5. Correspondence

i) **Susan Garlock re: notice to terminate lease**

Susan has given notice to terminate her lease for the first floor of the pavilion.

Moved by Paul Flanagan

Seconded by Ron Lane

THAT the General Government Committee recommend to Council that Susan Garlock's lease for the first floor of the Red Roof Pavilion be terminated as per her request.

Carried

ii) **Nicole Turner re: request to utilize park space for wedding**

Discussion ensued. Committee wants to encourage events such as these in the community. However, her request to utilize the old swim beach must be denied because there are plans to install beach volleyball at this location. She can, however, utilize the park area by the tennis courts provided the event does not run into the later evening hours. Committee also felt she could be offered the tent which will already be up from Harbour Days the weekend before.

Moved by Scott McDougall

Seconded by Kevin Woestenenk

THAT Nicole Turner be advised that the Town of Gore Bay grants permission to her to utilize the park area by the tennis courts for a licensed wedding/cocktail reception to end no later than 9 p.m on Saturday, August 1, 2015;

FURTHER that she be advised that the 30' x 60' tent is available for rent for \$1,000.00 and that the tables and chairs are available for rent as per the already established rental rate.

FURTHER if the tent, tables or chairs incur any damages as a direct result of the use by Nicole Turner and/or her guests, Nicole Turner will be responsible for the costs to repairs such damages.

Carried

6. New Business

i) **Tourist Information Location**

Scott suggested the Information Centre should be located at the corner of Hwy 540 and 540B (H & M Mini Mart area). Suggested placing a building at this location, hiring students and/or volunteers to host. He has already spoke with the property owner and it is possible to get a lease for \$1.00. Costs would involve building, signage and staff.

Moved by Scott McDougall

Seconded by Kevin Woestenenk

THAT the General Government Committee recommends that \$5,000.00 be placed in the 2015 budget for the construction of a building to house an Information Centre to be located at the corner of Hwy 540 and 540B subject to negotiating use of the land;

FURTHER administration apply for two students to work at the Information Centre.

Carried

ii) Professional Recruitment

Scott advised that he feels this Committee should show an interest in ensuring there is a law practice available upon the impending retirement of Terry Land. Committee advised Scott to go to Terry and touch base with him to see what role, if any, the Town can play in the future recruitment of someone to replace him after future retirement.

iii) Boaters Map

Scott felt a map handout should be created geared towards the boaters only. Only place items on the map that boaters would be interested in ie. groceries, liquor store

Committee was concerned that this could offend businesses that were not listed. Annette advised that there will be a new large directory map placed at the Marina this summer.

It was agreed that a general "cartoon" type map could be created that didn't list any businesses specifically but mapped out general areas. Annette will check into this.

iv) **Goals for 2015** – tabled

v) **Purvis Lift Out Agreement** - tabled

7. In Camera

Moved by Scott McDougall

Seconded by Kevin Woestenenk

THAT the General Government Committee enter an in camera session at 10:09 p.m. to discuss:

i) Staff

Carried

Moved by Scott McDougall

Seconded by Kevin Woestenenk

THAT the General Government Committee come out of camera at 11:15 p.m.

Carried

Moved by Ron Lane

Seconded by Paul Flanagan

That interviews be established for the six candidates as chosen in camera.

Carried

Moved by Kevin Woestenenk

Seconded by Paul Flanagan

THAT the position of Public Works Foreman be readvertised and the deadline for applications be advertised for approximately 3 weeks.

Carried

Moved by Ron Lane

Seconded by Jack Clark

THAT the General Government Committee recommends to Council that the CAO/Clerk be given an 8% Pay for Performance Bonus based on 2014 performance review.

Carried

8. Other

None

9. Adjournment

Moved by Kevin Woestenenk

THAT we adjourn at 11:30 p.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted by
Annette Clarke, AMCT
CAO/Clerk