

TOWN OF TROUT RIVER
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Minutes of the regular meeting held on July 12th at 7 PM

Present:	Mayor	Gloria Barnes
	Deputy Mayor	Viola Parsons
	Councillors	Gordon Barnes
		Helen Harris
		Tina Crocker
		Horace Crocker
		Nelson Barnes
Also, Present:	Town Clerk	Lorraine Barnes
	Assistant Town Clerk	Tanya Rogers

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM

Resolution 17-144

Parsons V/Crocker H

Motion to adopt the agenda with additions:

1. Under Financial Report July #1

Heritage

- Mike Madigan \$ 200.00

Town

- C&R \$ 1931.05

- Shears \$ 1459.73

- Municipal Assessment Agency Inc. \$ 3647.00

2. Under Financial Report July #2

Heritage

- Alex Crocker \$ 25.00

3. Under General Business

- Preconstruction Meeting

- Cruise Ship

All in favor

Resolution 17-145

Crocker H/Crocker T

Motion to adopt the June 13th, 2017 minutes.

All in favor (7)

Business Arising from Minutes

- Councillor Horace Crocker had a question regarding the letter that was read when he stepped out of the meeting, based on what was stated in the minutes.
 - The Town Clerk's responsibility is to deal with peoples' account issues.
 - Councillor Helen Harris suggested that perhaps the wording of the minutes (Resolution 17-134) needed to be corrected to: Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes made phone calls to officials George and Rita several times and left messages but got no answer.

- The other councillors agreed that the wording should be changed so the public would not assume the Town Clerk was unable or unwilling to respond to resident's issues.
- Councillor Horace Crocker asked whether a letter of response was written to Ina, who had written the letter of inquiry from the June 13th minutes on behalf of Hubert Crocker. The Town Clerk, Lorraine Barnes stated a letter was only sent to Hubert, since it was his personal account information. Council questioned whether Ina had the right to write the letter on her brother's behalf?
- Councillor Helen Harris gave an update on the dishwasher which the Town purchased for the Lion's Hall with the Come Home Year 2016 funds. As of the meeting it was not hooked up and running due to wiring complications, but it would be properly installed once necessary information was obtained.
- Mayor Gloria Barnes stated that tutoring for the summer, which the Town had approved to make the Town Office available for, may not be happening until summer 2018.

Fire Department

- Fire Department Liaison Viola Parsons had a chat with the Fire Chief who said he received a call from TLC about members needing First Aid Training.
- There were no regular meetings in either June or July.

Public Works

Water/Sewer

There were three residences that had their water shut off due to nonpayment of taxes.

Garbage

- As of the meeting Town Clerk did not have a date for the Old Wrecks pick up in the pit.
- Councillor Gordon Barnes asked about a truck that was abandoned with no known owner.
- Several councillors brought up the red car across the brook that had been abandoned as well. It was speculated the owner of that vehicle lives in Corner Brook. Council request the Town Clerk get in contact with the police to see if they could have these vehicles towed up to the Pit.
- Councillors asked whether it was known if the fire department car that had been used for testing fire experience and left in the pit, was also going? The liaison confirmed it was.
- Council determined that the remaining vehicle(s) would need consent via email or fax to move them.

Resolution 17-146

Barnes G/Barnes N

Motion to have the abandoned red car moved to the pit at the Town's expense if the owner was found and gave permission to do so.

All in favor

- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated that the company taking the Old Wrecks would also accept other metal items like washers/dryers/freezers but they wanted these items kept in a separate pile. Mayor Gloria Barnes suggested this be posted to Facebook.
- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes interjected it should only be let known to people if they call or ask about this to prevent too much of a mess in the pit.

Roads

- Regarding a resident of Duke Street that recently put a fence up along the border of their property, Councillors asked if anything had been put in writing.
 - Discussion about this property ensued. Property owners had given permission to the School to use their land for the bus turn around. The snow plow also regularly used this area to turn around.

- Councillor Gordon Barnes stated there was never a fence there in his memory, so their fencing permit's validity could be challenged.
- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated she had contacted Anthony Blanchard but it was not his jurisdiction. Mayor Gloria Barnes suggested the town clerks check with Municipalities to see if they (property owners) have a right to fence it where it was used as a turnaround. She suggested a photo of the area previous to it being fenced and questioned whether this section being fenced was actually part of the resident's property.
- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated that the resident had noted in her correspondence to Council in a previous meeting that she would be replacing her fencing to the original boundary line if the Town did not pay for damage done by the snow plow.
- Town clerks were advised to contact municipal affairs.

Permits

- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes read out a letter to the Town of Trout River from Hydro NL asking that the Town cooperate with Hydro NL in contacting them prior to approving permits that would place sheds and houses beneath or within close proximity to the hydro lines.
- Council felt the term "close proximity" was vague and needed to be more specific.
- Councillor Viola Barnes gave insight that there was a land dispute with Hydro NL occurring with one of the residents of Trout River because Hydro NL wanted to move the pole further onto the person's property after this person had already obtained a permit to build a structure there.

1. **Elwood Crocker** – Permit to put a carry out a rental business from 278 Main Street.

Council noted this area was residential. Elwood had not applied to the Town to have it changed.

Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes mentioned she was in contact with Lindsay Church.

Council suggested town clerks send a letter to Elwood explaining that he needs to request a rezoning request from residential to commercial to council.

Resolution 17-147

Crocker H/ Harris H

Motion to have the permit letters state that public works may visit while work is being done and do follow ups on all permit approvals and for the town clerk to include in the resident's notification letters that their approval was pending the stipulation that they keep to the original application measurements and specifications.

All in favor

2. **Shelley Hann** – Permit to for an extension 16x16 onto an storage shed.

Council felt this was a simple request; there were no water and sewer lines involved.

Resolution 17-148

Crocker H/Barnes G

Motion to approve Ms. Hann's permit for a shed extension.

In favor: 6

Abstained: Mayor Gloria Barnes

3. **Nigel Brake** – Permit for relocation of shed with excavation of back fill.

- Council asked whether Nigel had gotten a permit to build a massive drain behind his house along the back of the hill, three to four feet deep.
- Council suggested that the town clerks send a letter asking him to put up markers along this ditch/drain for safety concerns.

- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated the land is not his yet; she did receive the bill of sale which she sent to MAA but had not received documentation back from them.
- Council determined this was proof of ownership.

Resolution 17-149

Parsons V/Barnes G

Motion to approve Nigel’s permit with the recommendation from Council that markers be put up around the excavation area for safety, in case children fall in.

All in favor

4. Tableland Cottages-permit to build a gazebo.

Councillor Gordon Barnes went out to look at it; said it was fine.

Resolution 17-150

Crocker H/Parsons V

Motion to approve Tableland Cottages’ permit.

All in favor

Financial Report

Resolution 17-151

Crocker H/Crocker T

Motion to pay outstanding invoices July #1

All in favor

Resolution 17-152

Crocker T/Parsons V

Motion for Councillor Horace Crocker to leave due to conflict of interest.

All in favor

Resolution 17-153

Crocker T/Parsons V

Motion to pay July #2

In favor: 6

Abstained: H Crocker

TOWN OUTSTANDING INVOICES JULY #1

Hydro	Paid
Bell Aliant	Paid
Town of Deer Lake (Monthly)	\$898.56
Phone Tech Voice & Data LTD.	\$57.38
Vernon Crocker	\$600.00
SaltWire Network The Western Star	\$62.47
K.C Reid Enterprises Limited	\$1136.78
Staples	\$610.96
Credit Recovery Ltd	\$96.60
C & R Contractors Ltd	\$1931.05
Municipal Assessment Agency	\$3647.00
Crane Supply	\$343.88
Shears Building Supplies	\$1459.73

FIRE DEPT. OUTSTANDING INVOICES

None

HERITAGE OUTSTANDING INVOICES

Alex Crocker	\$25.00
Mike Madigan	\$200.00

RECREATION OUTSTANDING INVOICES

None

OUTSTANDING INVOICES JULY #2

HERITAGE OUTSTANDING INVOICES

Alex Crocker	\$25.00
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Committee Reports

Heritage

Heritage Committee Liaison Tina Crocker reported the meeting scheduled had been postponed, so there was no news to relate to council.

Recreation

Recreation Committee Liaison Horace Crocker reported that no meeting has occurred

Correspondence

1. Lacey Barnes wrote a letter of correspondence regarding the following concerns:

- She received her letter from the Office stating she could pay her and her husband's poll tax off – deadline would be December 31st 2017, but when she received her statement of amount owing, she was charged for combines poll tax (with her husband Blair) as well under separate accounts for she and her husband
- She is questioning the combined account since she has not been receiving statements for this particular account.
- She also noticed she was charged for a permit and did not receive such permit
- Town Clerk stated she did look back through the payments prior to the meeting and no permit for the property was issued, and that she was unsure where the amounts were coming from with the combined poll tax; that perhaps it was from an earlier debt.

Councillor Gordon Barnes feels he is in conflict due to this resident's husband being his nephew.

Resolution 17-154

Crocker T/Parsons V

Motion for Councillor Gordon Barnes to leave due to conflict of interest.

All in favor

Councillor Gordon Barnes departed

Council discussed this matter

Resolution 17-155

Parsons V/ Barnes N

Motion to write off \$976.23 (combined poll tax) and the \$20.00 (permit) and the outstanding balance must paid by December 31st 2017

In favor: 6

Abstained: Gordon Barnes

Councillor Gordon Barnes returned

2. The Breast Cancer Foundation contacted Town Office for their support for an October 20, 2017 campaign.

Council discussed the upcoming elections in September could mean the Council Members might not be the same representatives there currently.

Council decided they could, however, get the paperwork done and put it out to the community.

Councillor Gordon Barnes suddenly remembered something regarding a permit for Blair Barnes. He instructed the town clerks not to issue the permit; he would have to reapply because he is on the water line.

3. Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes announced the Town had received a 90/10 Special Assistance Grant for water/sewer. She said invoices needed to be sent in again but they had preliminary approval.

4. Bonnie Brake wrote a letter to Town Council regarding the state of the Chimney Cove Trail.

- She noted the Park graded the road from the Pond to the camp ground but did not continue to their boundary line, and the road is washed out in places.
- She was under the impression the road was an access road for wood cutting to be maintained by Forestry.
- Ms. Brake requested the town officials to speak up on the residents' behalf and contact the Canada Parks officials.
 - Mayor Gloria Barnes stated she had been previously in contact with Forestry. Deputy Mayor Viola Parsons was in contact with Canada Parks. No confirmation from either was given as to whether the road would be graded or when. Council has been working on this issue.
 - Council suggested having the Town Clerk send a letter back to Bonnie Brake and inform her they are working on this issue.

5. Darrell Poirier wrote a letter to Town Council regarding his damaged curbstop. (He had previously received a letter from Council which stated he would be responsible for damages to his curbstop and not the Town because Town Council felt natural causes were at fault.)

- Mr. Poirier wrote that the Snow Plow from the Department of Highways struck the entire bank in front of his property, including the curbstop and plowed it down into the ditch, causing a leak
- Mr. Poirier felt that had he not reported the leaking water it could have caused more damage to the road and surrounding properties.
- Mr. Poirier feels the Department of Highways should be responsible for the damage done to his curbstop or at least a portion of the cost.

Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated Darrell Poirier had told her he had been in contact with councillor Nelson Barnes about this issue.

Councillor Nelson Barnes denied he had been in contact with Mr. Poirier.

Council felt that there was no way the Snow Plow could have caused the damage.

Council decided to give Mr. Poirier 30 days to make payment or his water/sewer services would be cut off.

6. Heather Brake wrote a letter regarding a previous e-mail that she had sent to the Town Clerk addressed to all Council Members on June 21, 2017.

- Heather had previously been in conversation with Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes regarding pictures being taken of her, her family and friends and her property without her knowledge or permission.
- She asked that this behavior stop immediately, that she finds such behavior to be a violation of her privacy and very disturbing.
- She had been advised that photographs could be considered illegal and requested all photographs to be deleted and destroyed.

Councillor Horace Crocker stated he had asked Heather and Erin Brake to see if they would like to be delegates at the next meeting to discuss any issues they may have in person.

Council was under the impression that only pictures of the Brake's business sign was being sent to the Municipal Affairs.

Council suggested that Municipal Affairs should be checked with before destroying any photos.

- 7. Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes read a letter accusing fellow coworking of leaking information to her spouse Corey Crocker, because she had been contacted by Municipal Affairs regarding his questions about his permit.
- She stated co-worker Tanya Rogers should not have begun typing up Corey's letter for his permit application.
- She also said Tanya should not have informed her spouse that she couldn't do up his permit or letter because it was a conflict of interest and held her responsible for Corey being angry over his letter and the stipulations Lorraine had included with it.
- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes blamed Ms. Rogers for the Town being investigated by Municipal Affairs and several other departments regarding permit applications, taxation structures, cash being accepted for Memory Chairs and that because of this the Town might have to spend more money opening accounts.
- Town Clerk Tanya Rogers stated auditors do not force bank accounts to be opened, only that money received be recorded, so that amounts are recorded for what comes in and out of the office.
- She had been instructed to type up the permit letters and do the minutes and was not going to sign the one sent for Corey, because that would be a conflict of interest, and that Lorraine herself asked whether the letter had been finished for her to sign.
- She also stated that she should not be held responsible for what her spouse was upset about, and that her working as a Town Clerk should not keep Corey from complaining to Municipal Affairs about things he felt were not properly being handled, such as a suspicious land transfer fee for his son's land purchase, the measurements noted on his letter, rumors his ex-wife had gotten files from Town Office that would allow her to sell his land to Ed Langdon.
- Councillors stated they hadn't heard such rumours.
- Council immediately brought Corey Crocker's formerly approved permit application into question.
- Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated some new information had come forward that the land may not be Corey Crocker's.
- Councillor Tina Crocker stated what was supposed to be the concern was whether or not information was being leaked about council's decisions, not the permit.
- Deputy Mayor Viola Parsons stated a stop work order should be put on the barn Corey Crocker was formerly approved to build.
- Several Council members stated the land on the hill was not registered in anyone's name and that Sellewyn Crocker did not have the right to sell Corey Crocker land in the first place because he didn't own the land.
- Councillor Horace Crocker stated perhaps Lorraine Barnes should have addressed Council before reading the letter out loud at the meeting.

Water Tank Inspection

- Brandon make a call to Jerry, who brought it to his supervisor; they came back with the advice that inspection was not mandatory but advised the interior and exterior dry tank inspection would be advisable to have done.
- Councillor Gordon Barnes stated that getting the tank inspected wasn't advisable.
- Council felt Greatario, the company that installed the tank and contacted the Town about the inspection might just be trying to make a profit at the Town's expense.

Ditching Feeder (Carry Over)

Councillors had still not obtained information as to who owned the land behind McLean's Lane. They directed Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes to find out.

Tax Recovery Plan & Tax Receivable

Resolution 17-156

Crocker H/Barnes N

Motion to approve Tax Recovery Plan

All in favor

Discussion on the absence of official flags and picture of the Queen in the Town Chambers.

Resolution 17-157

Parsons V/Harris H

Motion to have a framed picture of the queen and flags for Town Chambers.

Gallery

Town Clerk Tanya Rogers presented to Council the idea of the Town Office (waiting room and chambers areas) being used as gallery space to support the local artists.

Council discussed this idea at length.

Because the Town itself was not permitted to make money, Council advised setting up any funds raised from doing such to be handled by the Heritage Committee to be used for their museums and events and so forth.

Councillor Helen Harris mentioned that command strips could be used to hold artwork without causing any damage to the paint.

Resolution 17-158

Crocker H/Harris H

Motion to approve the use of the Town Building to hold artwork for the Heritage Committee's fundraising.

All in favor.

Blue Whale Sign

Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated she and Brandon came up with an idea that Brandon should make a Blue Whale sign for the Town entrance.

Town Clerk Tanya Rogers noted that museum curator Bonnie White had also mentioned the same thing and requested it as a topic for the meeting.

Resolution 17-159

Crocker H/Crocker T

Motion to buy plywood and other necessary materials for Brandon to make a Blue Whale sign.

All in favor

Pre-Construction Meeting

Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes stated the meeting with SNC Lavalin would take place at 9:30 am July 14th via teleconference.

Cruise Ship

Town Clerk Lorraine Barnes let Council know she had received information that Trout River would be receiving Cruise Ship passengers to their beach as part of a tour/stop that exits out of Woody Point.

Glen Anderson was hired.

There were also two other cruise ships coming that would begin at Woody Point and exit from Trout River.

Lorraine had asked Michelle Harris if she could set up a welcome of some sort to those landing on the beach.

Council asked Lorraine to let Glen know that the Town would prefer they come in on the viewpoint by the new sign.

Schedule of Next Meeting: Wednesday August 9th, 2017 @ 7 PM

Resolution 17-160
Parsons V/Crocker T
Motion to adjourn meeting
All in favor

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Approved on _____

Signed _____

Position _____