

MAY 14, 2001

**MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

A committee meeting was called to discuss Water and Sewer rates, and Surplus Lands.

Those present were Chuck Hall – Mayor
Ian Brebner – Deputy Mayor
Marysia Coutts-Councillor Ward 1
Ken Johnston-Councillor Ward 2
Mike Conlin-Councillor Ward 3
Lawrence McLachlan-Councillor Ward 4
Lucy Hendrikx Councillor-Ward 5
Shirley Scott- Administrator
Public Works Superintendent – Joe Adams.

WATER AND SEWER RATES

A copy of the final report to the Transition Board, from the Water and Sewer Committee was issued. The rate paid on the primary line is .251864.

Billings are being done, using the previous rates for each municipality. It was questioned whether or not we are billing Thedford for water. Ian suggested that this be done based on 2000 figures, then corrected at year end.

Council asked that the summary of costs that was collected for Transition Board, be updated. In reference to water and sewer billing, it was noted that the following recommendations were accepted by the Transition Board:

That the billing and collections be done by our own staff, and that urban be done monthly, and rural be done quarterly.

Mr. Johnston then produced a handout, suggesting that the average urban residential bill is \$8-12. Sewer billings are currently \$24.67 per month in Ailsa Craig and Parkhill billing is \$94 per year, through the tax bill. He suggested that urban be billed bi-monthly (each urban center on different months) and that the rural area areas be billed quarterly (one each month).

Joe Adams advised that Ailsa Craig and Parkhill are not being billed in the same time frame, and the rural areas are being billed quarterly. It takes one day to read the Ailsa Craig meters and two days to read the Parkhill meters. Council were advised that it is proper to bill sewer through the water bill, rather than the tax bill.

Hook up charges were then discussed. Mr. Adams suggested that ¾" be considered a regular service for a house and 1" be considered a regular service for a barn. Any hookup over this size should be billed at an additional rate.

After a thorough discussion, the following recommendation was made.

BREBNER-McLACHLAN: That Council recommends water hookup in rural areas at a base price of \$6,500 for a ¾" service to curb stop to residential customers and a 1" serviced to curb stop to agricultural and industrial customers. Any increase in sizing would be at additional cost to the customer, and that these rates become effective May 15, 2001.

CARRIED

SURPLUS LANDS

The list of surplus lands, as listed by the Transition Board was reviewed.

The Ailsa Craig Town Hall was discussed. It is to be checked if this building can be declared historical to maintain the style of the building. It was suggested that it be designated historical then considered as surplus. Councillor Hendrikx advised that there has been an offer on the building, for a small Town theatre.

Public Works Superintendent, Joe Adams advised that all the work stations are required at this time, but should perhaps be reconsidered in twelve months.

There was a discussion regarding the rental of the former West Williams office facility.

It was reported that the County is interested in leasing the East Williams facility. The building is energy efficient, wheelchair accessible, and close to the County.

After a thorough discussion on the surplus lands, the following recommendations were made.

HENDRIKX-JOHNSTON: That Council move ahead to lease the building that was the East Williams Township Office and that it also tries to find someone to lease the office that was the West Williams Township office.

Carried.

HENDRIKX-CONLIN: That Council declare two lots fronting on William Street – residential and two lots corner of Mill and Union – industrial, as surplus.

Carried.

Rental rates for this area are to be checked.

FERNHILL DRIVE

Public Works Superintendent, Joe Adams reported that the preliminary work has been done by the engineer. The bridge in question has a two ton limit. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are to discuss works with Middlesex Centre, then the County for repair options. Estimated costs are \$260,000.

Future bridge repair or replacements, were discussed. It was suggested that a report be prepared by Spriet. This is required before Carlisle is considered for tar and chip.

IN CAMERA

HENDRIKX-COUTTS: That Council move in camera on an employee and legal land matter at 9:35 p.m.

Carried.

McLACHLAN-HALL: That Council move back into regular session at 10:00 p.m.

Carried.

The following motions were brought forth.

CONLIN-HENDRIKX: That Kathleen O'Connell be hired as a full time employee; that Jana Lynn Finkbeiner be hired for the contract position; and that two positions for students be filled – one for in the office and one in the tourist booth under the government student programs, and that advertising be done asap.

Carried.

CONLIN-JOHNSTON: That Joe be authorized to go ahead and get quotes to fix the deficiencies in our part of the Meadowgate Subdivision Phase 2 Plans.

Carried.

Mr. Johnston notes that Phase 1 had not been accepted to date.

BANNER CABLES

The cable to hold the banners over Main Street – Parkhill, is broke. Permits have to be obtained from the County and someone with a boom truck has to string the banner (Middlesex Power or local Fire Department). It will then have to be negotiated who pays if Middlesex Power does the job. There are approximately six banners strung over the course of a year.

COURSE

CBO, Vic Stellingwerf, requested to attend a course on fire separations, classifications, construction, etc, as per part 3 of the building code. Council agreed that he should reserve two spots at this training session; for himself and the Fire Chief.

PURCHASE OF REFRIGERATOR

McLACHLAN-HENDRIKX: That Council authorize Shirley Scott to purchase a small refrigerator to supply cold drinks on the main floor.

Carried.

SUB COMMITTEES

It was suggested that a list of various sub-committees wanting to use the municipal liability insurance, be created.

DOCTOR MEETING

Councillor Johnston circulated a notice of the Ailsa Craig Medical Access Committee. The event is scheduled for May 27, at Ailsa Craig Recreation Centre.

MUNICIPAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

It was suggested that the annual golf tournament be set for June 14, at Sandhills. Employees would be expected to golf, or work.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR