

The Corporation of the Village of Slocan
Minutes of the Meeting
of September 13, 2006

The regular meeting of the Slocan Village Council was held on the above date at the Village Office, 503 Slocan Street, with Mayor John Van Bynen, in the chair.

PRESENT:

Mayor John Van Bynen, Councillors John Gates, Madeleine Perriere, and Marc Septav. Administrator, Eunice Ludlow, Village Foreman, Jerry Simmons and Valley Voice reporter, Don Currie, were also in attendance. There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

RES 06/079 Moved by Counc. John Gates, seconded by Counc. Madeleine Perriere that the agenda be adopted as amended.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

RES 06/080 Moved by Counc. Marc Septav, seconded by Counc. Madeleine Perriere that the minutes be adopted as prepared.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:

Ms. Mable Bone asked about the Wellness Centre. Mayor John Van Bynen said things were going well. There is an Acupuncturist who is using the facility at this point and a Physiotherapist will be using the facility soon. The Village is working hard to secure more practitioners to use the facility. Ms. Bone asked if a hand rail would be installed at the Wellness Centre also, Mayor Van Bynen said there would be one soon.

DELEGATIONS:

1.) Report from the Auditor:

Andrea Kramer, accountant with the firm of Berg, Lehman & Naqvi presented the Annual Report and the Financial Statements for 2005. Ms. Kramer who performed the audit for the Village, explained that their firm functions as an independent auditor and their job is to report results of a detailed look at the operations of any Municipality by whom they are hired to perform audits. She said that although this audit had been a long one because of changes that occurred as a result of computerization, the resulting report was standard and nothing was noted as being unusual or outside of the "norm". Ms. Kramer pointed out on page 3 of the balance sheet that compared to last year, the Village assets had increased and there was not much change in liabilities. Please find report and financial statements attached for perusal.

2.) Report from Administrator:

Administrator Eunice Ludlow reported that the Boat Ramp project costs to date are \$168,138.94. Councillor Madeleine Perriere asked about the status of the proposed Power Plant and Ms. Ludlow said we are moving ahead with the project and that it would be around three more years before it can be expected to near completion.

3.) Report from Public Works:

Village Foreman Jerry Simmons reported that the cement blocks that will be used in the construction of the berm will arrive tomorrow and will be put in place shortly. The gazebo is in the finishing stages and the handrails and benches are being constructed by the Village, then finished and put into place. Foreman Simmons brought forth a plan for Harold Street sidewalk extension. Councillor Marc Septav was very happy with the plans and suggested that a motion be made to go ahead with the construction of the sidewalks.

Moved by Councillor Marc Septav, seconded by Councillor John Gates that the Public Works go ahead and finish the sidewalk extension on Harold Street.

RES 06/081

Carried

Foreman Simmons requested that he and Assistant Foreman Tim Hill be approved to attend the Small Water Users Workshop in Nelson October 27.

Page 3
Continuation of minutes
September 13, 2006

Moved by Councillor Madeleine Perriere, seconded by Councillor John Gates that the Foreman and Assistant Foreman be approved to attend Small Water Users workshop, costs to be paid by the Village.

RES 06/082 Carried

Councillor Madeleine Perriere questioned Foreman Simmons about the repainting of crosswalks. Foreman Simmons said some crosswalks have been painted, and they are still looking into a product that will be more durable than the paint that had been used in the past.

Foreman Simmons offered estimated figures for the values of surplus equipment that the Village is considering selling.

Moved by Councillor Madeleine Perrier, seconded by Councillor Marc Septav to proceed with bids on the surplus equipment.

RES 06/083 Carried

3.) I.C.B.C. Presentation:

Michelle Hargrave from I.C.B.C. presented the new initiative to help reduce car crashes to Council. Starting October 1 and running until the end of October, I.C.B.C. has implemented Zero Crash Month. The goal of this initiative is to raise awareness and to hopefully reduce the frequency and severity of automobile crashes. It is estimated that Slovan residents will have four (4) crashes for the month of October. I.C.B.C. has challenged the Village to prove them wrong. The Village will send I.C.B.C. a letter of support/commitment for this worthwhile initiative.

4.) Craig Humphries/Boat Dock Parking

Craig Humphries addressed Council regarding the development of the property behind his house at 417 Main Street. He mentioned that he noticed stakes and grass being cut at the property. When he questioned what was being planned he was told that a parking area was being considered for the area behind his house. Mr. Humphries objected to the car park/roadway and suggested that the area could be better used as green space.

Mr. Humphries asked if there was anything else that could be done regarding the property and challenged the Council to come up with an alternative idea for parking and traffic flow for the boat ramp area. Councillor Madeleine Perriere said that parking is an issue at the waterfront and we are working on ideas to improve this problem. It was suggested that traffic be directed to the Valhalla parking area, about 400 metres from the waterfront, after the boats have been launched. Mayor Van Bynen suggested that Mr. Humphries was welcome to offer any ideas on how to resolve this problem

5.) Rec. Commission

No report at this time.

6.) Community Forest

Councillor Marc Septav reported that there will be a meeting at the Silvery Slocan Social Centre regarding the Community Forest Initiative. An initial letter of support was requested from the Village regarding community support of this initiative.

Moved by Councillor Marc Septav, seconded by Councillor Madeleine Perriere that staff draft an initial letter of support to Forest Communities Program regarding support for the efforts of SIFCO (Slocan Integrated Forestry Cooperative)

RES 06/084

Carried

7.) Dog Committee

Doris Mercer attended the Council meeting and offered her resignation due to the fact that she will be moving out of the Village shortly. Mrs. Mercer reported that at this time it seems that the dogs of the Village are behaving and the Bylaw Officer has been effective in dealing with most dog issues.

CORRESPONDANCE:

- 1.) Letter received from the Women’s Institute regarding questions they have for the Mayor and Council. Ms. Mable Bone asked the council if the letter sent by the Village to the W.I. regarding vacating the Village owned meeting hall was a temporary measure or a permanent eviction.

Page 5
Continuation of Minutes
September 13, 2006

Mayor Van Bynen said that it was not a permanent measure, but that the hall needs extensive renovations and it would be necessary to have the hall vacant in order to proceed with renovations.

At this point there is no date that the renovations will be completed. Ms Bone asked that if there were to be any changes to the layout, could the W.I. members be consulted, Mayor Van Bynen agreed that the Village would be agreeable to consulting with their members. Ms. Bone said that there was nowhere to store their belongings. It was suggested that the old school house would have space for storage. Storage for the W.I.'s fridge, stove and island will be looked into if they have to be moved out of the hall for the renovations. Power bills will be changed over to the Village of Slocan. Costs for the renovations have not been looked at, but Council will look at the budget to see if there is any money available for the renovations. The Women's Institute will be contacted as soon as the work is complete.

- 3.) It was brought to Council's attention that household garbage was being dumped into Village garbage cans. Councillor Madeleine Perriere said that the garbage should be sent back to the owners. Foreman Jerry Simmons said that Public Works will record the frequency of this occurrence and keep track of the garbage.

Motion was made to record and account the volume of garbage being dumped into Village receptacles for later action. Councillor Madeleine Perriere was noted as opposed.

RES 06/085

- 4.) Re: Heritage Buildings
Both St. Mary's Church and St. Andrew's churches are old enough for heritage designation. Staff will write to St. Andrew's church to inform them of this heritage designation.

Motion was made by Councillor John Gates, seconded by Councillor Marc Septav to designate St. Mary's and St. Andrew's churches as heritage buildings.

RES 06/086

Carried

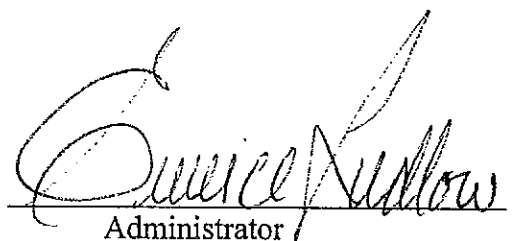
Page 6
Continuation of Minutes
September 13, 2006

- 5.) Letter from RDCK Max Hoedeman regarding the Building Bylaw Contravention on property legally described as Lot 21, Block 17, DL 292, KDP 496. The correspondence was discussed. If the structure has been removed, then this action will be tabled.
- 6.) This action was discussed and it was decided to send a letter of support to the Village of Nakusp objecting to this move.

Motion was made by Councillor John Gates, seconded by Councillor Marc Septav objecting to this move, and offering the Village's support in the matter of CBT staying in Nakusp.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.


Mayor


Administrator