Miltonvale Park Community Council
Annual General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 25, 2008

The Annual General Meeting of Miltonvale Park Community Council was held on Tuesday, March 25, 2008, in the lower level of Winsloe Lions Hall.

Council members present: Chair Don Aiken, Councillors Gail Ling, Joe Murphy, Sheila MacKinnon, and Betty Pryor **Regrets**: Councillors Brian Andrew and George Piercey

Administrator: Shari MacDonald

Residents and landowners present: John MacKinnon, Carol Connick, Keith MacKinnon, Goops Wooldridge, Brad Wooldridge, Vern Chowan, Dan Doran, Merrill Oatway, Vernon Willis, Pat Willis, Pauline Smith, Jennifer Gallant, George Young, Arnold MacRae, George MacKenzie, Charles MacKenzie, Steve Dickieson

1. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Chair Don Aitken called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm., and welcomed those in attendance. Council, the administrator, and residents introduced themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion 08-23: Moved by Councillor Betty Pryor and seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon that the agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion 08-24: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, and seconded by Councillor Joe Murphy, that the minutes of the March 19, 2007 Annual General Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

No questions or issues arose from the minutes.

4. REPORTS

A. Chair's Report (includes Water & Sewer):

Chair Aitken referred residents to his report which was included in the meeting packages. Chair Aitken noted that the North River Fire Department's annual information meeting will be held on April 3, 2008. The rates paid for fire protection will remain unchanged for 2008. He elaborated on the community's upcoming comprehensive waste water and water feasibility study which will address issues and options regarding servicing within the community. MLA Bush Dumville has also been working with the community regarding the provision of water. The board of Island

Waste Management Corporation (IWMC) also wishes to resolve the water issues in Sleepy Hollow.

Comments from residents emphasized the necessity of pressure from the province and IWMC to realize a satisfactory solution regarding the provision of water to Sleepy Hollow. Residents reminded Council that those living near the former landfill were promised city water as soon as it got within sight. Residents voiced agreement that the offer approved by Charlottetown several years ago was not a good one for the community. It was suggested that IWMC, or an independent consultant retained by them, perform more stringent and comprehensive testing on wells in the area.

Chair Aitken also noted that the community is trying to revitalize the community pasture; and is working with Mr. Creamer and Minister MacKinley from the Department of Transportation and Public Works, which retains ownership of the pasture, for an agreement to continue to use the pasture. A meeting of residents interested in participating in a community garden will be held at the Council office on April 1st.

Chair Aitken requested that residents send community information and photos to the Council office to be included in the website or newsletters. He also noted that the community feels that Canada Post's review of rural delivery has resulted in unsafe placement of community boxes, and hardship to residents, with the removal of so many mailboxes. Council is circulating a petition for presentation to Parliament which residents may sign to express concern with the safety review. It was noted that residents may contact 1-866-501-1669 to have their mailboxes re-assessed.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. **Planning Board** – Planning Board Chair Betty Pryor referred residents to the report circulated in the meeting package. She noted that work has begun on the Official Plan, although Council must also deal with issues regarding servicing and the Special Planning Area regulations, which will impact the Official Plan. Miltonvale Park is applying for funding through the Infrastructure program, with other communities in the Special Planning Areas, to review the regulations and work together to make suggestions to the provincial government. It is hoped that communities which are capable of enforcing their Official Plans, which meet agreed provincial standards, may be excused from these very restrictive development regulations. Councillor Pryor encouraged residents to provide their input into the planning process for the Official Plan. She highlighted the membership of the 2008 Planning Board - Councillors Sheila MacKinnon and Joe Murphy, and residents Charles MacKenzie and Steve Dickieson.

ii. **Parks and Recreation** – Councillor Sheila MacKinnon referred residents to the report in the meeting package. Councillor MacKinnon noted that the new park shelter is available for use by residents. A successful Canada Day celebration was held in 2007, with a tree planting to honour Canadian military families. Two students were hired at the park last summer and supervision was provided for extended hours. Residents are

encouraged to take advantage of the bursary program to subsidize children's extracurricular activities. A community garden may be established if interest warrants.

iii. **Emergency Measures Report** - In the absence of EMO Coordinator Gary Robbins, Councillor Joe Murphy expanded upon the EMO information included in the meeting package. The role of Council is to act as a liaison between first responders and residents, a state of emergency is declared. EMO training for Councillors is on-going, and Councillor Murphy and the administrator attended three day Basic Emergency Measures training courses in 2007. The auditorium at Bluefield High School is reserved for the Community of Miltonvale Park, and agreements have been signed for heavy equipment and transportation, in an emergency. Residents are requested to be prepared to look after themselves for 72 hours, in the event of an emergency. Council is preparing a list of vulnerable residents who may need additional assistance, and a list of people who may have useful skills or equipment. Additional information regarding emergency preparedness can be found on the community website, at www.getprepared.ca or from the Red Cross. Comments from residents included a caution that information pertaining to vulnerable residents be protected, so as not to put them at risk, that the correctional facility may be a good resource for the community, and a reminder to ensure that information also be made available in paper format, in the event of power outages.

iv. **North River Fire Department** – The information meeting for the NRFD will be held April 3rd, and further information will be made available to Council and residents following this meeting.

v. **Queens County Landfill** – Chair Aitken highlighted the circulated report, and noted that the baled tires are being removed, and that it is planned that the landfill site become a green zone. A resident questioned whether the community was receiving compensation since the tires were being stored on site, as it could be argued that the site had never closed as the tires had not been removed. It was noted that Council is not aware of tires being added to the site since it was officially closed, and the site is the property of the government; who have agreed that no new waste would be brought on-site. The tires were baled to reduce environmental risks, and are quickly being removed. Concern was noted regarding a lack of security for the site. Frustration was expressed to Council from residents who are dismayed over the slow progress regarding the provision of safe water to Sleepy Hollow residents. Council assured residents that they understand their concern. It is hoped that results from the Water and Wastewater Feasibility Study, along with council's lobbying the city, and support from IWMC will soon resolve the issue. Water for Sleepy Hollow remains a priority with Council. Water tests for IWMC have been ongoing in monitoring wells and results are available from Council.

vi. **Communities 13, Inc**. – Chair Aitken noted that he is on the Board of Directors for Communities 13, Inc, and attends meetings quarterly. A report from the APM General Manager along with financial statements was circulated in the meeting package. The APM Centre is operating at a break-even position.

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There was a question about the boundary of Miltonvale Park in the Sleepy Hollow area regarding ownership of land formerly belonging to Lorne Hurry and to the Bagnall family. It was believed that it was located within South Milton/Sleepy Hollow, but it now apparently falls within the boundaries of the City of Charlottetown. Councillor Pryor will investigate this issue.

Motion 08-25: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon, that the Chair and Committee Reports for the 2007 year be adopted, as presented. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 8:40 for a 10 minute refreshment break, and resumed at 8:50.

5. AUDITOR'S REPORT

Finance Chair Gail Ling noted that the Community of Miltonvale Park uses the firm of Bradley Shea Handrahan Chartered Accountants, and referred residents to the circulated audited statements for the year 2007. Finance Chair Ling noted that the surplus at the end of 2007 was $333,075. She noted the community is in a positive cash flow situation, with a strong financial position.

Motion 08-26: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Betty Pryor, that the Financial Statements for the Miltonvale Park Community Council for 2007, as audited by Bradley Shea Handrahan, be adopted as circulated. Motion carried.

6. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -2007

Finance Chair Ling directed residents to pages 3-5 of the auditor's report, and reviewed expenditures and income.

Residents commented that street lighting be considered in the more "residential" areas for the community, to improve safety, and encourage walking. Suggested locations for lighting included the intersection of the Royalty and Sleepy Hollow Roads, the entrances to Meadowvale Park, along the Sleepy Hollow Road and in subdivisions, and where the community mailboxes are located. It was noted that the province is installing low pressure sodium lights at intersections.

Motion 08-27: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon, that the audited Financial Statements for the Miltonvale Park Community Council for 2007, be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

7. PROPOSED BUDGET AND APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES - 2008

Finance Chair Ling reviewed the proposed expenditures for the 2008 year, as presented in the budget. She noted that residents are able to vote to approve the expenditures. If the expenditures presented in the 2008 budget are accepted, no increase in tax rates would be required for 2008. Councillor Ling outlined the anticipated revenues of $281,230.

Motion 08-28: Moved by Councillor Betty Pryor, seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon, that "General Administrative" expenditures of $40,535 be approved. Motion carried.

It was suggested the community look into the possibility of a refund of up to 50% on the cost of website development.

Motion 08-29: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon, that the "Facilities and Public Property" expenditures totaling $28,690 be approved. Motion carried.

A question was raised regarding the coverage of insurance at the park, and if it would also be applicable to the pasture. The community does not own the pasture, but this issue would be addressed if we acquired ownership.

Motion 08-30: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Joe Murphy that the estimated "Fire Protection" expenditure of $41,815 be approved. Motion carried.

It was noted that this represents a cost of $0.07/$100 of assessed property value, and applies to all the communities within the North River Fire Department area.

Motion 08-31: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Joe Murphy, that the "Planning and Zoning" expenditures of $79,395 and "Community Development" expenditures of $4750 be approved. Motion carried

It was noted that most of the costs projected for the Special Planning Area project would be covered by proposed infrastructure funding.

Motion 08-32: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon, that the "Professional Services and Memberships" expenditures of $10,355 be approved. Motion carried.

Motion 08-33: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Betty Pryor, that the "Public Works" expenditures of $60,650 be approved. Motion carried.

It was noted that Infrastructure funding had been received which should cover the entire cost of the Water and Waste Water Feasibility Study.

Motion 08-34: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Joe Murphy that the "Recreation and Parks" expenditures of $14,800 be approved. Motion carried.

Motion 08-35: Moved by Councillor Gail Ling, seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon that the income of $281,230 and total expenses of $280,990 budgeted for 2008 be approved. Motion carried.

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8. PROJECTED TAX RATED FOR 2008

Council intends to keep the tax rates at $.0.14/$100 non-commercial assessment and at $0.80/$100 commercial assessment. This will be voted upon at a Council meeting to be held immediately following the Annual Meeting.

9. NEW BUSINESS –Issues or Concerns from Residents

Water – It was previously noted during the meeting that a safe water supply for Sleepy Hollow is a necessity, and of great concern to residents. Residents would like to see movement on the issue and more extensive water tasting. They do not want to see anyone become ill from possible contaminants in the water supply.

Planning – Planning Board Chair Pryor encouraged residents to take advantage of upcoming opportunities to share their views regarding the Official Plan, the Special Planning Areas and water and wastewater issues. Councillor Murphy encouraged residents to think about how they want Miltonvale Park to look in the next 25 years, and to consider environmental protection, farming, and green spaces, to ensure orderly development and the best use of the land.

Park – Councillor MacKinnon encouraged residents to contact Parks and Recreation committee member Joannie MacKinnon, to arrange to use the park shelter.

Councillor Ling expressed appreciation to the residents for attending the meeting, and assured them that their concerns were heard, and Council will work towards the issues identified. Chair Aitken also thanked residents for attending the annual meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 08-36: Moved by Councillor Betty Pryor, seconded by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon that the meeting be adjourned, at 9:41. Motion carried.

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Date Approved

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Chair Administrator

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