

**Minutes for the Public Meeting of the Town of Cupar
Held on Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 7:00 pm
At the Cupar Town Hall**

Present: Mayor Steve Boha, Councilors Ed Lehman, Cory Hart,
Don Jeworski, Neil Schulhauser, Administrator: Wanda McLeod; Administrative Assistant
Megan Sulea

Absent: Heather Stabler

Residents as listed on sign in sheet – 32 residents

Call to order: 6:59 pm by Mayor Steve Boha

RCMP: Constable Justin Pak in attendance. Provided a report on the new “Citizens on Patrol Program” ~ C.O.P. P~ program. It is derived of volunteers and he was asking if we wanted to be a pilot for a time for the program. This program provided more presence in the community and provides preventative measures to help discourage mischief. The Southey detachment works closely with the volunteers by providing support and regular meetings. The Office will review the program and will see if the community wants to proceed as a pilot for this program.

FIRE DEPT: Chief Chris McLeod in attendance. Provided a report on what the fire department has been doing lately. They have been attending training and will be completing training every 4th Tuesday of the month so you will see them out and about in the community. They have implemented a maintenance program for the fire truck and have been completing pump test and certification of the equipment. They have been actively fundraising and currently have a cash calendar running to update their SCBA and will be actively fundraising in the New Year in efforts to purchase a Wildfire truck. They will be having an open house to show the new fire hall and what they have been doing once things have been discussed and decided so stay tuned for that announcement.

WATER METERS: Currently our water meters are circa 1962 and some houses still have the original water meters. We have found a grant to cover \$100,000.00 of the cost of replacing the entire town’s water meters. Our portion of approx. \$38,000.00 still keeps us in budget. These are electronic meters so there will be less of a need to enter ones dwelling to get accurate readings. There is also an APP that can be downloaded to your phone and where can monitor your water usage and see if there are any potential leaks or track your peak times and when you use the most water. There is a third party coming to install the meters and Wanda will have all those details fine-tuned after her meeting with them this Friday. Everyone in town will be getting a new meter including the previous inability to meter trailers.

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NEW HANDIVAN: The Town has purchased a smaller van from Joe Santo that was equipped with the ability to transfer wheel chair patients as well as 4 other people. This van is more user friendly and not so large as the other so easier to park and maneuver. The van is available to any Cupar resident, in the home or not, and surrounding areas as there is a rental fee and mileage that is paid. If anyone wants to use it please contact the Cupar Nursing home.

BALL DIAMONDS: There is a new Ball Diamond Board and they are very actively working on the South Diamond. Kevin Bonish advised they have raised well over \$5,000.00 in donations and the Town matched those donations with another \$5,000.00, so they have begun their work. The volunteers have been very busy getting the work done so if you have time and are wanting to donate some of your time feel free to contact them and see how you can help out. Their plan at this time is to do one diamond a year. Thank you to Tony Benko for donating his time and equipment so far. The yellow diamonds will be next.

RINK: With the corporate donations and volunteers the rink quarter now has its crop removed and estimate \$32,000.00 net from the canola they planted. Upgrades to the rink include rink boards being replaced by Devin Stecyk and a new boiler system. The Boiler system is a self-contained unit and the Town of Cupar received a grant for \$70,000.00 that essentially covered the whole cost of this upgrade.

LAGOON: The high winds we have had over the years has eroded the walls of the lagoon. The North and East side walls have been repaired and we are now working on the South and West side. This is an unavoidable expense as the inspectors were out in the spring and noticed it so we have been actively trying to repair and maintain with cement from odd jobs around town and with local RM farmers ~ Lyle Sandercock and Calvin & Cory Kirchofer ~ donating their rocks so we can shore up the sides. This is a slow job to do as the top of the walls make it hard to maneuver with equipment to get this completed.

COMMISSIONAIRES: We have heard both negative and positive comments about the commissionaire. The negative is the abruptness of the procedure so we will implement a friendly notice to precede the warning on any bylaw infractions. On the whole the community members appreciate the commissionaire and the upholding of the bylaws. They said they truly appreciate the cleaning up that is occurring and welcome this activity remaining in the town. They said it is a small price to pay for the good they are completing and the pride of our town is beginning to show and come back. Please note: The commissionaires follow our town bylaws that are provided to them from the town office and set by the council members.

HEALTH: We have been advised that Leland Somner is leaving us at the end of October but we have been advised our services should not be interrupted while they are looking for a permanent replacement. The health committee is still actively looking for a doctor for our town but this is not a fast process. Linda Lorencz is our local chairperson and the group meets every 3rd Monday.

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EQUIPMENT: We are currently working on the sweeper and with Neil Schulhauser, Ken Gibson and Tony Huziak it should be up and running for test runs within a week. With the changes and repairs it should be stronger than before. A sweeper from Town of Fort Qu'Appelle came and swept Donald Road, Railway Avenue and Stanley Street to help prepare for winter but our maintenance guys went and scraped leaves with the tractor and the rented sweeper couldn't do it. We are looking at a different sweeper but have not yet come to a decision. We are currently working with Fort Qu'Appelle to get a time frame of possibly oiling our streets next year. We are in need of a new to us ¾ or 1-ton truck as the one we have is pretty beaten up from the gravel spreader so if anyone knows of a truck available please contact the town office. Our grader is working great but we are trying to get our guys trained on it as our operators may not be able. The sander looks great as our maintenance has maintained it well with the cleanup. With the salted sand that goes in it the rust does not take long or much to take over. The snow blower and tractor have been repaired after the accident and is ready for the winter snow. The large Handivan has been neglected over the years and has been sitting outside deteriorating so many repairs have been completed however it still has an exhaust leak and a major oil leak. This is being looked at.

BUDGET: SAMA was late this year providing the new assessments to calculate the 2017 taxes. We tried to keep it in the same area as last year's income and while it was difficult, we tried to keep it as close as to what the previous year was by dropping the Mill rate. In the end we still had to run with a small deficit budget. We are working on next year's taxes and different taxing scenarios to try to alleviate the tax burden to residents and make it fair all around. We would also like to thank Dale Nistor for being our representative on the Appeals Board.

We have purchased 25 lots from Arnold Tusa and are working on incorporating them into the town limits as the town did not have any lots available for sale.

CANDIDATES: Introduction of candidates running in byelection: Gloria Woodward and Ray Brunelle.

OPEN FLOOR: Betty Macknak – why is there no snow fence behind us on Findlay Street?

~ As the houses go up there is no need for a fence as it was there to block snow for the road way. **DECISION:** a snow fence will be placed behind them on Findlay Street.

Residents – there are many concerns of how the taxes are so high, how they are based and that the assessments are so high. No one will want to move here if they are so high and there are no incentives in place to provide to new builds. Why are the land portions of the taxes so high and inconsistent? We do not have lower value areas in Cupar so they should be all the same. Can we reassess the whole town? There are many that are still assessed incorrectly as many have done upgrades without a permit so the knowledge is not correct

~ Council and office staff are actively looking at different taxing options to try to make them fairer and more evenly applied. This will hopefully be implemented in the 2018 tax year. Council will be meeting in November and many meetings after to review the best option for Cupar and the residents.

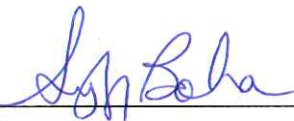
DECISION: The office will get a cost on assessing the whole town and council will make a decision at that time. We will look into why there is such a discrepancy in

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land value when it should be consistent for square footage across the board. Council is actively looking for other ways to tax to make it fairer for everyone involved.

Thank you to all delegate guests, Council, staff members and resident.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm by Linda Adam.



Mayor



Administrator



Date

