



5:30 pm

PRESENT: Mayor Gary Goobie
Deputy Mayor Jim Joy
Councillor Gus Hawco
Councillor Sadie King
Councillor Brendan Hunt
Councillor Harry Hamlyn

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Corbett, CAO
Christa Turnbull, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT: Councillor George Penney

ABSENT:

- 1.1 **AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 2013:**
Agenda of the Meeting of January 15, 2013 was adopted as circulated, with addition of Budget 2013.
- 1.2 **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL DECEMBER 18, 2012:**
Minutes of the Meeting of December 18, 2012 was adopted as circulated.
2. **BUSINESS ARISING**
King- Anything new on the Heritage file?
CAO- Legal team are reviewing the file
3. **Delegations**
4. **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION:**
N/A
- 5.0 **CORRESPONDENCE:**
- 5.1 **Summary Acted Upon:**
Nalcor- Re: property located in the Town of Holyrood. Arrange meeting with Nalcor to discuss, as requested by Nalcor.
- 5.2 **Summary for Recommended Action:**
N/A
6. **GENERAL BUSINESS**
- 6.1 **Clerks Points**
 1. **CBC Regional Recreation & Leisure Master Plan**
TRACT Consulting started the process. Meeting with Councils. Towns will have to submit information package.

2. Tender for Salmonier Line New Well

Tender has come in. If the contractor meets all the requirements, we will do the project under budget \$530,000. This will then complete the project.

3. Winter Storm Damage

Media interviews were done on damage that happened in Holyrood during the winter storm. I am proud of our staff in the work they done and the timeline in which they completed the work. It was a challenge. Residents for the most part were cooperative. At one point, we only had 2 staff because one was ill. Had to assist the ambulance, fire department and NL Power due to emergencies. Traffic was difficult while trying to plow. Trailway to North Arm Bridge and the boardwalk received significant damage. Had to run a trench from Bolands Pond to the river. Engineers are reviewing. Most of the work will be clean-up.

6.2 Mayors Points:

1. Town Plan

Public meeting is tonight at 8:00 pm at the Community Center.

6.2. Councillor's Points:

Councillor Hawco

We received the green light on the Oceans Technology file. There was a funding announcement last week. This is a big deal for the town. We have been looking at ways to develop commercial based opportunities in Holyrood. ACOA and IBRD see potential or they wouldn't be investing in Holyrood.

Councillor King

Would like to commend the CAO and staff on the work during the storm.

Deputy Mayor Joy

I was very happy to hear the announcement for both projects, Oceans Technology and HMPC. This is a 4 way partnership. Great partnerships. We have a seven member board, five of those are boaters, all doing the leg work, engineering design, etc. Would like the Mayor to attend meeting of HMPC. Revenue generated at HMPC has doubled from the last few years.

Glad that everyone was okay during the storm. I watched our public works staff. Credit to all involved.

Councillor Hamlyn

The Marine Institute took a big hit with the damages from the storm. Great announcement of funding at the star of the sea last week. We will see great spin offs from this marvellous funding.

Councillor Hunt

I would like to comment the staff on the handling of the storm situation. Will submit reports on Economic Development and the Harbour Authority.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

7. NEW BUSINESS: Budget 2013

CAO- We have been strategically budgeting over the last 3 years. We have positioned Holyrood, we are now ready to "*Implement the Plan*". We had our time. It is a fitting title. We can look back, reflect, and implement the plan of all the preliminary work that has taken place.

Mayor – thank you to council for their input and debate. Thank you to staff who were instrumental in putting this all together.

Mayor read budget speech. See attached appendix A.

Councillor Hawco

I will be supporting budget. Some things I would have liked to see that are not there. But that's life. The biggest reason I'm supporting is we have to extend our tax base in this town. We are too reliant on our residential tax base. If we don't move on expanding tax base commercially, there will come a time when the people who live here won't be able to afford to pay the bills. It takes a lot of money to run the town. We need a fair percentage to come from the commercial base. We are making the right moves, being proactive, attracting businesses, and hiring economic development officer. Hopefully we will see some of that come in the future. We did, in the past, a economic development report. We talked about finding a niche industry that we could grow in this town. I think we found it, or at least I'm hoping we found it, and I believe that is ocean technology. It fits well into our history, into our background, and into our culture. We've been connected to the ocean all our lives. This is an industry that can be developed without changing or damaging the character in our town. We have been successful in developing a relationship with Marine Institute. They have been onside with us throughout this whole process. We also have key players on our committee from government, businesses, as well as locals that are willing to share expertise and time to help in this process. I'm looking forward to the industry growing. The next 2 years will be critical, we have to lay the blueprint, so that at the end we have something to show for our efforts.

Councillor King

I'm supporting budget. I am pleased to see we have implemented the seniors discount. We have a lot that are at the lower end of scale. Glad to see filtration system will be completed this year. Recreation is doing great things, for youth and seniors. Many great upcoming projects. People will pay a bit more taxes, but we are a growing town and will require more money to operate.

Deputy Mayor Joy

I want to say what's been said already. This is my 12th budget, the discussion and debate. Great to see council and assistance from CAO and staff- this is one that I have enjoyed of all. Input and discussion and the delivery of this budget speaks for itself. There are many positive points. I would like to acknowledge the CAO and staff in tabulating final results. We are trying to keep a balance in maintaining and growing services and looking at ways of growing the town. I am very satisfied with recreation and the commitment to provide great opportunities. This is a growth factor for economic development as well. I am very pleased with discounts for those who have grown the towns the seniors. It is important to broaden the tax base so that not one particular group is carrying the burden. We have a growing town and that places addition demands on our systems, water and sewer in particular. Some of the tax fee increases such as tie in fees, if we are going to grow this town we have to meet demands of growth. Either in tax fees for other fees. Existing residents are not burdened with new development needs. Very pleased with the budget, enjoyed the discussion, we didn't always agree. But this will be positive for 2013.

Councillor Hamlyn

This will probably be my last budget as a councillor. I will be very candid with my remarks. This budget has a lot of great things, but it won't wash with me. We are trying to run the town on 6.5 mil budget. We were told by staff in top level management that we can't run the town on 6.5 mil budget. We said to the chief we are going to give you the Craig Dobbins scenario. CAO said we do not have

the money, and we say that's your job. We are running the town on fees. Where we should have put the residential mil rate to 7 and commercial property rate to 10. Example with fees: in 2008, you could build a home for: \$100 permit, \$500 landscaping, (which was fully refundable) \$1000 for water and sewer, so for a total cost \$1100. I was asleep a few years ago when we raised fees. \$4000 for water & sewer, \$750 landscaping. In 2012, a 1800 square foot home, before he drives a nail, he is spending about \$6500. This year, we are saying \$2500, for water, \$2500 for sewer, \$750 landscaping (\$600 refundable), subdivision access fee is increased \$1500. My main concern is in 2014 they will be strapped, fees are a speculation of how we balanced our budget. Next council will have to increase mil rate. Maybe I'm the only one here, but I have great concerns for the financial integrity of the town by running it on fees. Since 1987, the mil rate was 5. Now it's 6.5. It seems like to me we are gone back in time. There are also great things, like the seniors discount. Jim did a lot of work with this discount. It would be hypocritical to vote for this to put an increase to the fees.

Councillor Hunt

I am content with this budget and satisfied with the things that are in it. There have been great deliberations within council. The only thing I would like to highlight- we have to start looking seriously at developing a side walk. I hope to live long enough to be able to walk on it.

Mayor Gary Goobie

This is our 4th year, 4th budget. I feel there's a tremendous sense of passion on how this town is being run. We have had numerous debates and discussions. Every councilor felt strongly on the positions they took. I'm proud of all council members. We could have let CAO put some numbers together and run with it, but council took time to deliberate and discuss. We want to move the town forward. It has been a challenging year, with an increase in assessment. We had to take different approach because of it.

MOTION #13-01-01

Hunt/Joy

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Holyrood, in accordance with the Municipalities Act 1999 Section 75-79 adopt the attached Schedule of Taxes, Rates and Fees to take effect January 01, 2013.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Holyrood, in accordance with the Municipalities Act Section 75-79 adopt the 2013 Budget with operating revenues and expenditures totaling \$2,500,874

In Favor 5

Mayor Gary Goobie
Deputy Mayor Jim Joy
Councillor Gus Hawco
Councillor Sadie King
Councillor Brendan Hunt

Opposed 1 Councillor Harry Hamlyn
Abstained 0
Motion Carried

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10. REPORTS:

MOTION #13-01-02

Hamlyn/Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that accounts as tabled in the amount of \$ 157,192.05 cheque numbers # 027511 to # 027576 be approved for payment from the General Account.

In Favor 6

Mayor Gary Goobie
Deputy Mayor Jim Joy
Councillor Gus Hawco
Councillor Sadie King
Councillor Brendan Hunt
Councillor Harry Hamlyn

Opposed 0

Abstained 0

Motion Carried

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

March 5, 2013 at 5:30 pm

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION #13-01-03

Hunt/Hawco

BE IT RESOLVED this meeting do now adjourn.

In Favor 6

Mayor Gary Goobie
Deputy Mayor Jim Joy
Councillor Gus Hawco
Councillor Sadie King
Councillor Brendan Hunt
Councillor Harry Hamlyn

Opposed 0

Abstained 0

Motion Carried

Mayor

Clerk

Date

Prepared January 15, 2013 /ct

Budget 2013 Speech

Councilors, Staff, Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Evening

I am very pleased to present the Town of Holyrood's balanced budget for 2013 in the amount of \$2,500,874.00.

For 2013, we have titled our budget presentation "**Implementing the Plan**". For the past 3 1/2 years, council has been positioning Holyrood and now it's time to implement all the planning that has taken place.

Thank you to Council and staff for their contributions and deliberations in the preparation of this budget. We believe this budget reflects Council's fiscal responsibility, opens the door for Ocean Technology opportunities, advancements in recreation, and improved services strategically positioning Holyrood to capitalize on the benefits of this region's considerable prosperity and growth.

2012 has been a year of incredible change and unprecedented growth throughout the North East Avalon region of our beautiful Province. To all of us here in Holyrood, it is visible in many ways, from a noticeable increase in traffic on our town's roads and highways, to residential and business growth and yes by the increase in garbage along our roads.

Our economic development strategies are working and they will ensure that our future is secure, diversified and we are planning to take full advantage of future growth. It is an exciting time for our municipality and interest in the Town of Holyrood has never been greater.

Major construction projects are driving urbanization and housing trends throughout the Province. There is a paradigm shift happening in incredibly short order. This is reflected in the highly publicized across-the-board increases in property assessments brought forth by the Municipal Assessment Agency in the fall of 2012.

Budget 2013 has taken this into account and we, as Council, have taken action to ensure that our residents are treated fairly. We continue to implement the plan and position Holyrood to realize maximum benefit from today's economic climate while remaining ever mindful to protect and preserve the unique elements that make our Town a very special place.

Budget 2013 process was unique as Council entered into it knowing that our residents and businesses would receive municipal assessments that reflect substantial increases in their property values.

We understand this cause's great concern as to what additional taxes a household has to face.

Council examined and debated each entry of the budget to determine what efficiencies are needed to be addressed to keep tax rates from rising and without making any cuts to the services. We started by looking at the cost of running our operation and we deliberated over expenditures of over \$2 million to run the Town of Holyrood in 2013.

Budget deliberations focused on reviewing and trimming expenses where possible. Council also realized that there would have to be a phase in for several projects that were intended for 2013.

Additional growth means the cost of operating the Town also increases. For example, new housing starts mean new roads which require maintenance, snow clearing, sand and salting, sweeping, street lights and waste management collection.

New homes place additional resource demands on the Town's water and sewer infrastructure systems.

Maintaining drinking water and sewer treatment standards requires continuous monitoring, evaluation and investments.

Council continues to seek funding opportunities through the Multi Year Capital Works and the Towns current 6 million projects that were submitted to government. Council has committed \$ 600,000.00 to the cost shared arrangement for these projects and is waiting for favourable approval from government in the next round of funding scheduled for 2014.

We are quite proud of our accomplishments in 2012. The Town continued investment in programs and capital infrastructure. Work was started, completed or continues to be ongoing with the following:

Administration and Planning

- Hawco Building Purchase and Renovations
- Town Plan Completion
- Paperless Council Meetings
- Holyrood Fire Department Review
- Regional Fire Feasibility Study
- Property Identification
- Seniors Tax Review
- Employee Job Descriptions
- Emergency Preparedness Plan

Business Development

- Hiring of an Economic Development / Tourism Coordinator
- Holyrood Organizational Review
- Branding Strategy
- Business Park Concept Plan

Recreation and related Infrastructure

- Hiring of a Recreation and Community Events Director
- Regional Recreation Master Plan
- Legacy Project- Healthy Lifestyle Building
- Salmonier Line Playground redevelopment
- Centennial Field new parking lot
- Holy Cross Elementary School Playground
- North Arm Playground
- Dirt Bike Regulations

Town Infrastructure Improvements

- Water Improvements Phase I, II, III, IV
- Salmonier Line Filtration System
- Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrades
- Water Line Extension Country Path
- Maloney's Lane Pavement
- Kennedy's Lane North Side Paving
- Ridge Road Water and Sewer completion
- Road Network- Phase I
- ABYDOZ pods infrastructure improvement
- Town Office air quality testing
- Bennett's River clean out
- Bog Lane Extension paving
- Civic Address Policy

Budget 2013 continues to address infrastructure needs and other service requirements.

2013 will see the implementation of the new Town Plan Land use zoning and development regulations, year 2 of engineering standards, and a continuation of phase 1 road design network. A new business park concept plan is being developed for a designated area along the Holyrood Access Road.

The town will also undertake a traffic count study to be in a position to provide current data for Economic Development opportunities.

Budget 2013 Highlights

The town's primary source of revenue is property taxes, which accounts for 56.9 % of revenue in 2013.

Residential property accounts for 47.7 % while tax from Commercial property is 9.1 %.

Business Tax generates 7.6 %

Utility Tax accounts for 3.8 %

Water and Sewer provides 14 % towards the Towns overall revenue.

Total revenue is forecast to grow by 19 % in 2013 compared to 2012 with a total projected revenue \$ 2,500,874.

On behalf of Council I am pleased to announce that due to continued growth and prudent fiscal management, there will be:

- A decrease in the residential property tax, currently at 8 mills to 6.5 mil a reduction of 1.5 mills.

Reducing the mill rate 1.5 mil, does not mean that residents won't have to pay more taxes. The average residential municipal assessment increase is 51%. Obviously, some home owners are higher, some are lower, and with the 1.5 reduction, the impact will not be as great if council was not able to make an adjustment.

Example: A home in 2011 valued at \$200,000 paid property tax of \$1, 600. That same home reassessed in 2012 to \$300,000 would pay at 8 mills \$2,400. With the reduction of 1.5 mil, this homeowner will now pay \$1,950, which is still an increase of \$350.

- There will be no increase, nor decrease in the business property tax rate of 9 mil. Council debated the increase to businesses on their property, but felt it was nowhere as significant as to residential property.
- There will be no increase in the business tax mil rates.

The business tax model continues to receive debate at our Council table. Further review in 2012 continues to highlight that there may be serious inequities within this business tax structure.

Council has chosen not to implement any changes in 2013. In going forward, Council will continue to have to face the challenges that continue to exist within this structure and 2013 will bring a continued review and dialog.

- Seniors Discount
We are very pleased this year to offer a 20% seniors discount to those residents age 65 years of age or older, who are in receipt of the Guaranteed Income Supplement. Council fully realizes that

increased costs of living cause's stresses in paying our bills and we plan to further review this area and possibly extend discounts for the lower income family in the coming year.

Criteria to receive this discount:

- Senior must be the assessed owner (joint owner) of the property.
 - Senior must occupy the property as principal year round residence
 - Must currently be in receipt of the Guaranteed Income Supplement provided under the Old Age Security Act
 - Must submit an entitlement letter indicating approval of the Guaranteed Income Supplement from Service Canada.
- For 2013, there will be no business tax charged on Day Care Centers.
 - No increase in residential water tax rate \$ 276.00. No increase in sewer tax rate of \$ 108.00 per year.
 - There will be an increase in residential permit fees of \$2.00 per square meter to \$3.00 per square meter. Commercial building permits will increase from \$3.00 per square meter to \$4.00 per square meter.
 - A subdivision water and sewer access fee increases from \$1,000 to \$1,500.
 - Connection fees for water and sewer will increase from \$2,000 to \$2,500 for water and similar for sewer for a combined total of \$5,000 for connection fees.
 - A new fee this year is the Direct Sellers Tax of \$100 for permit. The town realizes there are other businesses operating without a permit, and will seek ways to have all operators compliant.
 - A small number of other permit fees are adjusted to reflect realities of service costs.

Growth

The Town of Holyrood continues to experience growth in the residential sector to the tune of over \$10 million minimum in new home construction. This figure is an estimate as the true value of a home cannot be determined until the Municipal Assessment Agency completes its assessment.

The commercial sector, which continues to grow, saw a number of new businesses set up in the town creating more employment opportunities.

Salmonier Line New Well & Filtration System

In 2010, the new 2 million dollar well and filtration system commenced construction and while all indicators pointed to a completion in 2011, or 2012 it will not be completed until late winter/early spring 2013.

Capital Works

Keeping pace with infrastructure demands is, and always will be, a constant challenge. Town infrastructure is aging, and in need of repairs or replacement. Water and sewer lines continue to break and many of our gravel roads need continuous repairs. Many of the paved roads are also deteriorating and need ongoing repairs. New recreation facilities are required.

Council applied for \$ 1,162,551.00 cost shared 90/10 under the provincial 2010 Capital Works program and approval was received in 2011 for four projects however only Ridge Road Water and Sewer was completed in 2012.

The remaining 3 projects (Kennedy's Lane Extension water/sewer Kennedy's Lane Extension pavement and New Lift Station to replace Comerfords on Brien's Road) will be completed in 2013.

Gas Tax

Through the Federal Government gas tax money the Town receives approximately 90,000 per year. This funding is used for upgrades for well improvements.

Fire Protection

The town has increased the budget of the Holyrood Volunteer Fire Department to \$85,000 but faces the reality that the expenditures may have to increase significantly in order to provide acceptable fire services in our town.

Holyrood Volunteer Fire Department is having difficulty with staffing. Many of the volunteer fire fighters are working during the day, either out of the community or out of the province, and they are not available to respond to an emergency.

Firefighting service is one of the most important services we provide to our residents and right now we have significant challenges in providing that service. On Thursday, January 17, the town council will be briefed on the Regional Fire Feasibility Study final report, which was completed in 2012 with Conception Bay South and Paradise.

The town will review a number of options before finalizing any new direction in fire services.

Community Sponsorships

Creating a successful community is about building, maintaining and expanding partnerships throughout the community. Council strongly believes in assisting community organizations and in 2012 has budgeted \$ 10,000.00.

Town of Holyrood organizations wishing to be considered for financial support are asked to make a formal written request to the Town by March 1 indicating the reason for the required request and explaining how the funds will be used.

Economic Development and Tourism

In light of the growth that is taking place in Holyrood our Economic Development Committee is working to plan and determine ways and means to attract business and services for our residents. The addition of an Economic Development officer will help facilitate much of this work.

Council realizes that Holyrood has a number of attributes that make it attractive to industry. The Town has an excellent deep water, clean, sheltered harbour, is located only a 30 minute drive from the provinces major urban centre, and easily accessible by highway and sea.

Among our capital projects this year we are hopeful that we may be able to start the process of developing a pedestrian sidewalk along parts of the CB Hwy to help residents walk more safely along this busy highway that will only get busier when the CBS by-pass road is completed.

Holyrood Marina

Phase 2 of the Holyrood Marina redevelopment will take place in 2013, \$170,000 from the Provincial Government, \$102,000 from the Federal Government, \$178,000 from the Holyrood Marina Park Corporation, and \$60,000 from the Town of Holyrood.

Phase I included the development of 34 additional berths. Phase II will include replacing Pier 2, establishing new floating docks to add four new berths, electrical service upgrades, security fencing and construction of a travel lift basin. The corporation expects total marina capacity to be about 150 vessels when the work has been completed.

Ocean's

The Ocean Technology Industry is a \$500 million industry in Newfoundland and Labrador. We plan to become a major player in this industry and a center of excellence for Ocean's. This is an environmentally

friendly industry which will fit well into our rural setting without destroying our culture and heritage. We believe this industry can act as a catalyst to grow our Town and broaden our tax base.

We are very pleased that ACOA and IBRD have the confidence to invest \$197,700.00 each over the next two years in our Ocean Technology Initiative. The Town of Holyrood will invest \$ 131,800.00 in this project over the next two years. This funding will allow us to develop a blueprint and a strategy for the development of this industry in Holyrood. As part of this process we have established an excellent relationship with the Marine Institute and we will include local residents and businesses in the planning and development of this new industry.

Regional Recreation Master Plan

Council is a strong component of healthy living opportunities and in order to position Holyrood recreationally, the town has committed to take the lead (with a per capita investment from all towns) on the development of a Regional Recreation Master Plan. This plan will provide the Conception Bay Centre Region with a blue print to direct future operational and infrastructure investments in recreation, sport and leisure sectors.

Tract Consulting has been awarded the contract. Work is ongoing and should be completed by June 2013.

Recreation

This budget will continue our commitment to provide improved recreation and wellness opportunities for all Holyrood residents. Through our newly hired Recreation Director, the town will continue to work in partnership with our community groups, schools and committees to identify the recreational needs of our citizens.

In a 'phased in' approach we will be upgrading and enhancing our existing recreation infrastructure. We will also stay committed towards creating new infrastructure and opportunities for residents to enjoy. For 2013, we have committed to phase 1 of the Salmonier Line Community Playground Project, the Holy Cross Park Accessibility Project, and we will also be working towards the development of a new playground in the North Arm area of Holyrood. Holyrood will also be taking the lead on the Conception Bay Central Regional Recreation Master Plan. This is a cost shared agreement with all towns located in the CBC region. This plan will provide CBC communities with a 10 year plan to maximize the recreational opportunities in the region.

Community Events

Annual events such as the Squid Festival, Crystal Carnival and many other community events will again be supported by Council in the amount of \$9,000. The Town of Holyrood is working towards creating a new well balanced set of events throughout the year. This year our local Crystal Carnival has spread out over the course of the winter to accommodate all of Holyrood's winter events. This year Holyrood will be celebrating the 25th Annual Squid Festival. There will be lots of activities for all ages. Of course our famous beach Party will be back to entertain once again. In 2013, residents can expect a quality, diverse, and enjoyable array of community programs and events.

Beautification

The Town has increased the beautification budget, giving the beautification committee an opportunity to extend the floral arrangements in the center of town, and an opportunity to hire extra help with the planning and maintenance of flowers.

Holyrood Library

The Holyrood Library will continue to receive a grant of \$ 10,000. The Town will continue to provide building and property maintenance and improvements at no cost to the Library Committee.

Fiscal Services

Budget 2013 provides the opportunity for the town to borrow ½ million dollars to invest in infrastructure and other improvements.

These projects will be announced in the near future as final estimates and construction costs are

2013 Total Expenditures is \$2,500,874.

Council and staff are committed to continuing to review all areas of expenditures to ensure that the residents of Holyrood are continually receiving the highest possible value for their tax dollars.

Balanced Budget

Increased residential growth combined with prudent fiscal management, enables Council to balance our 2013 budget as required by Legislation.

Revenue \$ 2,500,874

Expenses \$ 2,500,874

Thank You