

January 5, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the St. John's Municipal Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4:30 p.m. today.

His Worship the Mayor presided.

There were present also Deputy Mayor Ellsworth; Councillors Hickman, Hann, Puddister, Galgay, Coombs, Hanlon and Collins

Regrets: Councillors Duff and Colbert

The Chief Commissioner and City Solicitor, the Associate Commissioner/Director of Corporate Services and City Clerk, the Associate Commissioner/Director of Engineering, the Director of Planning, and Manager, Corporate Secretariat were also in attendance.

Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda

SJMC2009-01-05/01R

It was decided on motion of Deputy Mayor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Hanlon: That the Agenda be adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

SJMC2009-01-05/02R

It was decided on motion of Councillor Galgay; seconded by Councillor Hickman: That the Minutes of the December 15th, 2008 meeting be adopted as presented.

Business Arising

Under business arising, Council considered written submissions from area residents as well as a submission from Cyril Fitzpatrick, Applicant for the Vehicle Impound Lot, Redmond's Road.

In addition, Council considered a memorandum dated December 17, 2008 from the Director of Planning regarding the application.

SJMC2009-01-05/03R

Pursuant to Notice of Motion, it was moved by Councillor Coombs that a decision of Council on November 17, 2008 allowing the establishment of a Towing and Vehicle Impound Lot located on Redmond's Road, be rescinded. The motion failed due to lack of a seconder.

His Worship the Mayor and Councillor Coombs expressed disappointment that members of Council were not willing to at least allow an open debate on the issue.

Fixed Day Garbage Collection (CD # R2008-11-24/10)

Under business arising, Council considered a memorandum dated December 19th, 2008 from Director of Public Works & Parks regarding the above noted. Council agreed to the status quo that the current rotating garbage collection schedule be continued for 2009.

Notices Published

1. A Discretionary Use Application has been submitted by Bell Aliant requesting permission to install an Outside Plant Interface (OPI) cabinet at the rear of the property of **Civic Number 1 Virginia Place**. The OPI is proposed to enhance telecommunications in the area. (Ward 1) (No objections received)

SJMC2009-01-05/04R

It was moved by Councillor Puddister; seconded by Councillor Hickman: That the application be approved.

The motion being put was unanimously carried.

2. A Discretionary Use Application has been submitted by Richard Norman for a proposed Home Occupation at **Civic Number 61 Burry Port Street**. The proposed use is for a Gift Basket Arranging Business, where gift baskets will be assembled on the premises, for sale in local retail outlets. The total proposed floor area for the business is 7.4 square metres. The applicant will be sole employee of the proposed business. There will be no clients visiting the site. There is currently one (1) on-site parking space provided for the business. (Ward 4) (No objections received.)

SJMC2009-01-05/05R

It was moved by Councillor Hanlon; seconded by Councillor Collins: That the application be approved.

The motion being put was unanimously carried.

Parks and Recreation Standing Committee Report dated October 31st, 2008.

Council considered the following Parks and Recreation Standing Committee Report dated October 31st, 2008:

Attendees: Councillor Shannie Duff, Chairperson
Deputy Mayor Ron Ellsworth
Councillor Gerry Colbert
Councillor Sandy Hickman
Ron Penney, Chief Commissioner/City Solicitor
Bob Bishop, Director of Finance & City Treasurer
Jill Brewer, Director of Recreation
Jim Clarke, Acting Director of Public Works & Parks
Heather Hickman, Manager of Community Development
Gord Tucker, Manager of the Division of Property Management
Jane Williams, Foreperson, Public Works & Parks
Karen Chafe, Recording Secretary

1. **Requests from Citizens to Dispose of City-owned Land**

The Acting Director of Public Works & Parks advised that his Department receives numerous requests from residents to purchase open space land owned by the City. The Department has been rejecting such requests, noting the need to maintain open space wherever possible. The Committee agreed with this plan of action and made the following recommendation:

That the City impose a moratorium on the disposal of open space property unless there are extenuating circumstances which merit the disposal of such. These requests would have to be reviewed on an individual basis by the Dept. of Public Works & Parks.

Councillor Shannie Duff
Chairperson

SJMC2009-01-05/06R

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Hickman: That the Committee's recommendation be approved.

The motion being put was unanimously carried.

Police and Traffic Committee Report dated December 10th, 2008

Council considered the following Police and Traffic Committee Report dated December 10th, 2008:

A meeting of the Police and Traffic Committee was held on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, at 12 noon in Conference Room A, 4th Floor, City Hall.

In attendance:

- Councillor Art Puddister, Chairperson
- Deputy Mayor Ron Ellsworth
- Councillor Shannie Duff
- Councillor Tom Hann
- Councillor Frank Galgay
- Councillor Debbie Hanlon
- Sgt. Paul Murphy, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
- Mr. Chris Whelan, St. John's Transportation Commission
- Mr. Peter Belbin, Downtown Development Commission
- Mr. Scott Cluney, Downtown Development Commission
- Mr. Bob LeDrew, Nfld. Carriers' Association
- Mr. Percy Rideout, Citizen Representative
- Mr. Robin King, Transportation Engineer
- Ms. Dawn Corner, Supervisor of Parking & Traffic
- Mr. Bill MacDonald, Supervisor of Traffic Signals
- Mr. Chris Pitcher, Supervisor of Parking Services
- Mr. Phil Hiscock, Operations Assistant – Streets Division
- Mr. Derm Layman, Foreperson – Streets Division
- Ms. Kelly Butler, Recording Secretary

Councillor Puddister called the meeting to order.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the following additions:

- a. Email from Shelley Parkhouse re: Tim Horton's Drive-Thru on Topsail Road
- b. Proposed Parking Restrictions for East White Hills Road
- c. Proposed Parking Changes for Circular Road – Molson Brewery
- d. Proposed Parking Restrictions for RCAF Road
- e. Proposed Snow Route Signage for Albro Lane

1. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the September 16, 2008, meeting were adopted as presented.

2. Speeding Countermeasure Policy

The Committee deferred consideration of this issue pending the results of a traffic study to be completed by staff.

3. Stavanger Drive @ Lerner Street – Request for a Crosswalk

The Committee deferred a decision on the above noted matter pending the results of a pedestrian study to be completed by staff in the spring.

4. Hamilton Avenue @ Shaw Street – Request for a Traffic Signal

The Committee deferred a decision on this matter pending the completion of a traffic study to be undertaken by staff once the current construction phase of the Harbour Sewer Interceptor Project is completed.

5. New Cove Road – Request for a Crosswalk in the Vicinity of Tunis Court

At the request of Councillor Hanlon, the Committee deferred a decision on the above noted matter to allow Councillor Hanlon an opportunity to review the matter further with staff, with a view to perhaps conducting another study.

6. Motorcycle Noise

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the City's Legal Department regarding the possibility of adopting a by-law similar to that of the State of Massachusetts' governing motorcycle noise.

Councillor Puddister noted that according to the City's Legal Department, the City has no jurisdiction in this matter. In this regard, he recommended that the Transportation Engineer, the Supervisor of Parking and Traffic, and Sgt. Murphy work on developing a position paper on the issue of dealing with motorcycle noise. The issue paper will be referred back to the Committee for its review and consideration. If the Committee is in agreement, then the position paper can be forwarded to Council with a recommendation that a public meeting be held.

The Committee endorsed Councillor Puddister's recommendation.

7. Petty Harbour Road @ Main Road – Request for a Traffic Signal

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that traffic study was completed for the above noted location, however, the warrant criteria was not met.

The Committee recommends that the status quo be maintained, and that a traffic signal not be installed at the intersection of Petty Harbour Road and Main Road.

8. Blackhead Road @ Linegar Avenue – Request for an All-Way Stop

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that a traffic count was completed for the above noted location, however, the warrant criteria was not met.

Deputy Mayor Ellsworth noted that there is a turn in the road coming into the intersection which can limit visibility. Speeding is also a factor. He indicated that he would like something to be done at this intersection as this is an area where children frequently cross the street to get to the school.

The Committee recommends that the status quo be maintained, and that the request for an all-way stop be denied. It is further recommended that the issue of speeding be referred to the RNC for enforcement.

9. Cornwall Avenue @ Cornwall Crescent – Request for an RA-5 Crossing to be Upgraded to a Red-Amber-Green Traffic Signal

The Committee considered a letter from June Battcock regarding the above noted matter. The Transportation Engineer advised that this crosswalk has been a problem in the past. The RA-5 flashing light assembly was installed in this area five years ago. Based on the complaint from Mrs. Battcock, staff reviewed the crosswalk, and found that the volume of pedestrians is low, therefore, upgrading of the device to a pedestrian activated red-amber-green signal is not warranted. The Transportation Engineer suggested that increased enforcement is required to address the problem of driver compliance.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the lack of compliance by drivers to amber lights and crosswalks. It was suggested that perhaps staff should investigate the possibility of upgrading all its RA-5 assemblies to pedestrian activated red-amber-green signals. The Supervisor of Traffic Signals noted that it may cost upwards of \$20,000 a unit to do the upgrades. In this regard, he agreed to provide the Committee with information on the number of RA-5 units in the City and the cost to upgrade them to red-amber-green pedestrian activated lights.

The Committee recommends that the status quo be maintained and that the request to upgrade the RA-5 flashing light assembly at the Cornwall Avenue/Cornwall Crescent intersection be denied. It is further recommended that the issue of driver compliance at this crosswalk be referred to the RNC for enforcement.

(Councillor Hann entered the meeting.)

10. Kings Bridge Road @ Winter Avenue – Complaint re: Lack of Driver Compliance

The Committee considered correspondence from Mr. Chris Flanagan regarding the above noted matter.

The Transportation Engineer advised that there is a high volume of traffic using this corridor, upwards of 20-25,000 vehicle trips per day. He requested that the Committee defer the matter to allow staff an opportunity to investigate the complaint and come up with a viable solution.

The Committee agreed to defer this matter pending further investigation by of possible solutions to address the crosswalk situation.

11. Frecker Drive – Request for Speed Limit Reduction to 40 km/hr

The Committee considered correspondence from Mr. Michael Halliday regarding the above noted matter.

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic noted that studies have shown that in areas where reduced speed limit signs have been posted, no significant change in the average speed of vehicles has occurred. Therefore, the benefit of posting this type of signage is negligible.

The Committee recommends that the status quo be maintained and the request for a reduced speed limit for Frecker Drive be denied. It is further recommended that the matter of speeding be referred to the RNC for enforcement.

12. Empire Avenue – Complaint re: Speeding

The Committee considered correspondence from Mr. Sean Charters regarding excessive speeds on Empire Avenue between Circular Road, Kings Bridge Road and Rennies Mill Road.

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic noted that the City receives numerous complaints each year regarding speeding. Enforcement of speed limits falls under the jurisdiction of the RNC.

The Committee recommends that the speeding complaint be referred to the RNC for enforcement.

13. Middle Pond – Request for Speed Limit Reduction

The Committee considered correspondence from an area resident regarding speeding in the area of Middle Pond and vehicles making illegal u-turns near the Kilbride overpass to access Pitts Memorial Drive eastbound.

Discussion ensued regarding the u-turn situation, with it being suggested that the City should consider reconfiguring the access to the Pitts Memorial Drive on-ramp for eastbound traffic. The Transportation Engineer indicated that he could investigate the matter and prepare a report for the Committee's consideration.

The Committee recommends that that issue of speeding in the area of Middle Pond be referred to the RNC for enforcement and that staff investigate the possibility of reconfiguring the access to the Pitts Memorial on-ramp for eastbound traffic.

14. Quidi Vidi Village Road – Speeding and Traffic Issues

The Committee considered a memorandum dated November 21, 2008, from Councillor Frank Galgay regarding concerns of residents of Quidi Vidi Village pertaining to traffic volumes and speeding.

The Transportation Engineer advised that staff conducted traffic counts in the area in 2006 and 2008, which indicated that traffic volumes and speeds are lower now than they were in 2006. He indicated that staff would undertake a license plate survey in order to determine where the traffic going through the Village is originating. He asked that the

matter be deferred to allow staff to undertake the license plate survey and to prepare a report for the Committee's review and consideration.

The Committee recommends that a decision on the matter be deferred to allow Traffic Division Staff an opportunity to undertake a license plate survey and prepare a report for the Committee's consideration.

15. University Avenue – Request for Removal of Bus Stopping Area

The Committee considered correspondence from Ms. Anne Marie Conway, Principal, St. Andrew's School, regarding the above noted matter.

The Committee recommends that Council approve the removal of the Bus Stop Only area and the installation of 15 minute parking adjacent to St. Andrew's School.

16. Duckworth Street – Request for a Loading Zone

The Committee considered correspondence from Ms. Julia Bloomquist, The Sprout Restaurant, regarding the above noted matter.

Mr. Belbin noted that the loading zone in front of the former CBC building is no longer needed, and requested that consideration be given to removing it.

The Committee recommends that two parking meters be removed from Duckworth Street in order to accommodate the installation of a loading zone in the vicinity of the Sprout Restaurant, with the location to be determined by staff.

17. Old Petty Harbour Road – Request for No Parking Anytime Restriction

The Committee considered correspondence from Mr. Joseph Mackey regarding the above noted matter.

The Committee recommends that a decision on the request be deferred to allow staff the opportunity to survey area residents regarding the installation of a No Parking Anytime restriction, with the results to be referred back to the Committee for consideration and decision.

18. Harding Road – Request from Streets Division for No Parking Anytime Restriction

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that the Streets Department is requesting the installation of a No Parking Anytime restriction due to operational constraints related to snowclearing activities.

The Committee recommends that Snow Route signage be erected on the north side of Harding Road.

19. Audible Pedestrian Signals

The Transportation Engineer advised that the Traffic Division has received a couple of requests from the Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities to install audible signals at different locations for visually impaired persons. The two areas under consideration are Torbay Road @ McDonald Drive and Torbay Road @ Elizabeth Avenue. He noted that it may be necessary to develop a set of criteria by which to evaluate such requests in the future.

Discussion ensued with it being noted that this is a very important issue, and perhaps the City should look at upgrading all of its pedestrian crossings to include audible signals over time, perhaps upgrading one or two per year. In this regard, it was noted that the City would have to make provision in its budget to undertake such a mandate. The average cost to equip pedestrian crossings with audible signals is approximately \$10,000. It was also suggested that if the City is going to upgrade its pedestrian crossings, then it should concentrate on heavy pedestrian traffic areas, such as the downtown, first.

The Committee directed staff to prepare a report outlining recommendations and estimated costs for the installation of audible signals in high pedestrian traffic areas.

20. Street Cleaning Tickets

The Transportation Engineer advised that a couple of issues have arisen regarding the issuance of street cleaning tickets in the downtown. The first issue involves the issuance of street cleaning tickets in commercial areas of the downtown, like Water Street and Duckworth Street. People oftentimes leave their vehicles parked overnight unaware of the street cleaning schedule because they live outside the downtown. Conversely, there are downtown livyers who are aware of the street cleaning schedule, but who do not move their cars, opting to get a ticket two or three times a year instead.

The Supervisor of Parking Services noted that he had discussed the matter with the Manager of Streets and Parks late last week and the matter was also raised at the Public Works Committee meeting as well. He suggested that the matter be deferred to allow staff an opportunity to come up with some recommendations to address the problem.

The Committee deferred a decision on this matter to allow staff an opportunity to review the matter and prepare some recommendations to address the problem for the Committee's consideration.

OTHER BUSINESS:

21. Proposed Parking Changes for Circular Road – Molson Brewery

The Committee considered a request from Molson Brewery regarding proposed changes to the Residential Permit Parking area on Circular Road. The brewery has had to increase the size of its delivery trucks, which is causing manoeuvrability problems for drivers when residents are parked opposite the loading doors in the residential parking area. The situation will only be exacerbated in the winter. In order to alleviate the problem, the

brewery is proposing that the area in front of their building be changed to Residential Permit Parking and the area opposite the loading doors be change to a No Parking area. The Operation Assistant noted that this proposed change would also benefit snowclearing operations as well.

The Committee recommends that the area in front of the Molson Brewery on Circular Road be changed to a Residential Permit Parking area and the current Residential Parking area on Circular Road be changed to a No Parking Anytime zone.

22. Proposed Parking Restrictions for East White Hills Road

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that a crosswalk was recently installed on East White Hills Road in the vicinity of the Country Ribbon facility. However, staff have received complaints that there is low pedestrian visibility at the crosswalk because of cars parked on the street. To address this problem, Traffic Division staff installed a No Stopping restriction on one side of the road. However, staff are now recommending that the No Stopping restriction be extended to include the opposite side of East White Hills Road.

The Committee recommends that the current No Stopping restriction on East White Hills Road be extended to include the area opposite the Country Ribbon building.

23. Tim Horton's Drive-Thru on Topsail Road

The Committee considered correspondence from Ms. Shelley Parkhouse regarding the Tim Horton's drive-thru at the Esso Station on Topsail Road, where traffic is often backed up into the driving lanes creating a safety hazard for other drivers.

The Transportation Engineer advised that the City has received numerous complaints of this nature for other Tim Horton's locations around the City. In order to address the problem, the City has asked Tim Horton's to increase the capacity of their stacking lanes, however, it appears that even locations with large stacking lanes are still experiencing problems. He noted that he had spoken to the Operations Manager for Tim Horton's about the issue, and he attributes the problem to lower service levels due to a shortage in the labour force.

The Committee discussed the matter including a number of alternatives such as banning drive-thrus, limiting drive thru service to coffee only, having incentives for walk-in business, etc. The Transportation Engineer suggested that representatives from Tim Horton's be invited to discuss the matter at the Committee's next meeting.

The Committee recommends that representatives from Tim Horton's be invited to the Committee's next meeting to discuss the issue with a view to addressing the drive thru traffic problems.

24. Proposed Snow Route Signage for Albro Lane

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that during the winter, people were unable to get through Albro Lane because of cars parked on the side of the road.

The Committee recommends that Snow Route signage be installed on the west side of Albro Lane.

25. Proposed Parking Restrictions for RCAF Road

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that during the summer there was a special event at the Provincial Recreation Complex off RCAF Road. Vehicles were parked on both sides of RCAF Road, making it impossible for an emergency vehicle to get on or off the street. This is especially important as this road is the access to air ambulance facility.

The Committee recommends that a No Parking Anytime restriction be installed on both sides of RCAF Road.

26. Request for a Loading Zone – St. John’s Lane

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that last summer a temporary loading zone was installed on St. John’s Lane due to the ongoing construction with the Harbour Sewer Interceptor project. A number of businesses in the downtown have asked to have the loading zone made permanent because it worked so well during the summer. She noted, however, that it may be necessary to make the street one-way in order to accommodate the loading zone permanently.

The Committee agreed to defer a decision on this matter to allow Traffic Division staff the opportunity to investigate the logistics of installing a permanent loading zone on St. John’s Lane.

27. Request to relocate Loading Zone – Duckworth Street (Tim Horton’s)

The Supervisor of Parking and Traffic advised that currently there is a single parking space on the corner of Duckworth Street/Prescott Street in front of the Tim Horton’s and a loading zone beyond that. It has been suggested that the loading zone be switched with the single parking space, which would make it easier for large vehicles to access the loading zone.

The Committee agreed to defer a decision on this matter to allow Traffic Division staff an opportunity to investigate further and to speak with the manager of the Tim Horton’s outlet.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Councillor Art Puddister
Chairperson

SJMC2009-01-05/07R

**It was moved by Councillor Puddister; seconded by Councillor Hanlon:
That the Committee's recommendations be approved.**

Regarding Item #15 – Council agreed to refer the matter back to the Committee for further consideration.

Regarding Item #23 –

SJMC2009-01-05/08R

**It was moved by Councillor Coombs; seconded by Councillor Puddister:
That a moratorium be placed on all drive-thrus that run onto roadways
that could impact pedestrians and motorists until the traffic concerns
relating to vehicles accessing and egressing the operations onto the public
roadways can be addressed.**

Members of Council expressed concern that traffic spilling onto busy roadways is causing safety problems and delaying traffic. Council discussed possible solutions as noted by the Committee such as “express coffee only” lanes, etc. They noted applications can be looked at on an individual basis and should be approved only when the City has assurances from the applicant that traffic will not be impacted by the operation, noting that the Tim Horton's located on Kenmount Road could be used as a template. Deputy Mayor Ellsworth and other members of Council noted that Tim Horton's is a good corporate citizen and it is not Council's intent to discredit Tim Horton's. Members of Council supported the committee's recommendation to meet with representatives from Tim Horton's to discuss the issue and asked that the Chief Commissioner and City Solicitor arrange the meeting as soon as possible.

Following discussion, the motion being put was unanimously carried.

**The main motion being put including deferral of Item #15, was
unanimously carried.**

Cruise Committee Report dated December 16, 2008

Council considered the following Cruise Committee Report dated December 16, 2008:
A meeting of the Cruise Committee (staff component only) was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2008, at 12 noon in Conference Room B, 4th Floor, City Hall.

In Attendance: Kevin Gushue, Acting Chairperson, Manager of Tourism Development
Dawn Corner, Supervisor of Parking and Traffic
Deborah Cook, Tourism Development Coordinator
Todd Lehr, Tourism Program Analyst
Colin Hepditch, Tourism Co-op Student
Kelly Butler, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order.

2008 Cruise Activity

Ms. Cook provided an overview of the cruise activity for 2008, noting that the port received 18 cruise ships, with an estimated 15,000 passengers and 7,000 crew, representing a 74% increase in passenger numbers from 2007. There were 21 ships scheduled to visit port, however, three were cancelled for various reasons. Several ships made their maiden visit to port, including the Minerva, the Bremen, the Aida Aura, the Eurodam, the Prince Albert, and the Norwegian Jewel.

Cruise Ship Servicing

The Committee discussed the preparations that were made to service the visiting cruise ships, with it being noted that the parking and traffic plans worked well, and the welcome programs ran smoothly. Ms. Cook noted that the Cruise St. John's programming was done in conjunction with its many partners, including the Downtown Development Commission, the Provincial Department of Tourism, the St. John's Port Authority, and the Cruise Association of Newfoundland and Labrador. She noted that the partners seem to be pleased with the response that the programs received from the cruise lines and the passengers. Staff are currently working on the programs for 2009. In this regard, she advised the City is trying to get the arts community more involved in the cruise ship program. Staff will be working with the City's Arts and Culture Coordinator to develop a Call for Proposals to garner suggestions/ideas for new programming.

Ms. Cook also noted that the 2008 budget for the welcome programs was approximately \$22,000 as compared with \$16,000 in 2007. It is anticipated that the budget for 2009 will be approximately \$35,000. The Committee also discussed the changes to Transport Canada's security requirements that were recently implemented by the Port, with it being noted that any further changes in the security plan could mean that the welcome programs may have to be scaled back

The Committee also made the following comments on the other aspects of the cruise ship servicing program:

- The new traffic plan set up seems to be working well for all parties involved. There were a few minor hiccups early in the season, but they were ironed out fairly quickly.
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- There was also some confusion with the private operators, showing up late and not following the rules for queuing. It was noted that many of the tour operators didn't advise if they would be taking part in cruise visits and then would show up anyway, which seemed to contribute to the confusion. It was suggested that perhaps the operators should be given an information package and a cruise ship schedule prior to

the start of the season, and be advised that if they don't call ahead to confirm they need space, then no space will be available to them if they show up at dockside.

- . The Taxi Coordinator, Gerry Smith, has been invaluable in helping to organize the taxis for each cruise ship visit. It was suggested that Mr. Smith be invited to participate in the ambassador training sessions to explain what he does and how the ambassadors can be of help to him.
- . Tour buses – there was some difficulty coordinating tour buses when the cruise lines hired two different companies to provide the tours. It was suggested that better communication might be necessary between the tour companies and the cruise lines so that everyone is aware of the order in which the tour passengers will be picked up from the dock.
- . Due to the tightening of security at the Port, the Freedom of the Seaport ceremony for the inaugural ship had to be held on Harbour Drive. Fortunately, it was a Sunday, and the street was able to be closed off for several hours with very little impact on traffic. It was noted that the street closure would not likely be able to be accommodated during a weekday.
- . Parks Canada were a wonderful addition to the program this year, displaying the welcome signal flags on Cabot Tower and performing the farewell musket salute for departing cruise ships. It was also noted that Parks Canada staff were also very helpful in controlling and directing the bus traffic in and out of their parking lots.

2009 Cruise Activity

The Port will be expecting 25 cruise ship visits in 2009, an increase from 18 in 2008, with an estimated 32,000 visitors, up from 22,000 in 2008. The first cruise ship visit of 2009 is planned for May, with the last visit scheduled for late October. There will be a number of cruise ships making their inaugural visits to the Port including the Tahitian Princess, the Emerald Princess, the Queen Victoria, and the Balmoral. Staff will be working on alternatives for the Freedom of the Seaport ceremony for the inaugural visits taking place in 2009, in the event that Harbour Drive is unable to be closed to accommodate the ceremony.

Staff will be reviewing the Ambassador Program to determine if more volunteers are needed. There are currently 40 volunteers taking part in the program. The Committee discussed the role of the ambassadors, noting that they are encouraged to integrate themselves throughout the downtown during visits, however, many are reluctant to do so and prefer to stay at dockside. Ms. Cook indicated that when the new co-op student starts in January, the current list of ambassadors will be contacted to determine how many will be returning for 2009. Based on the responses, staff can then decide if it will be necessary to try and recruit new volunteers.

2009 Marketing Plan

The Committee reviewed as information the Executive Summary of the Cruise Marketing/Development/Service Initiatives for 2009.

Cruise St. John's sales calls for North American cruise lines have been tentatively scheduled for January 25th -31st, and September 8th – 15th or 18th – 25th for European cruise lines, depending on the travel budget. It was also noted that the Seatrade Miami conference and trade show is slated for March 16th – 19th at the Miami Beach Convention Centre.

Atlantic Gateway Initiative

Ms. Cook advised that the Atlantic Canada Cruise Association (ACCA) has approached the City about becoming a financial contributor on a study that is being done on the Atlantic Gateway Initiative. The cost is \$1,500 to become a participant in the study. The City, in turn, contacted the St. John's Port Authority about becoming a co-participant and cost-sharing the study fee. The Port has agreed to the request, and they will be contributing 50% of the cost. Therefore, the City will contribute \$750 and the Port will contribute \$750 towards the cost of the study.

The study is of major benefit to the City as the Port of St. John's is one of the major ports in Atlantic Canada. Also, by becoming a study participant, the City and Port will have direct input into the study process as it will have a representative on the committee that will develop the Terms of Reference for the study and will work on the consultant on the project.

The Committee recommends that the City become a participant in the Atlantic Gateway Initiative Study at a cost of \$1,500, with the City to pay 50% of the cost and the St. John's Port Authority to pay the remaining 50% (\$750 each).

Atlantic Canada Cruise Authority Membership

The Committee considered an email from Jackie Chow, Port of Corner Brook and Chairperson of the Atlantic Canada Cruise Association outlining the membership benefits for members of the ACCA.

Mr. Gushue advised that staff are not recommending that the City become a member of ACCA. He noted that the Cruise Association of Newfoundland and Labrador is a member of ACCA, and the City will be sufficiently represented by them. In addition, he also noted that the cost to join does not represent a good return on investment with respect to the benefits of membership.

The Committee recommends that the City not join the Atlantic Canada Cruise Association (ACCA).

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the full Cruise Committee will take place on January 14th.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Kevin Gushue, Acting Chairperson
Manager of Tourism Development

SJMC2009-01-05/09R

It was moved by Councillor Hickman; seconded by Councillor Hann: That the report be adopted as presented.

The motion being put was unanimously carried.

Development Permits List

Council considered as information the following Development Permit List for the period December 12th, 2008 to January 1st, 2009:

**DEVELOPMENT PERMITS LIST
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
FOR THE PERIOD OF December 12, 2008 To January 1, 2009**

Code	Applicant	Application	Location	Ward	Development Officer's Decision	Date
COM	Hennebury Engineering Limited	Parking Lot	610 Water Street Former Esso site	2	Approved	08-12-19
RES	Floyd and Mary Cole	Building Lot	Back Line	5	Approved	08-12-19
RES	Powder House Hill Investments Limited	Fort William Condominiums	Water Street East Former Standard Manufacturing Site	2	Approved	08-12-19
RES	Daphne Ward	Proposed Subdivide for Residential lot	527 Main Road	5	Rejected, proposed lot within 15m flood plain buffer	08-12-22
COM	Les Ralph	Proposed Change of Use to Tavern	516 Topsail Road	3	Rejected, contrary to Section 10.17.1.	08-12-22

* Code Classification:
RES- Residential
COM- Commercial
AG - Agriculture

INST - Institutional
IND - Industrial

** This list is issued for information purposes only. Applicants have been advised in writing of the Development Officer's decision and of their right to appeal any decision to the St. John's Local Board of Appeal.

**Gerard Doran
Development Officer
Department of Planning**

Building Permits List

SJMC2009-01-05/10R

It was decided on motion of Councillor Collins; seconded by Councillor Hann: That the recommendation of the Director of Building and Property Management with respect to the following Building Permits List be approved:

2008/12/31

Permits List

CLASS: COMMERCIAL

PETER XIDOS	657 TOPSAIL RD	CO RETAIL STORE
AVALON SPORTS INCORPORATED	BOULEVARD	NC CLUB
AT HOME FURNISHINGS	193 KENMOUNT RD, AT HOME FURN	SN RETAIL STORE
ABC SIDING & WINDOWS INC.	1 MARCONI PL - ABC SIDING	MS RETAIL STORE
DARRELL TUCKER	36 PEARSON ST	MS SERVICE SHOP
SECOND PAGE BOOK STORE	36 PEARSON ST	MS RETAIL STORE
HICKMAN MOTORS LIMITED	20 PEET ST	MS CAR SALES LOT
COLOR YOUR WORLD	40 ROPEWALK LANE	MS RETAIL STORE
THE BUSINESS DEPOT LTD.	34 STAVANGER DR- BUSINESS DEPO	MS RETAIL STORE
THE BUSINESS DEPOT LTD.	34 STAVANGER DR - BUSINESS DEP	MS RETAIL STORE
PIPERS DEPARTMENT STORES	681 TOPSAIL RD	MS RETAIL STORE
PIPER'S DEPARTMENT STORES	272-276 TORBAY RD	MS RETAIL STORE
NORTH ATLANTIC REFINING LTD.	280 TORBAY RD	MS RETAIL STORE
COLOR YOUR WORLD	464 TORBAY RD - COLOR YOUR WOR	MS RETAIL STORE
THE NAIL SHOP	145 TORBAY RD-TORBAY RD MALL	MS SERVICE SHOP
JOSADA HAIR STUDIO	TORBAY ROAD-TORBAY RD MALL	MS SERVICE SHOP
CASH CITY	TORBAY ROAD-TORBAY RD MALL	MS RETAIL STORE
FRENCHY'S CLOTHING STORE LTD.	TORBAY ROAD-TORBAY RD MALL	MS RETAIL STORE
FRENCHY'S CLOTHING STORE LTD.	TORBAY ROAD-TORBAY RD MALL	MS RETAIL STORE
PETER'S PIZZA	411 TORBAY RD	MS RESTAURANT
PETER'S PIZZA & GOLDEN FOODS	411 TORBAY RD	MS RESTAURANT
NORTH ATLANTIC REFINING LTD.	694 WATER ST	MS SERVICE STATION
NORTH ATLANTIC REFINING LTD.	694 WATER ST, ORANGESTORE	SN CONVENIENCE STORE
ULTRAMAR LTD	102 BAY BULLS RD	RN SERVICE STATION
ULTRAMAR LTD	36 BLACKMARSH RD	RN SERVICE STATION
ULTRAMAR LTD	42 ELIZABETH AVE	RN SERVICE STATION
ULTRAMAR LTD	108 GEORGE ST W	RN SERVICE STATION
ULTRAMAR LTD	52 KENMOUNT RD	RN SERVICE STATION
STAIRWAYS BY DESIGN	18-28 MEWS PL STAIRWAYS BY DSN	CO RETAIL STORE
HOLDEN VENTURES INC.	243ABROOKFIELD RD	NC FENCE
PAR HOLDINGS LIMITED	120 LEMARCHANT RD, 2ND FLR	CR OFFICE
PRINCIPAL HOLDINGS LTD.	220 KENMOUNT RD	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
AURORA ENERGY	136-140 WATER ST	TI OFFICE
QTI INVESTMENTS	430 WATER ST	RN OFFICE
CLARE BARRY	173 ELIZABETH AVE	CR CLINIC
THAI INA BOX INC.	215 WATER ST,2ND LEVEL F1B	CR EATING ESTABLISHMENT

THIS WEEK \$ 177,300.00
TO DATE \$ 55,610,694.00

CLASS: INDUSTRIAL

THIS WEEK \$.00

TO DATE \$ 2,685,000.00

CLASS: GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTIONAL

WESLEY UNITED CHURCH	101 PATRICK ST	RN CHURCH
		THIS WEEK \$ 20,000.00
		TO DATE \$ 43,140,635.00

CLASS: RESIDENTIAL

GREG PIKE	269 BLACKMARSH RD	NC PATIO DECK
NEW VICTORIAN HOMES	4 BLUE PUTTEE DR	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
ALFRED/MARY WHIFFEN	BRAD GUSHUE CRES, LOT 5-144	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
SCOTT MERCER	12 CARIBOU PLACE, LOT 6	NC SINGLE DETACHED&SUB.APT
CHARACTER BUILDERS LTD.	188 DOYLE'S RD	NC SINGLE DETACHED&SUB.APT
GLENN SNOW	305 EMPIRE AVE	NC PATIO DECK
VINYL WORKS LIMITED	35-37 GEAR ST	NC PATIO DECK
MANDY WOODLAND & GORDAN NASH	145 GREEN ACRE DR	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
PETER LAING	16 HOPEDALE CRES	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
JODY & CHANTAL DODGE	HOWLETT'S LINE	NC SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
SULLIVAN CONTRACTING	7 JAMIE KORAB ST	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
GIBRALTAR DEVELOPMENT	85 JULIEANN PL, LOT 134	NC SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
FRANK FOLEY	87 JULIEANN PL - LOT 135	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
GIBRALTER DEVELOPMENT	3 KATIE PL, LOT 145	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
J & P CONTRACTING	18 LIONS RD, LOT 14	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
J & P CONTRACTING	20 LIONS RD, LOT 15	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
CARDINAL HOMES LIMITED	28 LIONS RD - LOT 19	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
PATRICK CLARKE	24 MAIN RD	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
JUDY BRODERICK	82 MAIN RD	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
CHRISTOPHER & BARBARA DAWSON	17 MELROSE PL	NC PATIO DECK
ELIZABETH RUMBOLT	49 MOSS HEATHER DR	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
COLIN MOSS	AIRPORT HEIGHTS DR - LOT 305	NC FENCE
SHAWN ROWE	41 SGT. CRAIG GILLAM AVE-LOT25	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
REARDON CONSTRUCTION & DEV LTD	3 SPRUCEDALE DRIVE, LOT 159	NC SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
BOB GRIFFIN	86 SPRINGDALE ST	CO HOME OFFICE
DON REARDON	76 HOLBROOK AVE	CR SUBSIDIARY APARTMENT
BEVERLEY GRACE-THORNTON	1 CAIRO ST	EX SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
BRAD HANCOCK/DARLENE BEUMORE	40 COWAN AVENUE	EX SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
GREGORY W. P. BUTLER	32 LESLIE ST	EX SINGLE DETACHED&SUB.APT
HARRY CHAFE	254-256 MAIN RD	EX SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
JEANNE LEONARD	30 ST. MICHAEL'S AVE	EX SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
GRAHAM LETTO	6 TURNBERRY ST	EX SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
ERIC ADEY	10 ALBANY PL	RN SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
CHRISTOPHER & KAREN O'NEILL	10 BISHOP'S LINE	RN SINGLE DETACHED WELLING
GREGORY SUTHERLAND	124 BOND ST	RN SEMI-DETACHED DWELLING
SCOTT PARSONS	33 BROWNRIFFG PL	RN SINGLE DETACHED SUB.APT
ELAINE MITCHELL	90 CIRCULAR RD	RN TOWNHOUSING
NFLD & LAB HOUSING CORP	8 GEAR ST	RN TOWNHOUSING
ANNE & RICHARD GOUGH	17 GRIEVE ST	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
SULLIVAN CONTRACTING	7 JAMIE KORAB ST	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
MERVYN & JUDITH MCINTYRE	121 MERRYMEETING RD	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
TERRY & TINA BRACE	29 MYRICK PL	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
NFLD & LABRADOR HOUSING CORP.	6 POWER ST	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
JEANNE LEONARD	30 ST. MICHAEL'S AVE	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
GERALD POWER	53 STAMP'S LANE	RN SINGLE DETACHED&SUB.APT
NFLD & LABRADOR HOUSING CORP.	80 WATSON ST	RN TOWNHOUSING
JACQUES WHITFORD	59 LIME ST	SW SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING

THIS WEEK \$ 2,730,459.00
TO DATE \$147,883,364.00

CLASS: DEMOLITION

ARTHUR WALSH	27 MOSS HEATHER DR	DM ACCESSORY BUILDING
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FORT MANAGEMENT LTD.

136-140 WATER ST

DM OFFICE

THIS WEEK \$ 20,000.00
TO DATE \$ 1,818,400.00

THIS WEEK'S TOTAL: \$ 2,947,759.00

TOTAL YEAR TO DATE: \$251,138,093.00

REPAIR PERMITS ISSUED: 2008/12/11 TO 2008/12/31 \$ 42,400.00
2007/12/13 TO 2008/12/31 \$ 3,633,660.00 YTD

LEGEND

CO	CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY	MS	MOBILE SIGN
CR	CHNG OF OCC/RENOVTNS	SN	SIGN
EX	EXTENSION	TI	TENANT IMPROVEMENTS
NC	NEW CONSTRUCTION	CC	CHIMNEY CONSTRUCTION
OC	OCCUPANT CHANGE	DV	DEVELOPMENT FILE
RN	RENOVATIONS	DM	DEMOLITION
SW	SITE WORK		

Payrolls and Accounts

SJMC2009-01-05/11R

It was decided on motion of Councillor Collins; seconded by Councillor Hann: That the following Payrolls and Accounts for the week ending January 1st, 2009:

**Weekly Payment Vouchers
For The
Three Weeks Ending January 1, 2009**

PAYROLL

Week 1 Public Works	
Wk. Ending Dec. 20/08	\$ 367,874.17
Wk. Ending Dec 27/08	\$ 419,518.58
 Bi-Weekly 2 Amalgamation	
Wk. Ending Dec. 23/08	\$ 473,716.77
 Bi-Weekly 1 Management	
Wk. Ending Dec. 27/08	\$ 575,723.39
 Bi-Weekly 3 Administration	
Wk. Ending Dec. 27/08	\$ 548,432.05
 Bi-Weekly Casual Recreation	
Wk. Ending Dec. 27/08	\$ 5,081.95

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Cheque No. 141117 - 141668	\$8,952,435.55
Total:	\$11,342,782.46

Notice of Motion

Councillor Collins gave the following Notice of Motion:

TAKE NOTICE that I will at the next Regular Meeting of the St. John’s Municipal Council move to enact an amendment to the St. John’s Electrical By-Law so as to adopt the 2009 Canadian Electrical Code.

Councillor Coombs gave the following Notice of Motion:

TAKE NOTICE that I will at the next regular meeting of Council move to enact an amendment to Section 7 of the St. John’s Snow Removal Regulations so as to remove the stipulation that snow or ice deposited upon a street or sidewalk must create a safety hazard in order to create an offence.

Assessment Rates – 2009

Council considered a memorandum dated December 17th, 2008 from the Associate Commissioner/Director of Engineering regarding the above noted.

SJMC2009-01-05/12R

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That the following Assessment Rates for 2009 be approved:

	<u>Assessment Rates for 2009</u>
Watermain	\$ 189.00/m
Sanitary Sewer	\$ 172.00/m
Storm Sewer	\$ 112.00/m
Water Service	\$1,231.00 EA
Sanitary Service	\$1,268.00 EA
Storm Service	\$1,268.00 EA
Commercial Water Service	\$4,658.00 EA
Commercial Sanitary Service	\$2,250.00 EA
Commercial Storm Service	\$2,061.00 EA
Street Improvement	\$ 101.00/m
New Street	\$ 427.00/m
Sidewalk	\$ 24.00/m
Rural Street Upgrading	\$ 86.00/m

The motion being put was unanimously approved.

Travel Authorization – Councillor Galgay

SJMC2009-01-05/13R

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That travel by Councillor Galgay to attend AGM of the FCM in Whistler, British Columbia, June 5th to 8th, 2009, be approved.

The motion being put was unanimously carried.

Phone Polls

SJMC2009-01-05/14R

It was moved by Councillor Puddister; seconded by Councillor Galgay: That the following phone polls be ratified:

- a. **Travel Authorization for the Mayor and Chief Commissioner to attend the last reunion of the HMS Newfoundland in England in April 24 to 27, 2009.**
- b. **Tender for Replication of Beaumont Hamel Plaque (Awarded to Morgan Sculpture in the amount of \$199,900.)**

The motion being put was unanimously carried.

(Councillor Hann left the meeting)

January 2009 Economic Update

Council considered the January 2009 Economic Update.

Deputy Mayor Ellsworth referenced the City Building Permits (December 15, 2008) as outlined in the report, with residential permits for 2007 totalling \$156,010,145 and for 2008 totalling \$145,152,905. He asked that staff provide a comparison of the housing starts reflected in those figures.

Notice to Motorists – On-Street Parking Ban

Council considered the Notice to Motorists regarding the On-Street Parking Ban. The hours during which on-street parking is prohibited are 12:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

Petitions

Councillor Coombs tabled a petition the prayer of which reads as follows:

Re: City Council's recent approval (November 17, 2008) to allow a 180 vehicle impound and towing yard on Mr. Fitzpatrick's property located on Redmond's Road, St. John's.

Be it resolved that we, the residents and land owners within the immediate area of this yard, are requesting that Council make a motion to rescind its approval to this very unpopular and hazardous venture for this area.

As we are all aware, this application in its various forms has been rejected by Council four times (one on appeal) in the past 4 years. It is amazing that only 6 to 8 months ago this same proposal was turned down due to the problem it would create in the area. While these same problems still exist, the Council has taken a 180 degree change to approve the impound yard.

We would like to remind Council that its long range vision, as stated by Council and the Appeal Board, for the Georges Pond Road and surrounding area is for R1 residential use that fits the overall development plan for the Cowan Heights Area. Further, there is a development proposal for 120 lot subdivision fronting along Georges Pond Road which will create nearly half a million tax dollars to the City. Unfortunately, this impound operation will have a detrimental effect on this project and the type of homes to be built, thus reducing the tax dollars to the City.

In addition, we as residents are very aware that such an unsecured impound yard will become a haven for vandals thereby increasing the risk for criminal activity in the area, increase in noise and disturbance, possible fires to these unattended vehicles causing a potential threat to the whole area. Further, the potential environmental hazards from leaking oil and gas from these vehicles could pose a real problem to homeowners wells and to ponds in the area.

In summary, we feel that Council has downgraded this residential neighbourhood by making this decision and has not fully thought out the entire ramifications that this yard will create. In addition, while not to question Mr. Fitzpatrick's integrity, we wonder why the need for 180 vehicles which is well beyond the needs for a small auto body shop on Blackmarsh Road. It would appear that such a volume of vehicles is more suited to an auction house enterprise which he has asked for but was turned down.

We are really disappointed in Council's approval and we do hope that a reversal of its decision can be done for the well being of the entire area.

Councillor Coombs questioned whether the Redmond's Road application for a Towing and Vehicle Impound Yard by Mr. Cyril Fitzpatrick was discussed as Council's private meeting on November 17, 2008, and asked that staff follow-up on the matter.

Councillor Galgay

Councillor Galgay asked the status of Council's request for a meeting on the Streamlining of Council Meetings and was advised that the City Clerk is in the process of arranging a meeting within the next week to ten days.

Councillor Puddister

Councillor Puddister reminded residents that the Christmas tree drop off locations for recycling are The Boulevard and Bowring Park.

Deputy Mayor Ellsworth

Deputy Mayor Ellsworth reminded residents that Evergreen Recycling is also offering a pickup service as previously mentioned by him.

Councillor Hickman

Councillor Hickman asked that staff look at finding solutions that might enhance safety on large intersections within the City, particularly Prince Phillip Parkway and Columbus Drive.

Deputy Mayor Ellsworth

Deputy Mayor Ellsworth noted he along with Councillors Galgay, Hann and Collins met, on behalf of the City, with Mr. Layton, NDP Federal Party Leader and Mr. Jack Harris, Member of Parliament, St. John's East, during their December meeting in the St. John's. He tabled a document titled "A Policy Accord to Address the Present Economic Crisis", and asked that it be made available to all members of Council.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK