

**REGION OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY  
REGULAR COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014  
9:00 A.M**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Christopher Clarke, Chair  
Councillor Darlene Norman  
Councillor Susan MacLeod  
Councillor Bruce Inglis  
Councillor Brian Fralic  
Councillor Raymond Fiske  
Councillor Jack Fancy  
Councillor Peter Waterman  
Kathleen Rafuse, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance  
Bobbi Jo Goulden, Recording / Management Secretary

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2.0 CHANGES / APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor MacLeod that the Agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**3.0 PRESENTATION(S):**

There were no presentations at this meeting.

**4.0 TABLING OF PETITIONS:**

There were no petitions to come before this meeting.

**5.0 PUBLIC QUESTION / COMMENT SESSION:**

**Lauren McKiel  
24 Pleasant Avenue  
Mount Pleasant**

Mr. McKiel requested a copy of the lease for the Town Hall building.

Mayor Clarke advised that he will provide one to him following the meeting.

**Bill Cox  
121 Bog Road  
White Point**

Mr. Cox expressed concern over the request of \$10,000 for the Hank Snow 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. He thinks that it is a large sum of money for a one-time weekend event and advised that more groups will be requesting this excessive amount of money if the request is granted.

**Leon Robertson  
45 College Street  
Liverpool**

Mr. Robertson requested that more information be provided when discussing item 10.1 – Region 6 Solid Waste Management 2014/2015 Budget. He asked why the Region of Queens need to be a part of this group.

**6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

6.1 Council Minutes – January 28, 2014

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor Norman:

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on January 28, 2014, be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**7.0 DANGEROUS OR UNSIGHTLY PREMISES:**

There were no Dangerous or Unsightly Premises issues discussed at this meeting.

**8.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

8.1 Explore Queens Guide 2014

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor Inglis:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality grants pre-budget approval for the Economic Development Department's investment in the 2014 Explore Queens Guide at a cost of \$3500.00 + HST from the Brochure Update and Productions line in the 2014/15 Budget.

Jill Cruikshank, Director of Economic Development, explained that the Advance produces this guide and the Region of Queens participated with this guide for the past ten years. She noted that it is favorable to be involved with the guide as it is beneficial to the Region's tourism industry.

A discussion was held on ways to contact groups in the area to see what events they will be hosting this season and have them contact Nick Moase at the Advance by March 10<sup>th</sup> to have the event promoted in the guide.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**9.0 CORPORATE SERVICES:**

9.1 Tax Exemption Bylaw

It was moved by Councillor Inglis and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality gives first reading to a Bylaw respecting Tax Exemptions.

Councillor Inglis noted that some non-profit groups and business are eligible for property tax exemptions, and that this exemption process is done on an annual basis.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**10.0 ENGINEERING AND WORKS:**

10.1 Region 6 Solid Waste Management 2014/2015 Budget

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor Waterman:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approves the Region 6 proposed budget for the year 2014/2015.

Councillor Waterman explained that by being a part of this Committee the Region is access different types of funding.

Kathleen Rafuse, CAO, advised that it is a mandate by the Department of Environment that all municipal units be a part of this committee. She added that members receive funding / credits from diversion programs.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Christopher Clarke turned the Chair over to Deputy Mayor Norman so he could report on the Finance Department.

## 11.0 FINANCE:

### 11.1 Administrative Policy 9-Respecting Tax Exemptions

It was moved by Mayor Clarke and seconded by Councillor MacLeod:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approves the Administrative Policy 9 respecting tax exemptions, as amended (copy attached).

Councillor Norman gave an overview of the requirements to be eligible for this program and suggested that Councillors should make their constituents aware of the program.

Councillor Inglis noted that this policy assists those who need relief from taxes.

Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance, advised that last year, there were 258 eligible applicants for the exemption.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Councillor Bruce Inglis declared conflict of interest and left the room at 9:20 a.m. while Item 11.2 – Group Insurance Rates was being discussed.

### 11.2 Group Insurance Rates

It was moved by Mayor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Fralic:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approves the renewal of the group insurance plan with Great West Life, for the year ending March 31, 2015, as follows:

Employee Life Insurance	\$0.36 / \$1000.00 of salary (same)
Dependent Life Insurance	from \$3.89 to \$4.22 per family
Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$0.05 / \$1000.00 of salary (same)
Long Term Disability	\$4.77 / \$100.00 of benefit (same)

Councillor Fancy asked if other companies are contacted to seek prices.

Jennifer Keating-Hubley advised that where the increase to rates is minimal we did not. She also indicated that in the past when trying to find alternative providers of Group Insurance it was very difficult to find companies who would quote.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

The Chair was turned back to Mayor Clarke at this time.

Councillor Inglis returned to the Council Chambers at 9:24 a.m.

**12.0 RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES:**

**12.1 Hank Snow's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday - Request for Funding**

It was moved by Councillor Fancy and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approve the following respecting the requests of the Friends of Hank Snow Society 100th birthday event;

- 1) That the request for funding of \$ 10,000 be referred to the Grants to Organizations process;
- 2) That an exemption be granted to Policy 8 (attached) to allow May 9th to be declared "Hank Snow Day" in the Region of Queens;
- 3) That the Friends of Hank Snow Society shall be responsible for obtaining all necessary permit approvals prior for the construction of the shower structure.
- 4) That the Mayor or his designate be asked to attend and unveil the Hank Snow statue and proclaim May 9th "Hank Snow Day" pending the approval of this recommendation.

Councillor Norman asked when the discussions on the Grants to Organizations are going to be held.

Mayor Clarke advised that they will bring the final recommendation to Council in March.

Councillor Waterman questioned if this request qualifies for the requirements to be eligible for funding as there is Capital work listed in their request.

A discussion was held on why this request should go through the Grants to Organizations process.

Jennifer Keating-Hubley advised that Grants to Organizations is the only pre-budget line item available. If not for the timing of this request coming before the Grants to Organizations deadline, it would be difficult to find the funds.

Councillor Fancy suggested that we find other places in the budget to put these larger amounts so it doesn't take away from other groups who are eligible for Grants to Organizations Funding.

Kathleen Rafuse noted that Council has to be conscious of what the Region can financially assist with currently. We are in the second year of the closure of Bowater and have lost significant revenue due to its closure.

Question was called and MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**12.2 Astor Theatre Society - Request to Waive Policy 58**

It was moved by Councillor Fancy and seconded by Councillor Norman:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approve an extension of the exception granted to the Astor Theatre by Council on November 26, 2013, for an additional 2 years expiring on November 26, 2016; all other conditions remaining in place.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**13.0 PLANNING:**

There were no matters to be discussed from the Planning Department.

**14.0 QUEENS PLACE EMERA CENTRE:**

There were no matters to be discussed at this meeting from Queens Place Emera Centre, however, Councillor Inglis noted that the next Queens Place Committee Meeting will be on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

**15.0 OTHER:**

There were no other topics to be discussed at this time.

**16.0 IN-CAMERA ITEMS:**

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor MacLeod that the proceedings go "In-Camera" at 9:40 a.m. to discuss the following:

16.1 Contract Negotiation

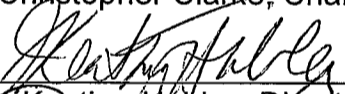
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

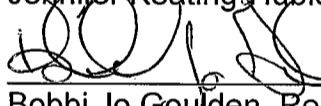
It was moved by Councillor Fancy and seconded by Councillor Fralic that the proceedings come out of "In-Camera" at 10:30 a.m.

**17.0 ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

  
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Mayor Christopher Clarke, Chair

  
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Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance

  
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Bobbi Jo Goulden, Recording / Management Secretary

Date approved: Feb 25/14

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY NO. 9**

**RESPECTING TAX EXEMPTIONS**

**WHEREAS** the Municipal Government act states that a municipality may grant an exemption from taxation, in the amount set out in the policy, for a person whose income is below the amount set out in the policy; and

**WHEREAS** the Region of Queens Municipality is desirous of establishing a system of tax exemption for low income residents throughout Queens County;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Region of Queens Municipality grant an exemption of **\$250.00** for all assessment districts upon the property owned by a person whose total income from all sources, which income includes income of all other members of the same family residing in the same household, for the calendar year preceding the fiscal year for which the exemption is sought, is ~~\$21,888~~ **\$22,080** or less. This exemption shall only extend to persons who are residents of the Region of Queens Municipality and apply to property of a ratepayer occupied by him / her as his/her home;

**AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that where two or more persons, one or more of whom are entitled to an exemption, are by interest the owners of taxable property together, the person so entitled to that portion of the amount of exemption by his / her assessment with respect to the property bears to the total assessment for the whole property, and where the owners are not separately assessed for their interest in the property then to the portion determined shall be final;

**AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the deadline for the submission of exemptions is the end of February, and if the end of February is a Saturday, Sunday or a Holiday, that application may be made on the business day directly following the Saturday, Sunday or Holiday.

**AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the exemption is only available to those supplying the Treasurer a copy of their previous year's income tax assessment or other proof of income satisfactory to the Treasurer.

**POLICY NUMBER - 8**  
**Policy Subject / Title - Proclamations**

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**GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

8.01 It shall be the policy of the Region of Queens Municipality to provide a policy for the handling of requests of the Region to proclaim certain weeks, months, years, events, and position statements.

**POLICY INFORMATION**

8.02 It shall be the policy of the Region of Queens Municipality not to endorse any proclamations.

8.03 Section 8.02 is in no way to be interpreted as lack of respect for the excellent efforts of any organization that may request the Region of Queens Municipality to endorse a proclamation.

Approved by Council: February 16, 1998