

The Municipality of the District of **BARRINGTON**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Barrington Municipal Council, held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Wednesday, March 22, 2000.

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

- Warden Sterling Belliveau
- Deputy Warden Fred Bower
- Councillor Angus Atkinson
- Councillor Eddie Nickerson
- Councillor Wayne Smith
- Councillor Steven Stoddart

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

Absent was Councillor Tina Wickens

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Response to Loblaw Properties Ltd.
- Horner & Associates Report
- Spring Clean-up
- Lunenburg Mermaid Society
- Cost of Living Adjustment
- B.M.H.S. Track Update
- Waste Check Invoice
- Correspondence - Response from Minister of Health RE: Long-term nursing care facility
- Correspondence - Response from MLA RE: Repairs to shoulder of highway
- Municipal pins
- Mailboxes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by A. Atkinson that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that the minutes of the last meeting held March 8, 2000, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Two (2) Plate License System

The Clerk reported that letters of support for a two (2) plate license system have been received from the following: Town of Windsor, Town of Mulgrave, Town of Shelburne and Town of Bridgewater.

The Clerk also reported that a response has been received from the Municipality of Lunenburg which stated that, in their council's opinion, there is not a significant problem with the one (1) plate system in their area; therefore, support was not forthcoming from their council.

The Clerk further reported that a letter has been received from Ken Simpson, Executive Director of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, which suggested that Council submit a resolution on the matter to the Regional UNSM Meeting to be held in the Spring. This would insure a broader discussion and assist UNSM in determining what future action would be appropriate.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by S. Stoddart that a resolution be drafted to be presented to the UNSM concerning a two (2) plate license system.

Motion carried.

Shelburne County Atom AA Blazers

The Clerk advised that a letter has been received from the Shelburne County Atom AA Blazers requesting a donation to assist with travel for their hockey team to attend the provincial tournament in Sydney Mines.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by E. Nickerson that the Shelburne County Atom AA Blazers be informed that it is with regret that the Municipal Council cannot offer financial assistance at this time.

Motion carried.

Annual Provincial Awards Day Ceremony & Luncheon

The Clerk reported that a letter has been received from the Town of Windsor expressing dissatisfaction with Recreation Nova Scotia asking that everyone, except the award recipients, pay \$28.00 to attend the ceremony and luncheon. Their letter indicated that it is an insult to our volunteers to have their guests and community representatives pay to attend a function known as the Annual Provincial Awards Day Ceremony & Luncheon.

The Clerk advised that a letter has also been received from Recreation Nova Scotia providing an explanation of their decision to charge \$28.00 per plate. The letter advised that in the past

government and other various funding sources have allowed them to fully fund the event, but this year, like all non-profit organizations, they have experienced ever decreasing resources.

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Insurance Surtax charged by UNSM

The Clerk reported that a letter has been received, from the Region of Queens Municipality, in which they express concern regarding the 3% surtax that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities charges to municipal units involved with the Frank Cowan UNSM Insurance Program. This 3% surtax will now be charged on volunteer organizations like fire departments under municipal jurisdiction. The Municipality of Queens strongly objects to the union taxing volunteer groups in this manner and has requested that such fees be waived. They are requesting support of their resolution opposing the surtax.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith and carried;

WHEREAS the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) has entered into a five year agreement with Frank Cowan Insurance for the provision of insurance services to member municipal units that are interested in such a service;

AND WHEREAS the UNSM charges municipal units a three percent (3%) surcharge on top of the insurance premiums for UNSM revenues;

AND WHEREAS the UNSM on its December 31, 1998 audited financial statements showed a large surplus of one-third of a million dollars;

AND WHEREAS the UNSM now intends to charge this three percent (3%) surtax on volunteer fire fighters placing additional burdens on volunteer organizations across Nova Scotia, that the UNSM regularly lobbies the provincial government against, by taxing volunteer groups to pad its surplus;

AND WHEREAS the volunteer fire fighter organizations rely heavily on local fund raising and municipal contributions to pay their annual operating costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UNSM immediately waive the collection of a three percent (3%) surcharge on volunteer fire departments throughout Nova Scotia so volunteer fire fighting safety and operations are not compromised.

Child Pornography Legislation

It was reported that a letter has been received from MP Gerald Keddy in support of the concerns expressed to him, by Council, for the need of child pornography legislation.

Long-term Nursing Care Facility

It was reported that a copy of a letter has been received from MLA Cecil O'Donnell, which was addressed to the Minister of Health, in support of the need for a long-term nursing care facility in

the Municipality of Barrington.

The Clerk reported that a letter has also been received from the Western Regional Health Board in response to our letter of February 29, 2000, in which we ask for their support for a "needs" study, for the establishment of a long-term nursing care facility in western Shelburne County.

The Board has advised that long-term care facilities do not fall under their jurisdiction and that our correspondence will be forwarded to the Department of Health.

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The Clerk reported that a letter has been received from the Minister of Health in response to our letter of February 25, 2000, in which we sent a copy of the presentation made by Reverend Shaun Hatfield regarding the need for a long-term facility in the area. The Minister advised that initiatives are underway, which will begin to provide valuable information to help them assess the types of services or facilities needed.

Bus Stop Concern

The Clerk reported that a copy of a letter has been received from MLA Cecil O'Donnell, which was addressed to the Department of Transportation, requesting immediate repairs to the shoulder of the road in Wood's Harbour, in the vicinity of the bus stop located near Civic #7077.

The Clerk advised that he was in discussion with Don Houston, Supervisor, Department of Transportation, and was informed that repairs were being made today to the shoulder of the road in Wood's Harbour.

INTERVIEW - CARL SMITH RE: ON-SITE SEWAGE APPROVALS

Carl Smith of North East Point appeared before the meeting to express concern that his on-site sewage permit which was approved June 1999, has recently been canceled. He informed Council that it appears that the Department of Environment are reassessing lots approved by their former inspector Ray Davis and that it is his understanding that a number of on-site sewage permits have been canceled as a result of the reassessment.

Mr. Smith suggested to Council that they request the Department of Environment to allow the approvals granted by Ray Davis.

During discussion with Mr. Smith it was revealed that once he received the approval for an on-site sewage system, he proceeded to have the lot surveyed, obtained access from the Department of Transportation, and had a culvert installed.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by E. Nickerson that a letter be written to our Municipal Solicitor to determine whether the Building Inspector can approve the subdivision based on the original permit granted June 1999, knowing that the Department of Environment has now canceled the permit.

Motion carried.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by E. Nickerson that a letter be written to the Department of Environment asking for an explanation as to why lots previously approved by Ray Davis, in the Municipality of Barrington, are now being reassessed, and further ask for an explanation on each and every permit canceled, as a result of this reassessment.

Motion carried.

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REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden provided the following report on meetings attended since the last meeting of Council:

March 9, 2000 - The Warden attended a meeting of the Discover Shelburne County Tourism Association. Discussion took place regarding attendance at the RV Show to be held in Halifax in March.

March 9, 2000 - The Warden reported that he attended a Doctor Recruitment Committee Meeting at the Yarmouth Hospital. During that meeting the shortage of doctors in Nova Scotia was discussed and it was indicated that areas providing the best incentive packages will receive the doctors.

March 15, 2000 - The Warden attended a meeting of the South Shore Development Authority. At that meeting the need for commercial space in Shelburne County was discussed. Apparently there are several firms who have been unable to obtain commercial space in the area.

He reported that the Travel Expense Policy of the S.W.S.D.A. was also discussed at that meeting and at the present time the S.W.S.D.A. pays 29.1 cents per kilometer to anyone traveling on R.D.A. business. The policy is currently under review.

March 22, 2000 - The Warden reported that earlier today he presented a certificate to Etta Marguerite Larkin in recognition of her 95th birthday.

March 22, 2000 - The Warden reported that he attended a meeting of the "Stay In School" Committee, and minutes will be circulated to members.

S.W.S.D.A. - PEAT BOG DEVELOPMENT

Councillor Stoddart made reference to the S.W.S.D.A. Staff Report, dated February 29, 2000, Article 18 states that the rare plant alternative report from a qualified botanist was completed and that representatives of the South West Shore Development Authority are meeting with a peat bog developer about a potential development on the Goose Heath bog. Funding for a transplantation experiment for rare plants has been sourced. Funding will be explored under the FRAM program for the development of the necessary road and power infrastructure. Article 18 of the

Staff Report prompted questions regarding the Swaine's Road peat bog.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that the South West Shore Development Authority be asked to provide clarification regarding Article 18 of the Staff Report, dated February 29, 2000, and request an update on what is being done regarding the Swaine's Road peat bog plant study.

Motion carried.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Stoddart that the South West Shore Development Authority be contacted to determine whether they are aware of the tender call to develop peat in Goose Heath and Duncanson's Savannah.

Motion carried.

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COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

Visitor Information Centre Supervisor

It was noted that it is the recommendation of the Hiring Committee that Mr. Eric Shand be hired as Visitor Information Centre Supervisor.

Councillor Stoddart questioned whether Mr. Shand's application should be disqualified since he used a councillor as a reference. He further reported that an applicant applying for a position at the arena had been disqualified and not granted an interview for the same reason.

WHEREAS members wish to hire a Visitor Information Centre Supervisor;

THEREFORE it is moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by F. Bower that Mr. Eric Shand be hired as Visitor Information Centre Supervisor and that Diane Smith be designated as alternate.

Motion defeated.

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by W. Smith that Diane Smith be hired as Visitor Information Centre Supervisor.

Motion carried.

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by W. Smith that Rosemary Wall be designated the alternate for the position of Visitor Information Centre Supervisor.

Motion carried.

Finance and Administration Committee Meeting

Landfill Attendant

WHEREAS members wish to continue to have two (2) landfill attendants;

THEREFORE it is moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that the employment of Mr. Rob Williams continue for another fiscal year, until March 31, 2001.

Motion carried.

C. & D. Landfill Policy

WHEREAS members wish to implement a policy for the construction and demolition landfill site for the direction of employees as well as patrons;

THEREFORE it is moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that notice be given to all Council members that the proposed Construction and Demolition Landfill Policy will be considered at the next subsequent council meeting.

Motion carried.

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Building Inspection Department Restructuring

WHEREAS members believe additional qualified personnel are required in the Building Inspection Department;

THEREFORE it is moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that the Municipality hire a second Certified Building Inspector.

Motion defeated.

List of Electors

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that the Municipality use the Provincial List of Electors for the year 2000 municipal elections.

Motion carried.

Barrington Fitness Centre Request

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by E. Nickerson that the request of the Barrington Fitness Centre for use of the Owaissa Park facilities, for exercise classes to be conducted under the supervision of a certified instructor, be approved.

Motion carried.

Employee Increments

WHEREAS both Mr. Bob Stevens and Mr. Shenton Allen have completed another year of service to the Municipality as keeper of the lock-up;

THEREFORE it is moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that the annual increment in the amount of fifty (50) cents per hour be paid to both Shenton Allen and Bob Stevens effective February 4, 2000.

Motion carried.

Public Works Committee

"Trash" Pump

WHEREAS members wish to cooperate with local volunteer fire departments whenever possible;

THEREFORE it is moved by W. Smith and seconded by S. Stoddart that the "trash" pump, which is surplus property of the Brass Hill Treatment Plant, be given to the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion carried.

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Family Court

WHEREAS members wish to maintain the presence of Family Court and Provincial Court in the Municipality of Barrington;

THEREFORE it is moved by W. Smith and seconded by A. Atkinson that the Municipality write the Minister of Justice requesting if there is presently any consideration of moving any of the courts from the Barrington area, and copies of this letter be sent to our MLA Cecil O'Donnell, and to the Minister of Finance Mr. Neil LeBlanc.

Motion carried.

Joint Health Care Committee

Municipally-owned Medical Clinic

WHEREAS members wish to further pursue the possibility of a municipally-owned medical clinic;

THEREFORE it is moved by W. Smith and seconded by E. Nickerson that the Municipal Council consider the establishing of a municipally-owned medical clinic.

Motion carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION - ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Notice of Motion was given at the March 8, 2000 Council Meeting dealing with Additions to Agenda.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by A. Atkinson and carried.

WHEREAS councillors wish to make informed decisions based on all information;

AND WHEREAS Council meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday;

BE IT RESOLVED that no items be added to the Agenda, including Additions to the Agenda, unless it is an emergency;

ALSO BE IT RESOLVED that a definition of an "emergency" be approved by Council.

It is agreed that Item #2, "Additions to Agenda", be deleted from all future agendas, and that no items be added to the agenda after 12:00 noon on the Friday before the Wednesday council meeting, unless it is an emergency.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that the definition of an "emergency" be as follows: "a situation or occurrence of a serious nature, developing suddenly and unexpectedly, and demanding immediate attention", and that the Warden, in consultation with the Clerk, determine what items meet the definition of an emergency.

Motion carried.

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MEETING OF RURAL MUNICIPALITIES

The Clerk reported that minutes of the meeting of Rural Municipalities, held February 16, 2000, have been received from the Municipality of Richmond.

NOVA SCOTIA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE BOARDS

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by E. Nickerson that the invoice for annual dues for membership in the Nova Scotia Association of Police Boards be referred to the budget process for consideration.

Motion carried.

S.W.S.D.A. BUSINESS AND ACTION PLAN

The South West Shore Development Authority is requesting approval of the business plan and the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by F. Bower that a representative of the South West Shore Development Authority be invited to come before Council to explain benefits to the municipality.

Motion defeated.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by E. Nickerson that the business plan and budget for the year 2000/2001 be referred to the budget process for consideration.

Motion carried.

REQUEST FROM ROB WILLIAMS

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Robert Williams requesting Council's advice as it relates to a small business venture he is considering. He is proposing to purchase a company known as Avery's Trucking, which is in the business of collecting construction debris and disposing of it. He is proposing to leave garbage boxes at construction sites, and private sites, for the collection of construction debris. The boxes would then be picked up and contents disposed of at the municipal landfill site. Mr. Williams stated in his letter that this work would be done at times when he is not working at the landfill site.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by A. Atkinson that the Municipal Solicitor be contacted for advice as to whether or not there is a conflict in the proposal presented by Mr. Williams.

Motion carried.

LICENCE TO EXTEND SEWER - CROWN LAND

In order to relocate the sewer line located on property of Loblaw Properties Ltd., in Barrington Passage, it is necessary to amend the licence agreement with the Department of Natural Resources.

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Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that the licence agreement provided by the Department of Natural Resources, to extend the sewer line on crown land in the vicinity of property owned by Loblaw Properties Ltd., located in Barrington Passage, be approved by Council and signed by the Warden and Clerk.

Motion carried.

CAMP LOT LEASES

The Clerk reported that an advertisement was placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper inviting individuals to apply for a campsite, by submitting their name to the Municipal Office before Wednesday, March 15, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. The deadline has now passed and two (2) applications

have been received.

Applications were received from Benjie Nickerson and Alton Peterson. Both applicants have paid the required deposit.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that the two applications received from Benjie Nickerson and Alton Peterson be accepted, and that a nineteen (19) year lease agreement be entered into for the camp lot, and that the other five camp lots be dealt with on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Motion carried.

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that an application be forwarded to ACOA, for funding under the FRAM Program, in the amount of \$100,000.00, for the construction of a proposed Visitor Information Centre in the Municipality of Barrington.

Much discussion took place regarding this matter.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by E. Nickerson that the above motion be amended "to apply for funding in the amount of \$200,000.00".

Motion carried.

The original motion, as amended, was put to a vote and carried.

RESPONSE TO LOBLAW PROPERTIES LTD.

At this time the Warden turned the chair over to the Deputy Warden.

A letter has been drafted by the Municipal Solicitor, in response to the letter received from Loblaw Properties Ltd. regarding the plot plan, which was made public, at the public meeting held on March 2, 2000.

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The letter was read, which made reference to the fact that the Council Meeting held on March 2, 2000 was a public meeting, and any and all information provided to those individuals in attendance is a matter of public record.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by A. Atkinson that the Warden be authorized to forward the letter, as drafted by the Municipal Solicitor, to Loblaw Properties Ltd.

Motion carried.

The Warden then resumed the chair.

HORNER & ASSOCIATES REPORT

Each member of Council was provided with a copy of a letter received from Horner & Associates Ltd. regarding the capacity of the Barrington/Barrington Passage municipal sewerage system. The letter provided information on the system based on the original permits and indicated the original capacity of the system. To determine the capacity used to date, and the remaining capacity for the system, some investigation and analysis is required. Horner & Associates is prepared to carry out this work for a fee of \$5,000.00.

During discussion it was noted that it has been reported by the Supervisor of Public Works that currently the capacity is at 50,000 gallons per day. The original capacity of the system was quoted at 92,000 gallons per day. It was also noted that when the sewer line is changed in the Barrington Passage area that the condition of the lines can be inspected at that time.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by A. Atkinson that based on the information provided by W.N. Horner & Associates, and the Public Works Supervisor, that we do not proceed with an engineer study on the Barrington/Barrington Passage public sewer system at this time.

Motion carried.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by A. Atkinson that a Spring Clean-up once again be held for residents of the Municipality of Barrington.

Motion carried.

LUNENBURG MERMAID SOCIETY

It was reported that a letter has been received from the Lunenburg Mermaid Society. The letter advised that the Society is a non-profit society headed by a group of interested parties whose mission is to procure, install and market a three (3) metre tall statue of a mermaid, as an underwater attraction, to promote and provide a new focal point for "Dive Tourism" in the Lunenburg area. The Society is requesting the support of the Municipal Council for their project.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Stoddart that the Barrington Municipal Council fully support the project, to procure, install and market a three (3) metre tall statue of a mermaid as an underwater attraction.

Motion defeated.

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COST-OF-LIVING INDEX

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by A. Atkinson that a 2.7% cost-of-living adjustment be

granted to employees, councillors and committee members, and that the fees for attendance at committee and council meetings be increased by the cost-of-living index.

Motion defeated.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that the cost-of-living adjustment in the amount of 2.7% be approved for all staff for the Municipality of Barrington, governed by the personnel policy, effective April 1,2000.

Motion carried.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by E. Nickerson that remunerations and committee fees paid to councillors and committee members and staff, governed by Policy #8, remain unchanged for the upcoming fiscal year.

Motion carried.

B.M.H.S. TRACK

It was reported that a letter had been received from Mr. David Buckland, Principal of the Barrington Municipal High School. In this letter Mr. Buckland provided an update on the Barrington Municipal High School track

WASTE CHECK INVOICE

The Clerk reported that an invoice has been received from Waste Check, in the amount of \$77,716.68, for green carts, mini bins and digesters distributed in the Municipality of Barrington. Survey sheets were also provided indicating acceptance of the green carts by way of a signature.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that the invoice received from Waste Check in the amount of \$77,716.68 for green carts, mini bins and digesters, distributed in the Municipality of Barrington, be paid subject to confirmation of signatures provided.

Motion carried.

During discussion it was noted that Waste Check estimates that there is approximately another one thousand (1000) green carts located within the Municipality for which signatures have not yet been obtained.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that an advertisement be placed on CKBW and CJLS radio stations advising people to contact Waste Check if they have not yet received their green cart or green cone.

Motion carried

MAILBOXES

Councillor Bower once again expressed concern regarding the green mailboxes located in the Smithsville area. The mailboxes leak and individuals in the area are interested in installing rural mailboxes.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by A. Atkinson that Canada Post be contacted to determine whether it would be acceptable for residents in various areas of the Municipality of Barrington to install rural route mailboxes, since the green mailboxes provided by Canada Post are unsuitable.

Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

The regular meeting of Council was then adjourned in order that members could go in closed session to discuss purchase of property and sale of property.

The regular council meeting was called back to order.

FORMER MERLE GOREHAM PROPERTY

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by E. Nickerson that the offer received from Ronald Nickerson, in the amount of \$10,000.00, be accepted for the purchase of property formerly owned by Merle Goreham.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by E. Nickerson that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.