

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, October 23, 2002.

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:05 p.m. with the following members present:

- Warden Sterling Belliveau
- Deputy Warden Eddie Nickerson
- Councillor Angus Atkinson
- Councillor Fred Bower
- Councillor Louise Halliday
- Councillor Dwayne Hunt
- Councillor Wayne Smith

- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

It was agreed that the following items be added to the agenda:

- Under Item 18 "Closed Session of Council" - Possible Purchase of property
 - Possible legal issue
- It was also reported that Item 17 can be deleted from the agenda since Mr. Bud Nickerson has cancelled his appointment with Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by L. Halliday that the minutes of the last regular meeting held October 9, 2002, and the emergency meeting of Council held October 21, 2002 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION

The Warden reported that information has been received from Veterans' Affairs Canada requesting that November 5 - 11, 2002 be declared as Veterans' Week in the Municipality of Barrington.

There being no objections received, the Warden declared November 5 - 11, 2002 as Veterans' Week.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Barrington Municipal High School

As a result of the last Council meeting invitations were forwarded to Mr. Leroy Legere, CEO South West Regional School Board, and Mr. Robie Atkinson, member of the Tri County District School Board, inviting them to appear before Council to discuss the current situation at Barrington Municipal High School as it relates to health issues.

A response has been received from Mr. Robie Atkinson which was copied for members of Council in advance to the meeting. The letter informed members that the District School Board's mandate was mainly to be responsible for all public school programs and school based courses, hire teachers and support staff, and deal with human resources issues. Mr. Leroy Legere, CEO of the South West Regional School Board, is the spokesperson for the health problems currently being experienced at B.M.H.S.

The Clerk has been in contact with Mr. Leroy Legere and arrangements are being made for him to attend a council meeting in November.

CORRESPONDENCE

Meeting with Municipality of Shelburne

The Municipality of Shelburne is willing to continue with joint meetings with the Municipality of Barrington and has suggested that the next meeting be scheduled for early spring.

North Atlantic Responsible Fishing Conference

The Warden reported that information has been received from the North Atlantic Responsible Fishing Council Steering Committee, which advised that the 3rd North Atlantic Responsible Fishing Conference is scheduled to be held June 9th, 10th and 11th, 2003, at the Rodd Grand Hotel, in Yarmouth. The N.A.R.F.C. is inviting council representation at the conference and is also requesting a financial contribution.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that the request from the North Atlantic Responsible Fishing Conference be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and a recommendation back to Council.

Motion carried.

Fire Line - Fall's Point Wharf

It was reported that correspondence has been received from the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department making members aware that they will be testing the fire line at the Fall's Point Wharf, on Monday, October 28, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. This correspondence was provided for information purposes only.

Diversions Credits

It was reported that a letter has been received from the Minister of Environment and Labour. The letter advised that each year the RRFB distributes a diversion credit cheque to each of the seven Solid Waste Regions in the province. It has been left up to each of the regions to determine how the monies are divided amongst the municipalities. Some regions have adopted different formulas to disperse these funds within their respective regions. It is not up to the Department or the RRFB to make this determination. The letter also suggested that we meet with our colleagues in Region 7 to discuss this matter.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by A. Atkinson that the Municipal Clerk contact the Town of Yarmouth and the Town of Clark's Harbour to initiate a meeting of the three (3) municipal units in order to prepare a proposal, to be presented to Waste Check, in an attempt to acquire our diversion credits.

Motion carried.

It was agreed that a copy of the letter received from the Minister of Environment and Labour be forwarded to the Town of Yarmouth and the Town of Clark's Harbour.

Banking Machine Fees

It was reported that a copy of a letter, addressed to the Minister of Finance, from the Municipality of Pictou County, was received. The letter expressed concern with the increasing cost of banking machine fees across the nation. The letter urged the Minister and his colleagues to consult with government officials in California with a view to perhaps take similar action to protect Canadians from these escalating costs.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Halliday that the Municipality of Barrington go on record as supporting the concerns expressed by the Municipality of Pictou regarding the increasing costs of banking machine fees, and that the Municipality of Pictou be requested to provide additional information gathered by their municipal unit regarding this matter.

Motion carried.

REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATHS

It was agreed that the following members lay wreaths at the following ceremonies:

- Wood's Harbour - Warden Sterling Belliveau
- Stoney Island - Councillor Wayne Smith
- Clark's Harbour - Councillor Angus Atkinson
- Barrington - Councillor Dwayne Hunt

It was noted that the Barrington Municipal High School usually requests a council member to participate in their Remembrance Day ceremonies.

B.M.H.S. HEALTH CONCERNS

Marilee Ross and Stephanie Isles, members of the Safe School Association, requested an opportunity to address Council. Shawn Hatfield acted as spokesperson for the group. Mr. Hatfield informed members that their reason for appearing before Council relates to the ongoing physical illness among children and staff at B.M.H.S. He informed members that Mr. Leroy Legere and Mr. Phil Landry from the Tri County District School Board have acknowledged that sixty (60) cases of illness have occurred since September. Because the education environment at B.M.H.S. is negatively impacting the health of 12% of attendees, they believe it is time to request political accountability of the issue.

Mr. Hatfield made reference to the Tri County District School Board's safety policy. The policy states: "It is the policy of the Board to provide its employees with safe and healthy workplaces.

An environment free of recognized harm is provided to each student, employee and visitor to our facility.”

Harm in the form of rashes, headaches and respiratory problems have been clearly recognized by the School Board and the Department of Education with respect to the Barrington Municipal High School.

In closing, Mr. Hatfield requested Council’s help to have the School Board and the Department of Education accept responsibility for these issues and to hold them accountable to the people of this community.

During discussion of this matter it was noted that Mr. Leroy Legere, of the South West Regional School Board, is scheduled to attend a council meeting in November.

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by W. Smith that council draft a letter to the Minister of Education asking her to meet with the Barrington Municipal Council to discuss safety and other issues at Barrington Municipal High School.

Motion carried.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by D. Hunt that Mr. Leroy Legere, CEO of the South West Regional School Board, be asked to identify locations, within the Municipality of Barrington, where B.M.H.S. students experiencing health problems may go to be educated, in the interim.

Motion carried.

TENDERS RE: OLD COURT HOUSE ROOF

It was reported that an advertisement was placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper on October 8th and October 15th, inviting tenders for re-surfacing and re-shingling the Old Court House roof. No tenders were received.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by A. Atkinson that an advertisement once again be placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper retendering for roof repairs at the Old Court House.

Motion carried.

REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden reported that on October 15, 2002, he met with the Honourable Robert Thibeault to discuss various municipal issues. Items discussed were the C & D Landfill Site application and the C.S.I. Causeway study. During discussion of the causeway study the Minister requested a letter outlining council’s concerns. The Minister also suggested that application be made for the Cape Sable Island sewer. This application will be used to find new funding for infrastructure projects, since funding allocated for Shelburne County has been depleted.

The Warden informed members that the South West Shore Development Authority has completed their resource guide and a copy was circulated for Council members to review.

The Warden informed members that on October 16, 2002, he attended a meeting of the Oil and Gas Energy Committee. A meeting will be held in Halifax tomorrow with the Nova Scotia Minister of Energy regarding our request for a transparent review process.

The Warden reported that on October 16, 2002 he also met with members of the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department, along with the Municipal Clerk. The Warden informed members that due to an error when preparing the budget during 2001/2002 and 2002/2003, the capital area fire rate was not reduced, as previously agreed. The total District 1 Area Fire Rate remained the same at ten (10) cents per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessment in those years. As a result, an extra \$18,639.51 has been collected from the taxpayers of this district.

Beginning April 1, 2003, the District 1 Area Fire Rate will be reduced to seven (7) cents for the remaining two (2) years of its term.

Payment of the extra amount has been made to the fire department over the last eighteen months. This payment will be reduced to the correct amount for the remainder of the year so that the fire department will receive the amount that would be produced by the reduced rate.

The Warden and Clerk discussed with fire department members what to do with the extra funds collected, to ensure that District 1 taxpayers receive value for this amount. The fire department has advised that they will be holding a public meeting early in the new year in order to gain public approval for the purchase of a new pumper/tanker truck.

It is, therefore, the suggestion of the fire department that the extra funds already collected as a result of the error be applied to the cost of the new truck. Until such time as the public meeting is held, the excess taxes collected and not yet paid will be held by the Municipality for the taxpayers of the area.

SECOND READING OF BY-LAW NO. 3

It was reported that second reading of By-Law No. 3 has been advertised in the Coast Guard Newspaper which advised the public that Council will be considering amendments to By-Law No. 3 "Council". The proposed amendments will delete the existing 8.(17) and replace it with the following:

8.(17) Upon request of a councillor the names of the councillors voting on a question shall be recorded in the minutes in the positive or negative.

Moved by D. Hunt and seconded by W. Smith that the proposed amendment to By-Law No. 3 "Council" be approved in second and final reading.

Motion carried.

BANKING PROPOSALS

Banking proposals from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and the Royal Bank of Canada have been reviewed by the Municipal Clerk. It is the Clerk's recommendation that the proposal received from the Royal Bank of Canada be accepted.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by W. Smith that the banking proposal received from the Royal Bank of Canada be accepted.

Motion carried.

TIANS CONFERENCE

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by F. Bower that Diane Smith be authorized to attend the TIANS Conference at a cost not to exceed \$350.00.

Motion carried.

MCGRAY AVENUE PROJECT

The Warden informed members that it is now time to consider the request from the South West Shore Development Authority for payment of the municipal contribution towards the McGray Avenue Project. By letter, dated August 9th, the Authority requested two (2) equal installments of the Municipal contribution towards the project, and at that time they were informed that their request would be considered once a tender has been awarded. The tender has now been awarded and the project is well underway.

Moved by D. Hunt and seconded by L. Halliday that a cheque, in the amount of \$64,170.00, representing one-half of the Municipal contribution towards the McGray Avenue Project, be prepared and forwarded to the South West Shore Development Authority, and that they be asked to forward copies of invoices paid.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that the above motion be amended to request invoices before they are paid.

Motion carried.

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

During discussion of this matter, it was noted that the above motion will result in all invoices relating to the McGray Avenue Project being forwarded to the Finance and Administration Committee for consideration, with a recommendation to Council as to whether or not the invoice is to be paid by the South West Shore Development Authority.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It was reported that Shaun Hatfield, representing District 5, has resigned from his position on the Community Health Care Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Hunt and seconded by L. Halliday that an advertisement be placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper inviting expressions of interest from individuals, in District 5, wishing to fill this vacancy on the committee.

Motion carried.

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It was suggested the ad state that District 5 consists of the communities of Stoney Island, Clam Point and a portion of North East Point.

ARENA STAFFING

It was agreed that this matter be tabled until the next meeting of Council.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

Finance and Administration Committee

Community Grant Request

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by D. Hunt that a grant in the amount of \$900.00 be provided from the District 4 Community Grants Fund, to the Green Hills Senior Citizens Club, for the purpose of re-shingling the roof.

Motion carried.

Review of Policies

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by D. Hunt that the Building Inspector be requested to provide comments or suggestions regarding amendments to Policy #9.

Motion carried.

Planning Advisory Committee

Wind Turbine Generator Amendments

Moved by D. Hunt and seconded by W. Smith that the Planning Advisory Committee proceed with a public participation meeting to discuss the regulations of wind turbine generators in the Municipality. This public participation meeting will be held at the next Planning Advisory Committee meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2002.

Motion carried.

Municipal Polling District Map

Moved by D. Hunt and seconded by L. Halliday that the new polling district map updated for the latest districts, approved by the Nova Scotia Utility Review Board, be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

Public Works and Property Committee

Solid Waste

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by F. Bower that a letter be sent to the Minister of the Environment requesting that fishing rope, fishing nets and wire lobster traps be added to the list of materials acceptable at Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill Sites.

Motion carried.

Purchase of Barrington Passage Fire Hall

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by F. Bower that a letter be sent to the Island and Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department asking if they are planning on selling the former Barrington Passage fire hall, to notify the Municipality when the decision is made, and inform the Municipality of the asking price, and give the Municipality an opportunity to negotiate the purchase of the property if the Municipality wishes.

Motion carried.

Port LaTour Signage

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by F. Bower that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation, in Shelburne, informing them that the Port LaTour sign normally located across from the Smithville sign is down and should be replaced and that the Upper Port LaTour sign across from the Port LaTour sign at the other end of Port LaTour is also down and should be replaced, and requesting that all other signs in the Municipality needing replacement be replaced as necessary after Halloween.

Motion carried.

Road Repairs

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Halliday that a fax be sent to the Department of Transportation in Shelburne to have paving repairs done at the sewer lateral near the sewage treatment plant in Wood's Harbour, and at a road bump in front of the Bon Portage store in Shag Harbour.

Motion carried.

Municipal Concerns

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by D. Hunt that someone from Municipal Services be requested to meet with Council to clarify what matters must be dealt with by Council.

Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

At 9:15 p.m. the regular council meeting adjourned so that members could go into closed session to deal with the following matters:

- possible purchase of property
- possible legal matter
- sale of Municipal property
- personnel matter

The regular council meeting was called back to order at 9:49 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Warden

Secretary for the Meeting

Copied for Councillors on October 25, 2002 by Sharon Brannen.

