

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

January 12, 2004

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:17 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Sterling Belliveau
 - Fred Bower
 - Louise Halliday
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Eddie Nickerson (7:38 p.m.)
 - Larry Stewart
 - Sean Strang
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The purpose of this meeting was to review the proposed Strategic Plan for the Municipality. This plan is proposed to cover approximately the next four (4) years, to the end of the current Council's term. The plan identifies the services that will be improved and enhanced by the Municipality during that time. More particularly, it identifies priorities for projects that will be completed in the immediate future, in the short term future and in the intermediate term future.

IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

The following items were discussed and reviewed by members:

1. **Solid Waste Management Contracts**

Much discussion centered around the commitment required by the Municipality in order to enter into long term contracts that would ensure the satisfactory disposal of Municipal solid waste at reasonable prices.

After much discussion it was the consensus of members that the best alternative for waste disposal for this Municipality is to truck solid waste directly to the Queens Landfill on a regular daily basis.

The Region of Queens is requesting the Municipality to enter into a 25 year contract for the disposal of residual waste. It is necessary for them to have such a long term contract in order to justify the large capital expenditure that is required in constructing a satisfactory second generation landfill. Shorter term contracts for periods of five (5) years will be necessary in order to dispose of organic waste and recyclable waste.

All three wastes will be deposited at the Queens Landfill which is 120 kilometres from the Barrington Administrative Centre. By disposing of recyclables at the Queens Regional Landfill, the Municipality will be able to maintain the one bag recycling system which is currently in place.

Resolution COW050109

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into long term waste disposal agreements with the Region of Queens for the disposal of residual waste, recyclable waste and organic waste.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Fred Bower

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Larry Stewart

Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

2. **Barrington Sewer Upgrade**

The Barrington Sewer Upgrade is a three (3) phase project. Phase I included the construction of a new clarifier which increased the capacity of the sewage treatment plant considerably. Phase II included the conversion of the old clarifier into a mechanical digester so that solids can be removed from the treatment plant on a regular basis, and the installation of an ultraviolet light disinfection system to replace the previously used chlorine disinfection system. Phase III includes the upgrading of nine (9) lift stations in the Barrington and Barrington Passage areas. Phases I and II have now been completed. Phase III is now under construction by Germaine Mechanical & Electrical. Phase III is scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2005.

3. **Water Supply Study**

Tenders have been approved to have a Water Supply Study done for the Municipality. The successful tenderer is CBCL Engineering Ltd. The startup meeting for the Water Study will be held on Monday, January 17, 2005, and the scheduled completion date is the end of the first week of April.

4. **Wind Farm Options**

An Option Agreement has been entered into with Barrington Wind Energy Ltd. for the use of Municipal property at Forbes Point. This option allows Barrington Wind Energy Ltd. to construct wind turbine generators on Municipal property and in return the company will pay rent to the Municipality. The amount of rent is determined by the amount of power that is generated from the property.

The Municipality is currently in the process of purchasing the former GATR Site, in West Baccaro. It is the intention of Council to enter into a similar Option Agreement with Barrington Wind Energy Ltd. for this property once it is obtained.

5. **Recruitment of Doctors**

The Municipality continues its efforts to recruit doctors for the Community Health Centre. On January 28th, 29th and 30th, 2005, there is a Job Fair being held in Moncton, NB, for medical graduates of Dalhousie and Sherbrooke medical schools. The Municipality is sending a representative from the Community Health Care Advisory Committee to this Job Fair. This representative will attempt to recruit doctors, along with other members from the District Health Authority. In addition, the Municipality will be discussing this matter with the CEO of the South West Shore Development Authority and will be seeking other avenues of recruiting doctors. This is a continuing effort of Council and the Community Health Care Advisory Committee.

6. **C & D Landfill Upgrade**

At the present time a new building is being constructed at the C & D Landfill. This building will be used to house the loader which is used at the Landfill. The tender for the building was approved prior to Christmas and the building is nearing completion at the present time.

7. **C & D. Landfill Tipping Fees**

There was much discussion regarding the imposition of tipping fees at the C & D Landfill. It was the general consensus of members that the imposition of tipping fees at the Landfill would lead to, and increase, the amount of illegal dumping taking place throughout the Municipality. Because members did not wish to increase the amount of illegal dumping, and as a result of the enforcement effort that would be required to prevent it, it was deemed advisable not to impose additional tipping fees at the C & D Landfill. As a result no additional tipping fees will be instituted. The tipping fees that are now in place for non-residents will be maintained.

8. **Causeway Sidewalk**

Construction of a sidewalk from the end of the Causeway walkway to the end of the Barrington Bay Trail had previously been approved by Council. The cost and necessary permits for construction of this walkway have been obtained and put in place, however, this construction has been delayed because of the winter weather. It is anticipated that this sidewalk will be constructed as soon as possible in the spring.

9. **South Side Rest Stop**

The roadway at the proposed South Side Rest Stop was constructed during the fall. Also, the property was cleaned up so that old boats were removed and lobster pots removed from the site. This spring the rest stop will be completed by adding picnic tables and an interpretive sign.

10. **Port LaTour Rest Stop**

During the fall a lease agreement was entered into for property to be used as a tourist rest stop at Fort Creek in Port LaTour. During the spring work will be done to complete the construction of this tourist rest stop. A sign will be placed

on the property along with picnic tables and a parking area constructed.

Page 4, Committee of the Whole Meeting, January 12, 2005

11. **Gazebo at McGray Avenue**

The Waterfront Development Committee has approved a tender for the construction of a gazebo at McGray Avenue in North East Point. This gazebo will be constructed and completed during the spring by Peter Weeks.

12. **Household Hazardous Waste Depot**

The disposal of hazardous waste is the final phase required in the management of Municipal solid waste in our Municipality. Approval has recently been received from the Department of Environment & Labour for the construction of a Household Hazardous Waste Depot at our Construction & Demolition Landfill Site. Funding approval has also been received from the Resource Recovery Fund Board in excess of \$11,000 to aid in the construction of this depot. The construction of this depot will proceed in the very near future as soon as weather permits. Construction of the Household Hazardous Waste Depot will allow residents of our Municipality to dispose of household hazardous waste at any time that the C & D Landfill is open. This will provide for an ongoing and regular disposal site which is now unavailable.

SHORT TERM PRIORITIES

1. **Business Occupancy Tax**

The business occupancy assessment tax will be eliminated by the Provincial Government. It is anticipated that legislation will be passed during the spring session of the Nova Scotia Legislature to eliminate the business occupancy tax over a three year period. The Municipality will need to make adjustments to its tax rates in order to compensate for the loss of this source of revenue. This matter will be addressed by Council during budget considerations. The municipal budget will be prepared after the Nova Scotia Legislature has dealt with the elimination of the business occupancy tax.

2. **County Wide Economic Development Plan**

The Municipality is currently a member of Team Shelburne. Team Shelburne is the vehicle through which county-wide initiatives can be taken by the five (5) municipal units in the county. This is the body through which common initiatives can be put forward by the municipal units. The Municipality of Barrington can provide leadership to the county by bringing issues forward to this body and ensuring that action is taken on matters of common concern. There has been no meeting of Team Shelburne since early December and at the present time no meeting is scheduled. In order to provide some initiative behind this body it is necessary to have a meeting and bring forward matters of common interest.

Resolution COW0501010

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. LeBlanc-Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to Team Shelburne requesting that they have a meeting as soon as possible.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Fred Bower

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Larry Stewart

Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

3. **Mowing of Municipal Properties**

During the previous two years the Municipality has had the grass mowed on municipal properties during the summertime by contracting this work out to Green Flamingo Landscaping. At the present time there are employees in the Property Services Department who will be able to perform this function during the summer. It is necessary to purchase equipment for this purpose. It is believed that the best equipment available for this purpose would be equipment that is flexible enough to be used for a variety of purposes. The equipment to be purchased for this purpose would be that which could have various "attachments" available that would allow different types of work to be done with the same piece of equipment. The attachments that would be required would include such things as a lawn mower, a front end loader, a backhoe, a post hole auger, a snow plow blade and a snow blower. Purchasing a tractor that would also have these attachments easily added to it would allow this type of machinery to be used for many different purposes within the Municipality, and eliminate the need for hiring outside contractors to do much of the work that can be done by Property Services Staff. Details on the purchase of such equipment will be brought forward to Municipal Council in the near future so that the cost of this equipment can be included in next year's budget.

INTERMEDIATE TERM PRIORITIES

1. **B.M.H.S. Property**

Once the construction of a new high school is completed, the former B.M.H.S. school and property will be transferred from the Department of Education back to the Municipality. As a result, the Municipality must make plans for either the development or the disposition of this property.

Much discussion took place regarding the potential future uses of this property.

Resolution COW050111

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality contact the Department of Education and the District School Board informing them that the Municipality is now in the process of developing plans for the former B.M.H.S. property and needs to know an approximate time when that property will be returned to the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was also suggested by members that the CEO of the South West Shore Development Authority be requested to discuss the future development of this property with Council members in closed session.

The South West Shore Development Authority will be contacted for this purpose.

2. **CED Centre**

The Municipality currently has an application in for the construction of a CED Centre . This application is for Strategic Community Investment Fund financing from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. The CED Centre will also include a new Municipal Library.

There was much discussion regarding the location of the CED Centre. It was suggested that the CED Centre be located on the Owaissa Park property once it is purchased from the Barrington Passage Community Club.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality have a consultant evaluate the use of Owaissa Park for the construction of a CED Centre and public park area.

Motion withdrawn.

After much discussion it was agreed by members that this action should not be taken. Due to cost of evaluating this property, this evaluation would not be pursued until such time as funding approval has been received from ACOA.

3. **New School Enhancements**

There was much discussion regarding the possibility of providing enhancements for the new high school being constructed in Oak Park.

It was the general consensus of members that Council would be willing to consider enhancements to the new school depending on the necessity of the proposed enhancements and the funding available.

4. **C.S.I. Sewer Committee**

The C.S.I. Sewer Committee has agreed to meet on Tuesday, January 18, 2005, at

7:00 p.m. It is anticipated that the committee will bring forth to Council recommendations for this project.

Page 7, Committee of the Whole Meeting, January 12, 2005

5. **New School**

There was some discussion regarding the construction of the new school and the possibility of the Municipality and the Department of Education entering into a joint effort to obtain certain enhancements to the community as a result of the construction of this school.

Resolution COW050112

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff contact the Department of Education for the purpose of discussing the on-site septic system proposed for the new school being constructed in Oak Park.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Members were asked if they wished to have public input into the strategic or business plan for the Municipality for the coming four (4) years; and if so, how would this be obtained.

It was the consensus of members that the priorities as reviewed tonight be forwarded to the Barrington Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce will be asked to provide comments on these priorities and suggestions of priorities they may have for the Municipality in the coming years.

Members were also informed that the South West Shore Development Authority had conducted business planning sessions for the Municipality of Argyle. The S.W.S.D.A. conducted seven (7) sessions for the Municipality of Argyle in order to obtain public input into the Municipality's business plans. It was suggested that this avenue could also be followed in the Municipality of Barrington in order to obtain the comments and suggestions of residents.

Resolution COW050113

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the South West Shore Development Authority be requested to conduct public consultations for input into the development of the Municipality's business plan for the coming four (4) years, and that the proposed Municipal priorities discussed this evening be forwarded to the Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce for their comments and suggestions.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the business of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

Copied for Councillors on January 14, 2005 by Sharon Brannen._____