

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

May 2, 2005

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Sterling Belliveau
- Louise Halliday
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Eddie Nickerson
- Larry Stewart
- Sean Strang

Absent was member Fred Bower due to work commitments.

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Smith and Watt Inquiry
- Millstone Monument at Old Woollen Mill
- Spring Clean-up
- Pandemic Flu

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Halliday that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by D. Messenger that the minutes of the last previous meeting held April 19, 2005 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON GROUND SEARCH & RESCUE GROUP INTERVIEW

Donald Bower, Michael Hopkins, Richard d'Entremont, Harold Brannen and Jeff Gregory appeared before the Committee on behalf of the Barrington Ground Search & Rescue Group. The purpose of this interview was to further discuss the proposal of the Group to continue to use the former Barrington Passage Fire Hall for their operations.

The Group presented a proposal containing two (2) options for the use of the hall.

The first option is for the Search & Rescue Team to purchase the property at a cost of \$65,000.00. This property would be purchased over a period of five (5) years, with all of the municipal units in Shelburne County contributing towards its purchase.

The second option is to purchase the property over a period of thirty (30) years on a lease-to- own agreement. The annual lease payments would be \$2,166.67. It was proposed that this purchase price would be financed by the Municipality of Barrington, reducing its annual operating grant by any amount equivalent to the lease payment. The Search & Rescue Team would then be required to raise these funds from other sources. The Municipality would retain ownership of the building until 2035.

Some discussion followed regarding the two options and possible alternative means of transferring ownership of the building. It was requested that the Barrington Ground Search and Rescue Group approach the South West Shore Development Authority so that the CEO of the Authority could discuss this matter with the other councils in Shelburne County.

The Search & Rescue members asked the Warden to discuss this matter with the CEO of the South West Shore Development Authority, and asked the Warden to request the CEO of the Authority to approach the other municipal units regarding the financing options available.

The Warden will further discuss this matter with the CEO of the South West Shore Development Authority and will contact the secretary of the Search & Rescue Team, Mr. Jeff Gregory, regarding progress of this matter.

Having completed their discussion of the matter, the members of the Search & Rescue Group then retired from the meeting.

ARENA DISCIPLINE POLICY

Proposed amendments to the Arena Discipline Policy regarding the presence of alcohol and smoking in the Arena were circulated to members. These were considered at the first Committee of the Whole meeting held during the month of April and were postponed for further consideration to tonight's meeting.

After some discussion, it was agreed by members that the disciplinary action taken for a third offence would be a \$400.00 fine, and the individual involved will be suspended from the Arena for one (1) year from the date of the offence.

There was some discussion regarding whether or not an individual may have one (1) bottle of beer or one (1) partial bottle of spirits in a public place, in light of recent changes in provincial laws.

It was also questioned whether or not municipal employees should report infractions to the R.C.M.P.

These two points will be brought up with the Municipal Solicitor for his legal opinion.

It was also suggested to members that they consider the system of exchanging keys with patrons for use of dressing rooms. In many arenas throughout the province it is a common practice for those requiring keys to dressing rooms to leave a set of personal keys in exchange for the dressing room key. Once the patrons are finished using the dressing room they return the dressing room key in exchange for their personal set of keys. At that time the Arena Attendant checks the dressing room to see that it is cleaned acceptably or that it is in an acceptable condition. This system will be considered further at a later meeting of Committee.

A member voiced a concern regarding a recent Arena dance held the previous Saturday night. There was some question expressed regarding the checking of ID's for patrons entering the Arena dance.

Resolution COW0050501

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Arena Fundraising Committee be contacted in order to determine what procedures are followed at the entry to Arena dances for the checking of ID's.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

CED LIBRARY SITE

Site Selection Criteria together with a recommendation was circulated to members for their information and perusal. This information was provided by MacIsaac Environmental Consulting Ltd. Also circulated were six (6) maps of the various options available for construction on the two sites. The two sites under consideration are the property at the Community Health Centre and the property at Owaissa Park.

The members perused and reviewed the maps as well as the information provided for the site selection. A letter was also read to members from MacIsaac Environmental Consulting for proposing a fixed fee for project management and engineering design for this project.

Members were encouraged to review this information so that it could be further discussed. It was the consensus of members that Mr. MacIsaac should be requested to attend a meeting of the committee as soon as possible in order to discuss this information with him. Mr. MacIsaac will be invited to attend a Committee of the Whole meeting to be held on Thursday, May 5, 2005.

ATV/CTV TELEVISION ADVERTISEMENTS

Information obtained regarding the cost of television commercials was circulated to members prior to the meeting for their perusal and review.

There followed a brief discussion of this information.

Page 4, Committee of the Whole Meeting, May 2, 2005

Resolution COW050502

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that consideration of television advertisements be referred to the budget process as the investment in this activity would be substantial.

Motion carried unanimously.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

It had been suggested at a previous meeting that Municipal Staff obtain more information regarding the recognition of volunteers by other municipal units. As a result our Recreation Coordinator discussed this matter with his colleagues on the South Shore and the Valley regarding what they do for the nominated volunteer who is recognized by the province. The Recreation Director informs us that the only extra thing that some of these municipal groups do is have their volunteer give a report on their experience, in Halifax, at the reception and dinner where they receive their award.

There was a suggestion that some other steps may be taken to recognize the volunteer such as providing funds for a charity of their choice.

At the present time no further action was recommended in this matter.

AUDIT SERVICES

Members were informed that the tender for audit services is a three year tender. This is the third year of that tender. Once the audit is completed for this year the term of the tender will be finished.

It was suggested that the tender for audit services be for a term of five (5) years rather than three (3) years. By extending the length of the tender it would allow the auditors to be familiar with the operations of the Municipality for a greater length of time.

Resolution COW050503

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality tender for audit services for a period of five (5) years after completion of the current years' audit.

Motion carried unanimously.

TOURIST DESTINATION SIGN

This matter was referred to Committee by Council. The Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce has requested the Municipality to place tourism destination signs on Highway 103 entering the Municipality.

Resolution COW050504

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by D. Messenger that the purchase of tourism destination signs be referred to the budget process as these are a significant investment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW050505

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce be requested to indicate whether or not they will contribute to the cost of these signs.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Louise Halliday
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Motion carried.

It was also suggested that the Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce be asked, and that the Department of Transportation be asked, where these signs may be located.

FORMER B.M.H.S. PROPERTY

This matter was referred to Committee by Council.

Correspondence has been received from the Tri-County Regional School Board indicating that the new school being built in the Municipality should be opened in September of 2006. After that time the Board would look at transferring the old school back to the Municipality.

Members were also informed that correspondence has been received regarding the transfer of the site of the new school in Oak Park from the Municipality to the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works.

Since the Municipal Solicitor is currently away on vacation this matter will be deferred until further information can be obtained from him when he returns.

B.M.H.S. ENHANCEMENT

This matter was also referred to Committee from Council. The School Steering Team requested that the Municipality consider funding four (4) enhancements to the new high school being constructed in Oak Park.

It was suggested that some of these enhancements may be funded over a period of years rather than all at once. There may also be alternative sources of funding available for the enhancements.

Page 6, Committee of the Whole Meeting, May 2, 2005

Resolution COW050506

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that consideration of funding of these enhancements to the new high school be deferred to the budget process.

Motion carried unanimously.

EASTLINK CABLE

There was some discussion regarding the actions of the employee of Eastlink Cable at our most recent Council meeting. Members were displeased with the fact that the cable technician left in the middle of the meeting and did not tape the remainder of the meeting for airing on Eastlink Cable.

As requested by Council, a letter has been sent to Mr. Brian Lynch, Station Manager at Eastlink Television. Copies of this letter were circulated to members on April 28th for their information.

It was agreed by consensus of members that no further action be taken in this matter until a response has been received to the letter sent to Eastlink Cable.

SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE FEES

A schedule of committee fees for the previous two weeks was circulated to members for their information.

SMITH & WATT INQUIRY

Members were informed that Mr. Richard Watt, a principal in Smith & Watt Limited, had inquired regarding the sale of vehicles within the Municipality by other companies. In particular, he expressed concern that South West Honda was permitted to bring vehicles into the Municipality and sell them at the front of the Sobeys parking lot, in Barrington Passage. This company was not required to make any investment in the Municipality at all and had an impact on local businesses in the community as a result of their sales promotion efforts.

Resolution COW050507

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that pertinent by-laws be obtained from other municipal units and provided to the committee for their consideration regarding the regulation of businesses in the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

MILLSTONE AT THE OLD WOOLEN MILL

Correspondence was received by a member regarding the condition of the millstone in the parking lot at the Barrington Woolen Mill Museum in Barrington. Concern was expressed that the millstone is being neglected and is in need of repair. It was requested that the Municipality forward correspondence to the Nova Scotia Museum requesting that they restore the millstone to a satisfactory condition.

Page 7, Committee of the Whole Meeting, May 2, 2005

Resolution COW050508

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Nova Scotia Museum be requested to repair the millstone monument located in the parking area of the Woolen Mill Museum in Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

The sentiment was expressed that some residents felt the Spring Clean-up was conducted too early in the year. In previous years it had been conducted in May. This is the first year that it has been conducted in April. It is also the first year that the current collector has done the collection. This concern will be duly noted and taken into consideration at the time of scheduling next year.

PANDEMIC FLU

Concern was expressed that a letter had been sent home by the School Board regarding potential activities in anticipation of a pandemic flu affecting the area.

It was brought to the attention of members that plans are being made by the South West Health Authority and by the Tri-County Regional School Board to deal with a potential pandemic flu.

At the present time little or no information has been forwarded to councillors regarding this matter. Our Emergency Measures Coordinator will be contacted to determine what action is being taken by the Emergency Measures Organization in this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the meeting adjourn at 10:00 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

Copied for Sean Strang and Larry Stewart by Sharon Brannen, and on website May 4, 2005.

