

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

May 30, 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
 - Fred Bower
 - Louise Halliday
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Eddie Nickerson (7:05 p.m.)
 - Larry Stewart
 - Sean Strang
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Budget Meeting Date.
- Closed Session Re: Personnel Matter.
- C.S.I. Sewer Survey.
- Road Grading.
- Correspondence.
- UNSM Royal Caucus.
- Fair and Equitable Funding.
- Unsightly Premises.
- South Side Ball Field Playground.
- Advertising Flyers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that the minutes of the last previous meeting held May 16, 2005 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTRE/LIBRARY PROJECT

Mrs. Trudy Amirault, Director of the Western Counties Regional Library; Chris Atwood, Economic Development Officer; Sonja Micheau, Youth Services Centre; Mark MacIsaac, Engineer; Paul Richardson, CA/Partner, Belliveau Veinotte and Dixie Redmond, Director of the Shelburne County Business Development Centre, all appeared before the meeting for the purposes of discussing the design of this project.

Mr. MacIsaac presented drafts of three (3) different designs for the proposed building. These designs included space for the Library, the Youth Services, the South West Shore Development Authority and the Shelburne County Business Development Centre.

After reviewing the designs there was some question as to whether or not there would be extra space available for other tenants. The design has to be further reviewed and revised in order to determine the exact layout required and the exact space requirements for each of the tenants.

Of the three proposed designs that were drafted, design #2 was preferred by Mrs. Amirault for the Library layout. Mrs. Amirault was concerned regarding the access to the washrooms from the Library and the supervision of that area by Library personnel.

It was also noted that ventilation in the computer room would be critical as the computers produce a considerable amount of heat.

There was also concern expressed regarding the amount of closet space and storage available in the Library.

Mr. Atwood wished to know the cost per square foot and when a commitment would be required from the South West Shore Development Authority.

It was indicated by the Shelburne County Business Development Centre that the space required by their office would be 240 sq. ft.

Mr. Richardson from Belliveau Veinotte indicated that his company would be interested in renting space in the building if space were available.

It was suggested that a common display area be provided for any hallway or foyer to the building.

There was some question regarding charges for common area space.

Resolution COW050518

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that Mr. MacIsaac contact the potential tenants of the facility and further develop a draft for the layout of the facility with minimum and maximum space required for each tenant.

Motion carried unanimously.

At this time members of the tenants group along with the engineer retired from the meeting to further discuss space requirements.

ACOA FUNDING

Members were informed that the Municipality had applied for an advance on the funding from ACOA for the purpose of paying for their portion of this project. A cheque has been received for \$123,000.00 or 50% of the funding, today, from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. These monies will be used to fund the project with the appropriate claims being made to ACOA.

TRADE AND LICENCING BY-LAW

Some questions had arisen at a previous meeting regarding the licences charged to individuals and companies who do not have business establishments within the Municipality and who periodically come into the Municipality to sell products.

This matter is usually addressed under a Trade and Licencing By-Law. Members were informed that the Municipality's Trade and Licencing By-Law allows for this type of activity to occur providing a licence is obtained. The cost of a licence is currently \$40.00. A similar Trade and Licencing By-Law from the Town of Yarmouth was obtained for comparative purposes. Their by-law is much the same as the Municipality's. Also, Service Nova Scotia has drafted a series of 17 model by-laws. One of these model by-laws includes a Trade and Licencing By-Law. Our Municipality's by-law is very similar to the model by-law and provides for much the same terms and conditions.

BICYCLE RODEO

Members were informed that correspondence has been received from the Active Communities Schools Group regarding a proposal to hold a bicycle rodeo at the Barrington Municipal Arena. This event will be co-sponsored by the R.C.M.P. and the Active Communities Schools Group.

The request from the sponsors is that the Arena be provided free of charge for this.

Resolution COW050519

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the Municipality provide the use of the Arena on June 24, 2005 for the purposes of hosting a bicycle rodeo by the R.C.M.P. and the Active Communities Schools Group.

Motion carried unanimously.

NOVA SCOTIA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE BOARDS

Correspondence has been received from the Nova Scotia Association of Police Boards. This correspondence includes a newsletter and an invoice in the amount of \$200.00 to join the association.

In the past the Municipality has not joined the Association and has not participated in the group as we do not have a local police service.

No further comment was made regarding this information at this time.

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BUILDING OFFICIALS QUESTIONNAIRE

At the recent Spring Conference of the UNSM a presentation was made regarding the qualification of building officials. At the end of this presentation a questionnaire was circulated to be completed by municipal units. This questionnaire has been copied to all members. The presentation made at the UNSM meeting will be circulated to all members as well, and the questionnaire will be discussed at a subsequent meeting of the committee.

BARRINGTON GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE

Correspondence has been received from the Barrington Ground Search & Rescue Association regarding funding for that organization to purchase the building in Barrington Passage. This correspondence has been circulated to all municipal units in Shelburne County. The correspondence informs the municipal units that Barrington Ground Search & Rescue is proposing to purchase a building from which to operate. This building will be purchased from the Municipality of Barrington at a cost of \$65,000.00. It is proposed that funds to make this purchase be raised from the various municipal units in the County over a five (5) year period. It is proposed that these funds be raised on a per capita basis.

Resolution COW050520

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the South West Shore Development Authority be informed that the Municipality of Barrington supports the request of the Barrington Ground Search & Rescue Group to purchase a building from which to operate as indicated in their financing request and proposal.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOUTH SHORE EQUIPMENT LIMITED

Property assessed in the name of South Shore Equipment Limited have been deleted from the Assessment Roll by the Assessment Services Office. It has not been possible to identify who the owners of South Shore Equipment Ltd. are and we have been informed by Assessment Services that this property no longer exists and has not been in existence for some time. The outstanding property taxes are from the 2003/2004 fiscal years. It is apparent that these taxes will not be able to be collected as they are on a building only and not on property.

Resolution COW050521

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the outstanding property taxes on property assessed in the name of South Shore Ice Equipment Ltd., in the amount of \$17.60 for 2003, and \$11.41 for 2004, be written off as uncollectible.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Fred Bower

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

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SOUTH WEST HEALTH MEETING INVITATION

Correspondence has been received from the South West Health Authority inviting councillors to attend a meeting on Monday, June 27, 2005, at the Yarmouth Regional Hospital. The purpose of this meeting is to indicate to councils in the district the plans for South West Nova District Health Authority for the coming year.

It was noted that a meeting of Barrington Municipal Council will be held on the same evening.

Resolution COW050522

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that a letter be sent to the South West Nova District Health Authority informing them that councillors would be unable to attend this particular meeting as it conflicts with the meeting of Barrington Municipal Council scheduled for the same evening.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT TO CITIZENS

Correspondence has again been received from Mr. Brian Crowell regarding Municipal Performance Measures. Mr. Crowell is suggesting that Council discuss the possibility of providing a Report Card for the Municipality using Municipal Performance Measures and provides information from the City of Kingston.

This matter was previously discussed at a Council meeting in February and it was agreed at that time that a report regarding this matter would be completed at the same time as the annual budget.

Members agreed that some type of annual report would be prepared by Municipal Staff to be included with the annual budget. Mr. Crowell will be informed that this is the action that will be pursued.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

It is proposed that there are two substantial expenditures that are required for the purchase of equipment and repairs. Preparations for these expenditures are necessary to be started as soon as possible in order to have them done in a timely manner.

The first expenditure is for the repair of the entry to the Barrington Municipal Arena. At the present time the entry at the Arena does not provide for adequate drainage of water. As a result, the base of the steel entry has corroded significantly over the years. Estimates have been obtained to repair the entry, raising it and sloping the concrete in front of it and inside the entry so that water runs away from the entry rather than towards it. The estimated cost of doing these repairs is approximately \$7,000.00, plus H.S.T.

Resolution COW050523

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff proceed with repairs to the entry at the Barrington Municipal Arena at a cost of approximately \$7,000.00, plus H.S.T., and that this amount be included in the budget for the current fiscal year.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Fred Bower
Eddie Nickerson
Sean Strang

Motion carried.

The second expenditure required is to purchase a utility machine. This machine would be a small tractor that would be used for the purpose of mowing grass at Sherose Island, at the Sherose Island ball field, and possibly at the Centreville ball field. Attachments would be purchased with this machine so that in the winter time it could be used as a snow blower and as a snow plow for plowing snow on various municipal properties including the sidewalk in Barrington Passage and the sidewalk at the Causeway. The purchase of this machine is a substantial expenditure for the Municipality and it will be necessary to tender this expenditure. It was agreed by members that due to the significance of this expenditure it should be included in the budget and considered during budget discussions. In the interim, Municipal Staff will contact Green Flamingo Landscaping and have them continue to mow grass as required.

BUDGET MEETING DATE

It was agreed by members that the budget would be circulated to them and would be discussed on Wednesday, June 15, 2005. This meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will continue all day until the budget has been completely reviewed and revised.

CLOSED SESSION RE: PERSONNEL MATTER

Members entered into Closed Session in order to be updated regarding a personnel matter.

CAPE SABLE ISLAND SEWER SURVEY

A draft survey was circulated to members for their information and review. It was suggested in this draft survey that three (3) questions be asked of residents of Cape Sable Island:

1. Do you wish to have a public sewer system constructed on Cape Sable Island?
2. How much would you be willing to pay in an annual service charge to finance the operation of a sewage system on Cape Sable Island?
3. Do you have any suggested locations for the sewage treatment plant to be constructed on Cape Sable Island?

After much discussion it was generally agreed that question 2 should be revised. It was indicated that a definite figure should be included for an estimated cost. It was suggested that the revised question indicate that: "It is estimated that the annual sewer service charge for the provision of services of a sewage system on Cape Sable Island will be approximately \$500.00 per year. Are you willing to pay this annual charge for sewer services?"

The survey will be redrafted accordingly before proceeding. The Barrington Municipal High School will be contacted regarding this survey to determine whether or not the students may conduct it over the next two weeks to a month.

GRADING OF ROADS

It was indicated by a member that the Lighthouse Road in Baccaro is in much need of grading.

Resolution COW050524

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that correspondence be sent to the Supervisor of the Department of Transportation requesting that the Lighthouse Road in Baccaro be repaired and graded as necessary.

Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had previously been circulated to members regarding the Assessment Management Board letter. This letter indicates that the cost of assessment services will increase due to the need for updating of technological facilities for this service. The cost of assessment services is increasing. This has been indicated by correspondence from the Province and the increase has been included in the proposed budget for the coming year. The correspondence received from Assessment Services indicates that they will be publicly tendering for the information technology required to upgrade their system.

FAIR AND EQUITABLE FUNDING AND UNSM RURAL CAUCUS

A document provided at the UNSM Spring Conference was previously circulated to members. This document is a report done by consultants for the UNSM entitled "Fair and Equitable Funding". In this report there are certain principles proposed and funding changes proposed for municipal units in Nova Scotia. This document will be further discussed and presented for acceptance by the UNSM at their Fall Conference. It was suggested that members review this document and be prepared to further discuss it as it will have a significant impact on our Municipality and all municipalities in the province.

Resolution COW050524

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that the Committee of the Whole further discuss the Fair and Equitable Funding Report at a future committee meeting before the Fall UNSM Conference.

Motion carried unanimously.

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It was also indicated that the UNSM Rural Caucus does not appear to have adequate direction. It appears to be “treading water while the other caucuses of the UNSM seem to be making headway in lobbying for their goals and objectives. This is a significant matter for rural municipal units as they do not seem to have an adequate lobby within the UNSM.

UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

A member informed the meeting that he has received some complaints regarding Stanley Greenwood’s Boat Shop in Centreville. This matter will be referred to our By-Law Enforcement Officer for further investigation.

SOUTH SIDE BALL FIELD

A member questioned whether or not the equipment at the playground at the South Side Ball Field was satisfactory. The equipment has been inspected by our Recreation Director and he has indicated that there is one piece of equipment that needs to be removed from the playground. This will be done in the very near future.

ADVERTISING FLYERS

In recent weeks advertising flyers have been distributed to residents in the Municipality in a very unsatisfactory manner. These flyers are placed in pink plastic bags and simply thrown at the end of driveways and in parking areas at residences and buildings around the Municipality, including the Municipal Office. In light of the fact that the Municipality has spent considerable monies for community clean-up, this method of distributing advertising flyers appears to be totally unsatisfactory.

Resolution COW050525

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality contact the distributors of advertising flyers within the Municipality and request they be placed in proper receptacles for distribution and not be thrown on the ground as is now common practice.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOAT AT NORTH EAST POINT

A memo has previously been circulated to members regarding the removal of a boat that has been hauled up near the boardwalk at North East Point.

Although the boat will be removed sometime in the next few weeks, this matter will be further pursued to determine the legal authority of the Municipality.

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ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

Copied for Sean Strang and Fred Bower by Sharon Brannen on June 1, 2005 and on website.

