

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

August 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
  - Fred Bower
  - Louise Halliday
  - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
  - Eddie Nickerson
  - Larry Stewart
  - Sean Strang
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Royal Bank Contribution.
- Hattie Perry E-mail.
- Council Remuneration.
- Street Light Repair.

### 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 L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that the minutes of the last previous meeting held July 18, 2005 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### FAIR AND EQUITABLE FUNDING

Prior to the meeting a summary of the report on Fair and Equitable Funding was circulated to members for their information and review.

The Fair and Equitable Funding Report is a submission to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities intended to be used as a proposal to the Province for the completion of service exchange between the province and municipalities. Many of the details required to be negotiated and put in place under this report have not as yet been developed. As a result it is practically impossible to determine whether or not this proposal will in fact be fair and in fact equitable among municipalities.

It is very difficult to agree to three (3) guiding principles without knowing what affect those guiding principles will have on the distribution and definition of services to be provided by the municipalities, or to be provided by the province.

Resolution COW050801

**Moved** by E. Nickerson and seconded F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to all rural municipal councils requesting their support in not supporting, in principle, the Fair and Equitable Funding Report that has been presented to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, until more details are available to determine whether or not the report will in fact be fair and equitable in its implementation.

Motion carried unanimously.

TEAM SHELBURNE PRIORITIES

This matter was referred to the Committee from Council.

The following priorities have been forwarded to Team Shelburne: *Education, Health Care, Transportation, Exports and New Industry.*

The purpose of this discussion was to provide additional information to the Warden when discussing these matters at Team Shelburne meetings.

It was suggested that a masonry course should be offered at the Nova Scotia Community College in Shelburne.

It was also suggested that the three (3) priorities that should be emphasized at Team Shelburne in order of their importance should be: *New Industry, Transportation and Health Care.*

Having provided the Warden with additional information, members completed their discussion of this matter.

PRE-APPROVAL RESOLUTION

In November, the Municipality will be refinancing the debenture that has been placed with the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation for the financing of the Barrington Regional Curling Club. It is necessary to provide the Finance Corporation with a Pre Approval of Debenture Issuance Subject to Interest Rate. This allows the Finance Corporation to put in place a debenture up to a maximum interest rate.

Resolution COW050802

**Moved** by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that under the authority of Section 91 of the Municipal Government Act, the Pre Approval of Debenture Issuance Subject to Interest Rate be approved by Council and forwarded to the Finance Corporation.

Motion carried unanimously.

### TOURIST DESTINATION SIGN

This matter was referred to Committee by Council.

The format of the tourist destination sign had previously been agreed as being “Municipality of Barrington Lobster Capital of Canada”.

There was some discussion regarding providing additional items on the sign similar to the design of the signs done for the Town of Yarmouth and the Municipality of Shelburne.

It was agreed by consensus of members that Municipal Staff would contact John Smith and request different designs be drafted by him for review of the committee. These designs once completed will be brought back to the committee for further consideration.

### REGION 6 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Correspondence has been received from Mr. Richard Dauphinee the Chairman of the Region 6 Solid Waste Management Inter-Municipal Steering Committee. In this correspondence, Warden Dauphinee indicates that Region 6 Steering Committee has accepted the request of the Municipality of Barrington to join that region. The approval of the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour will still be required. Until that approval has been received members of the Municipality are welcome to attend Region 6 meetings as observers.

Correspondence has also been received by e-mail indicating that a response to the Municipality’s request will also be received in the very near future from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour.

### STATION ROAD PROPERTY

Members discussed the purchase of property at the end of Station Road in Barrington Passage. Municipal Staff have been trying to obtain this property from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation for the past five (5) years. The purpose of obtaining this property is to transfer the property to the Marina Group so that a marina can be built on this site.

**Moved** by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality agree to the Offer of Sale from the Department of Transportation for their property on Station Road, and that the Municipality enter into the agreement to purchase the property.

After some discussion this motion was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

There then followed some discussion regarding the possibility of the property owned by the Department of Transportation and the property owned by the Department of Natural Resources being environmentally contaminated or presenting an environmental risk to the Municipality.

Resolution COW050803

**Moved** by S. Strang and seconded by E. Nickerson that the Municipal Solicitor's opinion be obtained regarding the potential contamination of these properties and the legal implications to the Municipality.

AFFIRMATIVE

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger  
Eddie Nickerson  
Larry Stewart  
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau  
Fred Bower  
Louise Halliday

Motion carried.

STREET LIGHTING POLICY

This matter was also referred to the Committee from Council.

As a result of discussion of the Street Lighting Policy at Council, it was apparent that more flexibility is required in this policy. Consequently, a proposed amendment was circulated to members by memo. The draft amendments states: "Street lights will be paid for through the General Tax Rate for the following: public and private road intersections, public monuments, parks and walkways, areas of public interest."

There then followed much discussion regarding the Street Lighting Policy and the installation of street lights in various areas of the Municipality.

Resolution COW050804

**Moved** by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that notice be given to Council at their next subsequent meeting of the proposed amendment to the Street Lighting Policy.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Warden then explained the request for a street light to be placed on Seaview Lane in Wood's Harbour. This matter had been addressed at Council and referred to the committee as well.

After some review of the situation and its comparison to other street lighting situations in the Municipality, it was agreed that this motion would be considered again at the following Council meeting.

REQUEST FOR TAX REDUCTION

The request for tax reduction has been received from the Mr. Jackson Lore for his property at #5505 Upper Clyde Road. Mr. Lore experienced a fire on his property of May 25, 2005 and has requested a tax reduction pursuant to Policy No. 46 "Tax Reduction Policy". The residential assessment on the property was \$75,600.00, and as a result of the fire the assessment has been reduced to \$20,300.00.

It has been the practice of the Municipality in the past to reduce the taxes in an amount corresponding to the reduction in the assessment. The proposed reduction in assessment will be \$54,800.00. A corresponding reduction in taxes would be \$591.84, plus the corresponding reduction in the area fire rate. Under Policy 46 a resolution of Council is required to reduce the taxes to the extent Council considers appropriate. This matter will be brought forward to the next following Council meeting.

#### TAX SALE UPDATE

Members were brought up to date on the current Tax Sale. The number of properties originally listed was 43. At the present time there are still 26 properties on the Tax Sale List. It is estimated that there will be no more than ten (10) to twelve (12) properties actually sold at the time of Tax Sale.

#### ROYAL BANK CONTRIBUTION

Correspondence has been received from the Royal Bank Atlantic Provinces Headquarters indicating that they are contributing \$500.00 toward the Barrington Municipal Historical Research Room which will be contained in the new Library to be constructed in Barrington Passage.

#### HATTIE PERRY E-MAIL

An e-mail has been received from Hattie Perry a resident of Barrington. In this e-mail concern was expressed over the site of the new CED Centre/Library to be constructed by the Municipality. Mrs. Perry indicates that she does not believe the Owaissa Park site is an acceptable site for the construction of this building. She believes it would be much better if this project were located near the Community Health Centre. Mrs. Perry also requests the Municipality's reasons for choosing this site.

#### Resolution COW050805

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality forward a letter to Hattie Perry indicating the reasons for the choice of the site at Owaissa Park.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### COUNCIL REMUNERATION

Concern was expressed that Councillor's remuneration be related to the increase in the Consumer Price Index each year.

This provision has already been made in Policy No. 8.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

It was suggested that new employees should be introduced to the general public in the Municipality by way of an advertisement in the local newspaper.

Resolution COW050806

**Moved** by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that when new permanent employees are hired by the Municipality a picture of the employee, indicating the position for which they have been hired and the work for which they are responsible, be advertised in the local newspaper, providing it is acceptable to the employee.

Motion carried unanimously.

STREET LIGHT REPAIR

It was indicated that a street light in the vicinity of Reynolds Trucking on the Port LaTour Road needs to be repaired. This will be communicated to Nova Scotia Power for their attention.

ADJOURNMENT

**Moved** by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn at 9:27 p.m.

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Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

**Copied for Councillors on August 3, 2005.**

