

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

December 5, 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 AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Search & Rescue Building.
- Christmas Tree.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by E. Nickerson 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 F. Bower that the minutes of the last previous meeting held November 21, 2005 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON DISTRICT 7E VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INTERVIEW

Mr. Paul Thomas, Deputy Chief of the Barrington 7E Volunteer Fire Department, and Mr. Paul Nickerson a property owner at Brass Hill, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing a water hole located on Mr. Nickerson's property.

It was indicated that the water hole had been there for a very long time but had never been used by the fire department. Mr. Thomas indicated that the fire department wished to maintain the water hole and have it upgraded due to potential expansion of Bay Side Home, and due to the fact that Brass Hill has been so highly developed over the years. The fire hole across the street from the Sewage Treatment Plant on Bay Side Drive is sometimes pumped dry by the fire department, and therefore it is advisable to maintain another water hole in the area.

Mr. Nickerson indicated that he has no objection to the water hole being maintained, however he would like to see the area cleaned up and made more presentable to the public. It may also need a safety barrier of some kind in order to keep younger children away from the water hole.

Resolution COW051201

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality restore the water hole on the property of Mr. Paul Nickerson of Brass Hill in consultation with the property owner and submit a plan to Council for approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed the discussion of this matter, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Nickerson retired from the meeting.

MEETING DATES

It was agreed by consensus of members that the January 2, 2006 meeting scheduled for the Committee of the Whole Council will be canceled. It was also agreed that the January 23, 2006 meeting of Council would be moved to January 30, 2006. A federal election is scheduled to be held on January 23, 2006 and Eastlink has agreed that they will tape the Council meeting if it is held on January 30, 2006, and broadcast it at a later date.

HERITAGE HUNTING AND FISHING PROTECTION ACT

This matter was referred to committee from Council.

Resolution COW051202

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that a letter, as requested, be sent in support of the Heritage Hunting and Fishing Protection Act.

AFFIRMATIVE

Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Motion carried.

SHEROSE ISLAND PROPERTY

The Department of National Defence has been asked to provide a copy of the consultant's report that was prepared prior to the purchase of the Sherose Island property from DND. Once this report is received Council will then make a decision on the action to be taken at this site.

CED CENTRE/LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

Mark MacIsaac, the Owner's Engineer on this project, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of updating members on the progress of the project.

Mr. MacIsaac provided a written update and circulated a copy to all members. The Department of Transportation needs to clean the culvert that goes from the front of the pond at Owaissa Park onto the highway, and drain through a ditch down to the ocean.

Resolution COW051203

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that the Municipality request the Department of Transportation to clean the culvert and the ditch to the ocean.

Motion carried unanimously.

There then followed some discussion regarding skating on the pond during the winter. It was generally agreed that appropriate barriers and snow fencing would be put in place so that the public could skate on the pond during the winter when it freezes.

Mr. MacIsaac also agreed to call the Municipal Clerk in the morning for the purpose of discussing insurance coverage.

Having completed his discussion of the project, Mr. MacIsaac then retired from the meeting.

INTERVIEW RE: HALLOWEEN NIGHT

For the purpose of discussing events that took place on the previous Halloween night, and in preparation for Halloween next year, the following individuals attended the meeting: R.C.M.P. Sergeant Kevin Surette, R.C.M.P. Constables Paris and O'Brien; Eugene Stoddard, Greg Duggan and Dwayne Hunt of the Island and Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department. Benny Acker called this afternoon indicating that he would be unable to attend this evening. Mr. Acker stated that next year he would have one individual on call at the Barrington D.O.T. shed if need be during the evening of Halloween. This individual would clear the road of any debris using a D.O.T. grader.

There then followed much discussion regarding the events that took place the previous Halloween and how to prevent them the next Halloween.

Sergeant Surette indicated that a curfew would assist in controlling events that took place on Halloween, however, it was not a "cure all" for the problems that exist.

It was agreed by consensus of members that Sergeant Surette will draft a plan for policing for next Halloween for the consideration of Council. This plan will be forwarded to the Municipal Office for the consideration of Council and comments made back to the R.C.M.P.

2005 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE REPORT

Members further discussed the information provided by the V.I.C. Manager.

It was the consensus of members that visitors should be asked why they came to the Barrington area, and the reasons for them coming to our area should be tracked.

SNOW PLOW

Information on the cost of purchasing a snow plow to be installed on the 3/4 ton flat bed was provided to members. The approximate cost of purchasing and installing a snow plow is \$5,500.00. In addition, there will be other costs to provide for security lighting and alarms on the vehicle. It is estimated the total cost of purchasing and installing the necessary equipment would be in the range of \$6,000.00. Installing the snow plow on the 3/4 ton vehicle will give us two plow vehicles which will provide for more flexibility in snow removal and salting of municipal properties.

Resolution COW051204

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a snow plow and associated equipment be purchased and installed on the 3/4 ton flat bed truck with the funds being provided from reserves.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

RENTAL REQUEST

Members were informed that a request to rent the offices in the Municipal Administration Building that are currently being rented by the South West Shore Development Authority has been received. This information was provided for the awareness of councillors and will be further updated if it is pursued by a potential tenant.

ON CALL SERVICE

A memo that had been forwarded to the Municipal Clerk from the Sewage Treatment Plant Operator was circulated to members for their information. The Sewage Treatment Plant Operator is asking that an additional person be inserted into the on call schedule so that the on call schedule will not be so demanding on the two people who are now sharing it.

Additional information was provided to members indicating how emergency call-outs and alarms were responded to in other municipal units. A summary of the call outs from April 1st to November 12th, 2005 was also circulated to members for their information. Members were also informed that this matter had been discussed with the Property Services Supervisor who is in agreement to providing this relief on occasion.

Resolution COW051205

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Property Service Supervisor and the Property Services Technician both be trained in sewer pumping station maintenance so that they would be able to share in the on call schedule in the sewer services, if required. The priority for these people would continue to be the operation of the Arena and other property services.

AFFIRMATIVE

Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Motion carried.

WOOD'S HARBOUR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST

On Halloween night the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Department rented a vehicle from Clarence Smith Used Cars. It has been the custom of the department to rent a vehicle which they use to patrol their district during that evening. In this way, if there is any damage to the vehicle, it is less significant that if it were to a fire truck.

A letter has been received from the Treasurer of the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department requesting the Municipality to pay the bill for the rental of the vehicle which had the windshield broken by rocks during that evening. The cost of the rental of the vehicle is \$230.00, including H.S.T.

Resolution COW051206

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality deny the request of the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department for the payment of a bill from Clarence Smith Used Cars for the rental of a used vehicle on Halloween night, as members of other fire departments and R.C.M.P. also received vehicle damage during the evening, and the cost of these damages were being born by those organizations and individuals.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOUTH WEST SHORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REQUEST

A letter of request has been received from the South West Shore Development Authority seeking a letter of support and funding for a promotional effort for foreign direct investment in this area through the Community Investment Support Program.

It was agreed by consensus of members that this matter would be further discussed with the CEO of the S.W.S.D.A. at a meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2005.

TERRY HAWKINS INDUSTRIES LTD.REQUEST

Terry Hawkins Industries Ltd. had requested a letter of support from Barrington Municipal Council for funding from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. This matter was referred to committee by Council. Information on Terry Hawkins Industries that was obtained from their website was previously circulated to members for their information.

Resolution COW051207

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter of support be sent to Terry Hawkins Industries Ltd. from Barrington Municipal Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

MUNICIPAL LAW SYMPOSIUM

A Municipal Law Symposium will be held on February 9th and 10th, 2006, in Halifax. This symposium is being sponsored by Dalhousie University, Service Nova Scotia, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities and the Association of Municipal Administrators of Nova Scotia.

Resolution COW051208

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the expenses of councillors wishing to attend the Municipal Law Symposium being conducted February 9th and 10th, 2006, in Halifax.

Motion carried unanimously.

The following councillors indicated that they wished to attend: Warden Belliveau, Deputy Warden Bower, Councillor Halliday and Councillor Messenger.

PROPOSED TENNIS COURT EXPANSION

Information concerning the construction of a new tennis court at Sherose Island was previously circulated to members by memo. The cost of constructing a new tennis court is approximately

\$50,000.00.

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After some discussion it was agreed by consensus of members that consideration of construction of a new tennis court would be postponed until spring. This action is being taken in order to give the skateboarding group time to raise funds for the construction of a skateboard park. In the spring it will be determined whether or not the current tennis court will be used for a skateboard park, and whether or not one or two additional tennis courts will be required.

WASTE COLLECTION START TIMES

Council had previously agreed to have the municipal waste collection start at 7:00 a.m. in the morning instead of at 8:00 a.m. The start time was advanced earlier to 7:00 a.m. for a trial period of six months which ends on December 13, 2005.

Resolution COW051209

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the waste collection start time of 7:00 a.m. be continued, as it has to date caused no serious problems for the waste collector or residents.

AFFIRMATIVE

Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Motion carried.

FAIR AND EQUITABLE FUNDING

A report has been received from the Rural Caucus of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities on Fair and Equitable Funding, and has been circulated to members by email.

Resolution COW0512010

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Halliday that consideration of the additional information on the Fair and Equitable Funding Report be deferred to a subsequent meeting of the Committee of the Whole Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

A Schedule of Fees for the previous two weeks was circulated to members for their information.

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BARRINGTON GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE BUILDING

A press release published by the Barrington Ground Search and Rescue Group was circulated to members by email to members today. Also, a letter was received at the Municipal Office today from Mr. Michael Hopkins, President of the Barrington Ground Search & Rescue Group. This letter confirmed that funding has been agreed to by all of the municipal units for the purchase of the former Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department property in Barrington Passage. The Barrington Ground Search and Rescue Group will purchase this property with funds provided by all of the municipal units except for the Town of Lockeport. The Town of Lockeport's share of the funding for the purchase of the building has been provided by private individuals in the community. The Search and Rescue Group now wishes to proceed with the purchase of the property and transfer of it from the Municipality of Barrington.

Resolution COW051211

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality complete an agreement to be signed by the other municipal units who have agreed to the funding for the purchase of municipal property by the Barrington Ground Search and Rescue Group, and that the Municipality proceed with the agreement of sale and deed transfer.

Motion carried unanimously.

CHRISTMAS TREE

It was suggested that the Municipality plant a permanent Christmas tree on municipal property at the Causeway.

This matter will be further investigated to determine whether or not a tree can be planted in this area, and how the Municipality should proceed.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn at 10:47 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

On website December 7, 2005.

