

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

March 6, 2006

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:

- Wood's Harbour Ambulance Service.
- Personnel Policy Amendments.
- Meeting with Ministers.
- District Health Authority Meeting.
- Fire Department Meeting.
- Requests from Sports Groups.
- Clam Flats Closure.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger 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 February 20, 2006 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

CED CENTRE/LIBRARY UPDATE

Mark MacIsaac appeared before the meeting in order to bring members up to date on the construction of the CED Centre/Library. A written report was circulated to members by Mr. MacIsaac. No additional site work has been done since the last meeting. The building construction is nearing completion. The permanent power supply has yet to be hooked up. This is the remaining construction work that needs to be completed. The building is now insured by the Municipality as Delmar Construction has completed its portion of the building and released

their insurance as of midnight March 3, 2006.

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Mr. MacIsaac informed members that it is anticipated the permanent power supply will be completed some time this week.

Having completed his review of the construction, Mr. MacIsaac then retired from the meeting.

SHELBURNE COUNTY LOBSTER FESTIVAL REQUEST

Resolution COW060301

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$250.00 be provided to the Shelburne County Lobster Festival.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY GRANTS REQUEST

Two community grant requests have been received in District 5. These community groups are requesting grants for the current fiscal year.

Resolution C)W060302

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$1,400.00 be provided to the Old Kirk Cemetery, and a grant of \$1,400.00 be provided to the Stoney Island Cemetery, from the District 5 Community Grants Fund in order to provide for upkeep and maintenance projects at both cemeteries.

Motion carried unanimously.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

An information letter and a request for funding have been received from Barrington Ground Search & Rescue for the coming fiscal year. This letter outlines the funding required from each municipal unit in the county by Search & Rescue. The letter will be included in the municipal budget when it is prepared.

ARENA THEFTS

Members were informed that two (2) thefts have recently occurred from vehicles parked outside the Barrington Municipal Arena. The first was on February 16th and the second was on March 3rd, 2006. These occurred as a result of vehicle owners leaving valuables in their vehicles in the parking lot. In both cases the vehicles appeared to have been locked.

Resolution COW060303

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff place warning signs in the parking lot at the Barrington Municipal Arena and the Barrington Regional Curling Club to assist in the prevention of any further break-in to vehicles and theft of valuables from vehicles.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Fred Bower

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM PATRONS

A letter which had been received from Allie Duggan was read to members. In this letter Ms. Duggan expressed thanks to Michael Swim, an employee at the Arena, for providing assistance to her in sharpening her skates at the Barrington Municipal Arena.

Resolution COW060304

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by L. Stewart that a letter of response be sent to Ms. Duggan thanking her for noticing, and for caring enough to take the time to write a letter to the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

STREET LIGHT REPORT

The report prepared as a result of reviewing the operation of street lights was circulated to members. 101 street lights have been identified as needing repair by Nova Scotia Power. This is approximately 10% of the total number of street lights in the Municipality, which is a decrease from the previous survey done approximately two (2) years ago.

D.O.T. ANNUAL COUNT PROGRAM

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Transportation regarding its annual Count Program. This year the Count Program will be concentrated in the western district which includes our Municipality.

Much discussion followed regarding the potential for volume counts and vehicle identification counts being done within the Municipality.

Resolution COW060305

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Provincial Department of Transportation be requested to do traffic volume counts in the following locations:

1. Both ends of the Stoney Island Road.
2. South Side Road at the Centreville end.
3. Newellton Road along Route 330.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Fred Bower

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

Resolution COW060306

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation be required to do a traffic volume count on the Villagedale Road at a location beyond the Old Post Road in Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

UNSM WORKSHOP

Correspondence has been received from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities indicating that there will be a workshop entitled *Emerging Chief Elected Officials Leadership Imperatives*. This workshop will be held on April 6th and 7th, 2006 at the White Point Beach Resort. The workshop is programmed for mayors and wardens only.

Resolution COW060307

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that the Municipality pay expenses for the Warden to attend the UNSM Workshop on April 6th and 7th, 2006 at the White Point Beach Resort, should he wish to attend.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S RETIREMENT

Members were informed that the Recreation Director's employment agreement expires at the end of December 2006. At that time the Recreation Director has indicated he will be retiring. As a result it is necessary that the following matters be dealt with:

1. A wage scale must be established for a new Recreation Director. This scale has been proposed to be \$36,000 to \$41,000 per year and was included in the three (3) year wage review recently approved by Council.
2. It was suggested that the new Recreation Director begin employment no later than October 1, 2006 in order to become familiar with the current programs and services offered through the Recreation Department, and also to become familiar with the many volunteers the Recreation Director must deal with.
3. A job description must be prepared for the new Recreation Director prior to advertising for a new employee.
4. If Council so wishes an event should be planned for the retirement of the present Recreation Director.

It was agreed by members that Municipal Staff should prepare a recommendation for these matters to be considered by the Committee in the near future.

CLERK-TREASURER'S SALARY

Information was provided to members by the Deputy Clerk regarding Clerk-Treasurer's salaries in adjacent municipalities and towns.

Resolution COW060308

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Clerk-Treasurer's salary range be increased to \$57,000 to \$65,000 per year.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOUTH WEST SHORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Prior to the meeting a memo to members had been circulated with comments regarding the South West Shore Development Authority's Strategic Plan.

Members then discussed the content of the plan and its implications for the Municipality.

Resolution COW060309

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the South West Shore Development Authority be requested to explain:

1. What is meant in its Strategic Plan by municipal amalgamation in Shelburne County?
2. Why is its approach to job creation concentrated on courting a major industry? Would it not be better to court many smaller businesses in order to provide more jobs in the Municipality.
3. What is meant by establishing a county-wide industrial commission, and why is this a priority of the South West Shore Development Authority?

Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS OCCUPANCY TAX

Correspondence has been received from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business regarding the elimination of business occupancy tax. In this correspondence, the Director of Provincial Affairs for the CFIB is requesting Council share their plan for the elimination of the business occupancy tax, and for passing the savings on to the commercial sector. They are requesting this information by March 31, 2006 so that they can pass this information on to their members.

Members were also informed that form letters had been received together with the letter from the CFIB. These form letters were from Leo Atkinson Fisheries, Emery Smith Fisheries Ltd., Thomas Scott Lumber Ltd., Leverton Atwood, Cyber Geek Computer Solutions, GEM Sporting Goods, A & B Marine (2002) Ltd. and ARB Scottt Masonry Ltd.

At the present time members did not wish to make any response to this correspondence.

B.M.H.S. STUDENTS

The Warden had been informed by phone call from Mrs. Melanie Cottreau that her son Garrett who attends Drumlin Heights High School will not be permitted to attend the new Barrington Municipal High School in the French Emersion Course when the school opens in March. This student will be permitted to return to B.M.H.S. in September when the new school year begins.

There then followed much discussion regarding the Municipality's knowledge and involvement of a particular student's case when dealing with the School Board.

Resolution COW060310

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by E. Nickerson that Mrs. Cottreau be informed that she should address this issue to her elected School Board representative.

Motion carried unanimously.

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VOLUNTEER NOMINATIONS

Prior to the meeting, members were provided with copies of the volunteer nomination forms received by the Municipality. Members then reviewed the forms and cast secret ballots in order to determine the Volunteer of the Year for the Municipality for 2006.

Resolution COW060311

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that Leona Mae Devine be celebrated as Volunteer of the Year for 2006 for the Municipality of the District of Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

C & D LANDFILL SCHEDULE

Members were informed of a proposed new C & D Landfill schedule. This new schedule will provide for the Landfill to be open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Shenton Allen will work from Monday to Friday, and Rob Williams and Cameron Whiteway will work from Tuesday to Saturday. On Mondays there will only be one employee, Mr. Allen, working at the Landfill. The remainder of the week there will be three (3) employees, except on Saturday when there will be two.

Resolution COW060312

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that effective April 1, 2006 the hours of operation of the C & D Landfill be changed to Monday to Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily; closed on Sunday.

Motion carried unanimously.

FAIR AND EQUITABLE FUNDING

Correspondence has been received from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities requesting that a resolution supporting the implementation of the UNSM initiative called *Fair and Equitable Funding* be passed by councils in the Province during the month of March.

Resolution COW060313

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Fair and Equitable Funding Resolution provided by the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities be approved by Council.

AFFIRMATIVE
Sterling Belliveau

NEGATIVE
Fred Bower

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

Motion carried.

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JANITORIAL SERVICES

Correspondence has been received regarding the provision of janitorial services at municipal facilities. This information was read to members and discussed at length.

Resolution COW060314

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that arrangements be made by Municipal Staff for the provision of janitorial services at the new CED Centre/Library building, as well as the former library building.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

WOOD'S HARBOUR AMBULANCE SERVICE

Correspondence has been received from the Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce regarding the provision of ambulance services in the Wood's Harbour area.

It was the consensus of members that the Chamber of Commerce be informed that this matter has been previously dealt with by Council, and that a copy of the letter previously received from Emergency Health Services be forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce for their information.

PERSONNEL POLICY AMENDMENTS

At the time of the three year wage review Personnel Policy amendments were also brought forward to Council. These amendments bring the Personnel Policy's articles 10 and 11 up to date and make them consistent with the Labour Standards Code.

Resolution COW060315

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that notice be given of proposed amendments to articles 10 and 11 of the Municipal Personnel Policy at the next subsequent Council meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISTRICT HEALTH AUTHORITY MEETING

Correspondence has been received by email that the District Health Authority will be holding a meeting on Monday, March 27, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., in the Bluenose Conference Room, in the Yarmouth Regional Hospital. This is the annual meeting held by the DHA to inform municipal units of their business plan for the coming year. Councillors Halliday, Messenger, Strang and Belliveau indicated that they would attend this meeting.

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Resolution COW060316

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by F. Bower that the Municipality pay the expenses of councillors to attend the DHA meeting to be held on March 27, 2006 at the Yarmouth Regional Hospital.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETING

Members agreed to schedule the Semi-Annual Fire Department Meeting during the month of April. This will be done by Municipal Staff in the near future.

REQUEST FROM SPORTS GROUPS

For the benefit of new members the requests being made by sports groups was discussed. Sports groups are not normally provided with grants to travel to or from provincial or regional competitions. It was also suggested at this time that there be some type of recognition provided to sports groups or individuals who won provincial or regional competitions.

CLAM FLATS CLOSURE

A resident had requested of the Warden if it would be possible for the Municipality to inquire why the clam flats in Barrington Bay are closed to local harvesters both during the winter months and during the summer months.

Resolution COW060317

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans be asked why certain areas are closed to the harvesting of clams during winter months, and why they are also closed during summer months, and also why can't residents harvest clams in areas that are normally open during the winter months.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION RE: SALE OF PROPERTY AND LEGAL MATTER

Conflict of Interest

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger declared a conflict of interest due to being a Director of the Shelburne County Business Development Centre, and left the room during the discussion of the legal matter.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:40 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

On website March 7, 2006.

