

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, October 23, 2006. The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported that all councillors representing all districts of the Municipality were present with the exception of the vacancy existing in District 4. The Municipal By-election to fill this vacancy was held on Saturday, October 21, 2006 and Wilford Smith was the successful candidate. The official count will take place tomorrow, October 24, 2006. The successful candidate will be sworn into office during the first meeting in November.

- Warden Louise Halliday
- Deputy Warden Eddie Nickerson
- Councillor George El-Jakl
- Councillor Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Larry Stewart
- Councillor Sean Strang

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held October 10, 2006, and the Emergency Council Meeting held October 11, 2006, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The Warden informed members that it is necessary to add the following to the agenda:

- Roseway Manor Open House.
- Community Grant Request.
- Juniper House.
- VON.
- Manager's Retreat.
- Asphalt Plant.

The Warden reported that it is necessary to also deal with the following matters in Closed Session:

- Physician Agreement.
- Purchase of Property.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Beach Sweeps

As requested by Council at their last meeting, information has been obtained on beach sweeps carried out by other schools. Cape Sable Island Elementary School carried out a beach sweep on October 6, 2006 at North East Point Beach. There were 40 participants and the most common items collected were Tim Horton's cups and McDonald's bags.

The Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary School Environment Club also carried out a shoreline cleanup. The cleanup was carried out in September and approximately 15 students participated.

CORRESPONDENCE

EI Benefits

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with copies of letters received from the Municipality of East Hants, the Municipality of Digby and the Municipality of Shelburne, all in support of Council's request to have the number of hours required for Employment Insurance benefits decreased.

Roseway Manor Open House

An invitation has been received inviting members to attend an Open House at Roseway Manor on October 28, 2006, at 2:00 p.m.

Community Grant Request

Members were informed that a request has been received from the Barrington Minor Ball Association for funding to assist with the cost of three loads of crusher dust for the Ralph Creamer Atwood Memorial Ball Field.

Resolution 061009

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that a grant be provided to the Barrington Minor Ball Association for work to be carried out on the Ralph Creamer Atwood Memorial Ball Field in the amount of \$700.00 from the District 3 Community Grants Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

Juniper House

The Clerk informed members that a thank you letter has been received from Juniper House for the grant the Municipality provided to them this year.

VON

The Clerk informed members that a letter has been received from Josephine Blaine, Nurse Manager of VON Tri-County/Queens. The Tri-County VON is requesting space in the Barrington Medical Centre, 1 day a week, for an Ambulatory Care Nursing Clinic.

Resolution C061010

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by D. Messenger that the request from VON be approved and that the small office in the back of the Community Health Centre be made available for this clinic.

Motion carried unanimously.

Manager's Retreat

A Manager's Retreat will be held at the Visitor Information Centre on Tuesday, October 24, 2006. A request has been received for a representative of the Municipality to be present to welcome the managers, and to receive a formal thank you for hosting the event.

Resolution C061011

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that Councillor Donna LeBlanc-Messenger be present to welcome the managers attending the retreat.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Order Re: Dangerous and Unsightly Premises

At the last meeting of Council a motion was passed that Mrs. Frances Brannen be informed that Council will consider the issuance of an Order to demolish and remove debris from her property located in Wood's Harbour known as "the Old Bowling Alley".

The Clerk informed members that the property owner has taken action to address the dangerous and unsightly condition of her property. The building has been demolished and 13 truckloads of debris have been removed from the site. Approximately 3-4 loads remain on site. It has been indicated by the company cleaning up the site that the job will be completed sometime tomorrow.

Due to the action taken by the property owner, there is no need to issue an Order to have the dangerous and unsightly condition addressed.

The By-Law Enforcement Officer has also advised that the adjacent empty building owned by Mrs. Owen Adams has also been demolished at Mrs. Adam's request. This course of action was taken by the property owner to prevent any potential problems arising by vandals.

Resolution C061012

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that a letter be sent to the Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department informing them of the action taken by the property owner to address the condition of the property.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONTINUATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

Asphalt Plant

The Clerk informed members that Dexter's Construction Co. Ltd. is requesting permission to erect an asphalt plant on municipal property on the Ridge Road in the Riverhead area. The letter advised that representatives of their company have met with Mr. Ken Quinlan and he has no problem with their presence in the area.

If the Municipal Council allows the company to use the site for the balance of 2006, they are prepared to offer a fee of \$2,500.00, or could perform some service to the Municipality.

Resolution C061013

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that an agreement be entered into with Dexter Construction Co. Ltd. for the use of property on the Ridge Road in Riverhead and the setup of an asphalt plant for a fee of \$2,500.00 or some service to the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF WARDEN

No outside meetings were attended by the Warden since the last meeting of Council.

CONTINUATION OF NEW BUSINESS

Report of V.I.C. Manager

Diane Smith, Manager of the Visitor Information Centre, appeared before Council. She provided a summary for the past tourist season. A total of 7,550 visitors signed the guest book this year at the Visitor Information Centre. This was a decline of approximately 21% from last year. Visitors sited high gas prices, the US dollar and bad weather as a deterrent for traveling to Nova Scotia.

A survey was conducted by the V.I.C. staff during the summer which showed that 23% of the visitors came to the Centre to specifically inquire about the local area. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of putting together a slide show, showing the various points of interest in the Municipality.

Resolution C061014

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that the possibility of putting together a tourism slide show be added to the Committee of the Whole agenda for further discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk-Treasurer gave a report on activities carried out during the month of September 2006.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Medicare Meeting

Deputy Warden Nickerson informed members that there will be a Medicare Meeting held in Shelburne on October 26, 2006. It was noted that there is also a meeting of the Bay Side Home Corporation to be held that same evening. Deputy Warden Nickerson indicated that he planned to attend the Medicare Meeting and would also represent Council.

D.O.T. Matters

Grading of Road Request

Deputy Warden Nickerson informed members that a resident has expressed concern regarding the condition of his gravel road. The resident lives on a gravel road at the end of New Road at The Hawk which is owned by the Department of Transportation.

Resolution C061015

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the Municipal Clerk contact the Department of Transportation and request that the road be graded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Highway 103 Extension

Deputy Warden Nickerson informed members that he has been presented with a petition signed by residents opposed to the closure of the current access road to the proposed new highway 103. The residents believe that the closure of the access road would increase the traffic flow consisting of a large number of heavy trucks and machinery, because of construction and trucking businesses located in Oak Park, through the residential area of Oak Park which now includes the Municipal High School. The petition indicated that they feel that the travelling through the school area, with students and busses constantly present, endangers the safety of students, residents and vehicle drivers, especially during the winter months when the highway is often more treacherous because of ice and snow. The residents are therefore asking that the current access road now located on Highway #3 remain open so as to alleviate this risk.

Resolution C061016

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the Municipal Council endorse the petition received, and concerns of residents be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation requesting that the current access road remain open. If the access road cannot remain open then the asphalt road surface be left as is, in case future access is allowed.

Motion carried unanimously.

Library

Deputy Warden Nickerson provided members with a copy of the library report for September.

EMO Executive Committee

Councillor Stewart informed members that Jim Newell has now been hired as the Joint EMO Coordinator for the Municipality of Barrington and the Town of Clark's Harbour.

Department of Transportation Matters

Councillor Stewart informed members that a resident from his district has expressed concern regarding an accumulation of water in the ditch in front of his property. He suggested that the ditch needs to be cleaned out and possibly a culvert installed across the road.

Resolution C061017

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by D. Messenger that a letter be written to the Department of Transportation advising them of the concerns of Donnie Ross, Civic #482, Stoney Island Road, concerning the ditch in front of his property, and that representatives from the Department of Transportation be requested to contact Mr. Ross to resolve this matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that Department of Transportation representatives be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee of the Whole to discuss various Department of Transportation issues.

Motion withdrawn.

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the following matters be brought to the attention of Benny Acker, Supervisor of the Department of Transportation, and a copy of this correspondence be forwarded to Greg Newell, Area Manager:

- pot holes, Crowell's area
- pot holes near Old School House
- request from Jocelyn Ross for a hidden driveway sign, Civic #1883, Ph: 745-1270
- low shoulder at corner near Baffy Symond's house, Civic #1058, Highway #330, Centreville
- pot hole at entrance to Station Road in Wood's Harbour
- ditch near property of Cindy Goreham, Corey Belliveau and Carl Nickerson requires ditching

Motion carried unanimously.

Council has requested to be informed of the action taken on the matters listed above.

UNSM CONFERENCE

Councillor LeBlanc-Messenger and Councillor El-Jakl both gave brief reports on the UNSM Conference recently held in Sydney. One session at the conference dealt with the importance of keeping the public informed.

It was noted that the Municipality of Barrington does prepare a news release periodically, and all minutes, notice of meetings etc. are contained on the Municipal Website.

Resolution C061018

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that the importance of keeping the public informed be placed on the agenda for a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

At this time the Warden turned her Chair over to the Deputy Warden.

Warden Halliday expressed her regrets in not being able to attend the UNSM Conference.

The Chair was then resumed by the Warden.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Starci Blades Request

Resolution C061019

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the request from Starci Blades and her parents for funding to attend a Model and Talent Search Canada interview, in Montreal, on November 10-12, 2006 be denied. Council is empathic towards their need for funding for this purpose and wishes Starci the best of luck in her trip to Montreal, however, at the present time, Municipal Policy does not provide for such donations. Council wishes to extend its congratulations to Starci in having been chosen for this event, and wishes her the best of luck in her participation.

Motion carried unanimously.

High School Annex Property

Resolution C061020

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that the Municipality exchange a portion of municipal property in Oak Park with the Tri-County Regional School Board for the High School Annex property in Barrington Passage which is currently being used by the School Board. By exchanging this property, the Municipality will obtain the Annex property which can be included with the former Barrington Municipal High School property, as one property to be sold for development within the commercial district of Barrington Passage. The Annex property, because of its location in the centre of the commercial district, is deemed to be of greater value than the property being provided to the School Board. The property being provided to the School Board is believed to be of use to them because of its proximity to the new High School.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the Municipality submit the revised estimates to the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund of \$623,000.00 for an asphalt sidewalk and walking trail along the former CNR right of way in Wood's Harbour.

Warden Halliday turned her chair over to the Deputy Warden in order that she could address the motion.

The Warden then resumed the chair.

Resolution C061021

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that the above motion be amended by inserting the words "along Highway #3" after the word "sidewalk".

Motion carried unanimously.

The amended motion will now read as follows:

"... that the Municipality submit the revised estimates to the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund of \$623,000.00 for an asphalt sidewalk along Highway #3, and walking trail along the former CNR right of way in Wood's Harbour.

Motion carried unanimously.

Recreation Director's Salary

Resolution C061022

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the new Recreation Director, Eric MacKenzie, begin at a salary of \$36,000.00 per year and follow the established salary scale with five (5) equal annual increments over the next five years.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONTINUATION OF NEW BUSINESS

Tender Re: Sidewalk Extension

The Clerk informed members that the Sidewalk Extension Project was previously tendered with one (1) tender being received. The tender received was over budget and therefore it was the decision of Council to retender the project. The project was retendered with the deadline being set for tonight at 7:00 p.m. No tenders were received. The Clerk suggested that this matter be put on hold until spring.

Resolution C061023

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the Clerk once again advertise for tenders for the Sidewalk Extension Project at the appropriate time.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

At this time a Closed Session of Council was held to deal with the physician agreement, purchase of property, and personnel matters.

The Regular Council Meeting was then called back to order.

Yearly Increments

Resolution C061024

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that Connie Malone and Donna Deschamp, after having received a satisfactory performance evaluation, receive their yearly increments.

Motion carried unanimously.

Purchase of Property

Resolution C061025

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Stewart that the Municipality purchase the surplus federal property located in Baccaro known as the GATR Site for the purchase price of \$16,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

A Closed Session was held at this time to further discuss the physician agreement.

The Regular Council Meeting was called back to order.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by S. Strang that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Warden

Clerk

Secretary for the Meeting

On website October 27, 2006.

