

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2007

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:05 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Louise Halliday, Chairperson
 - George El-Jakl
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Eddie Nickerson
 - Wilford Smith
 - Larry Stewart
 - Sean Strang
-
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Stoney Island Cemetery Club Request.
- Utility Board Review.
- Signage.
- Department of Transportation.
- Closed Session Re: Team Shelburne.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by W. Smith that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Strang that the minutes of the last previous meeting held March 5, 2007 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

LOYALIST LANDING 2008 SOCIETY

Mr. Al Delaney, Co-Chair and Mr. Jim Mahaney, Treasurer, of the Loyalist Landing 2008 Society, appeared before the Committee in order to provide them with information regarding the planned celebrations for the year 2008. The Loyalist Landing 2008 Society is a volunteer organization that has been incorporated under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia.

A written slide presentation was provided to members for their information. This presentation was reviewed by Mr. Mahaney with comments also by Mr. Delaney. 2008 marks the 225th year of the anniversary of the Loyalist landing in Shelburne which took place in 1783. During 2008 this committee intends to conduct continuous celebrations throughout the year. It is the plan of the committee to have 60 plus events during 2008. Some of these events include a concert by the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra, a Town Crier competition, a march to Birchtown, the tall ship La Amistad, a town wide yard sale, a program at the Osprey Arts Centre, and an essay writing contest for school children. The main celebrations during the year will take place during the month of July. These will include a Waterfront Weekend July 11 - 13, a Grand Re-enactment Weekend July 17 - 20, and Founders Day celebrations July 24 - 27.

It is estimated that these celebrations will bring a large number of visitors to all of Shelburne County and will benefit the entire county, and have a significant economic impact on all of the businesses in the county. In order to conduct these events the committee estimates they will need approximately \$225,000.00 in finances. At the present time they have not asked for financing from the Municipality although their representatives indicated that they will be seeking provincial, federal and municipal government funding.

Having completed their presentation, Misters Delaney and Mahaney retired from the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

EMPLOYEE WAGE REQUEST

A letter from Andrew Goreham, our Building Inspector, was previously circulated to members for their information. In this letter Mr. Goreham has asked that his salary be reviewed and also the salary of his secretary with a view to increasing both.

At a previous meeting Council had requested that letters be sent to other municipal units in the area to obtain the salary and wage ranges for their building inspectors and their secretaries. This information was obtained from Digby, Shelburne, Queens and Clare. The information was circulated to members for their information. Also circulated was a summary of the number of building permits and the number of inspections done by the building inspector over the last two years.

There then followed much discussion regarding the review of wages for these two positions.

The Municipality's policy is to review all wages for all municipal employees every three years. The most recent review was completed in January of 2006, and the next review is not due until January of 2009.

It was also indicated to members that the Property Services Supervisor has received a verbal request from the Landfill Attendant that his wages be increased so that he is on par with wages paid to other Property Services Technicians.

It was the consensus of members that further information be provided on the salaries and wages including:

1. The Building Inspector's and Secretary's wages in the Municipality of Argyle.
2. Andrew be requested to substantiate the numbers which he has provided in his letter.
3. Is it necessary to have a Certified Building Inspector for the Municipality?

Once this information has been obtained, it will be brought back to committee for their consideration.

LANDFILL POLICY

Much discussion ensued regarding tipping fees charged to outside contractors.

It was the consensus of members at this time to leave the policy as it is presently in place. The Municipal Solicitor will be asked if there is any legal means for charging non residents a tipping fee regardless of the source of the materials being placed in the Landfill.

LANDFILL EXCAVATOR

It is proposed that the Municipality purchase an excavator for use at the Landfill. The excavator will provide for more and better sorting of large materials at the Landfill. It will also provide for better compacting of materials by using a track machine rather than a wheeled machine.

Much discussion ensued regarding the purchase of an excavator. It was suggested that a new machine be purchased rather than a used machine. It was also suggested that the Municipality determine the cost of leasing a machine. The lease cost and the cost of purchasing a new machine will be determined before further consideration is given to this matter.

At the same time it was also brought up that a new computer had been purchased for Councillor Strang from Blair's Computer Service. This was as a result of his laptop computer being no longer usable. Councillor Strang's laptop was taken to Cyber Geek for servicing and we were informed by Cyber Geek that it needed a new battery which cost approximately \$200.00. The computer was then taken to Blair Mitchell who does most of our computer work. Blair evaluated the computer and determined that it was no longer usable, and that putting a new battery in it would not resolve the problems with the laptop. As a result a new laptop was purchased from Blair's Computer Service. There was no requirement for tendering this purchase.

GOOSE LAKE ROAD

Members had previously been informed that correspondence had been received from the Goose Lake Association requesting that work be done on the Goose Lake Road to improve its condition. Councillor Smith has viewed the Goose Lake Road and expressed the sentiment that it is in very bad shape. At the present time there is nothing that can be done regarding the condition of the road due to the frost and dampness in the ground.

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Messenger declared conflict of interest as she is an owner of property at Goose Lake.

Resolution COW070308

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that the Municipality continue to do maintenance on the Goose Lake Road to keep it in as good a shape as possible, and to continue to have it graded and maintained over the course of the coming summer, as in previous years.

AFFIRMATIVE

George El-Jakl
Louise Halliday
Eddie Nickerson
Wilford Smith
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

Further information will be obtained regarding the use of the Goose Lake Road as authorized by Council in previous minutes.

TRAVEL TO FCM

Some question was raised by Deputy Warden Nickerson regarding the booking of airline tickets to the FCM Conference in Calgary. A written chronology of events leading up to the purchase of tickets was read to members for their information.

No definitive action was recommended in this matter.

TIPPING FEES

Correspondence has been received from the Region of Queens Municipality indicating that tipping fees for residual waste will be increased for the coming year beginning April 1, 2007. The new tipping fees will be \$69.04 for second generation solid waste and \$49.61 for first generation solid waste.

WHARF AT MCGRAY AVENUE

At the Committee meeting of November 6, 2006 this matter was deferred for further consideration until the spring of 2007. In November of 2006 Council was asked to approve an order to demolish this wharf. At that time the request to demolish the wharf was referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration and was then deferred.

Resolution COW070309

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that no demolition order be approved for the demolition of the wharf at McGray Avenue owned by Dwayne Stewart.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

INDUSTRIAL PARK SITES

A list of five (5) potential sites for an Industrial Park in the Municipality was forwarded to councillors by email. The five suggested sites for industrial development are:

1. Municipal property obtained from the Barrington Passage Community Club, northwest of the former high school.
2. Municipal property at Ridge Road on the north side of Highway 103 near Exit 30.
3. Municipal property at Lyle's Bay near Brown's Pit Road along Highway 103.
4. Any private property available behind Causeway Interiors in Barrington Passage.
5. Any private property available on the Wireless Road in Barrington Passage.

After some discussion it was agreed that the five sites listed be forwarded to the South West Shore Development Authority for evaluation by consultants.

Resolution COW070310

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by W. Smith that the five sites listed be forwarded to the South West Shore Development Authority for evaluation by consultants for an industrial site.

Motion carried unanimously.

VOLUNTEER DINNER

The Municipal Volunteer Dinner will be held on April 16th at the Barrington Area Lions Hall. Because this dinner is being held on Monday, the date of the Committee of the Whole meeting that evening will need to be changed. Also, because Monday April 9th is Easter Monday and is a holiday, the meeting for that evening will also need to be postponed to a later date.

Resolution COW070211

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the first Council meeting in April be scheduled for Wednesday, April 11th and the next Committee of the Whole meeting after that be scheduled for Wednesday the 18th.

Motion carried unanimously.

CHAPEL HILL REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from the Chapel Hill Historical Society regarding the funding of signs to be constructed by the society.

Resolution COW070312

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that the request by the Chapel Hill Historical Society to fund the construction of signs for the society be included with other grant applications for the coming year.

Motion carried unanimously.

TRI COUNTIES RELAY FOR LIFE

The Tri Counties Relay for Life will be held at the Hebron Recreation Centre on June 15, 2007. In the past this organization has asked the Municipality to pay for postage for the information that is sent out in the Municipality of Barrington. This organization mails invitations to over 600 cancer survivors in the Tri Counties. Each year they request the local municipal units to pay for the postage for these invitations to be mailed within their individual municipalities.

Resolution COW070313

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that the Municipality pay the postage for the mailing of the invitations for the Tri Counties Relay for Life within the Municipality of Barrington, as requested by that organization.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

There was no schedule of fees available for the previous two weeks.

SIGNAGE

It was again brought up that there is inadequate signage in the Barrington Passage area to direct the public to the Barrington Regional Curling Club and the Barrington Municipal Arena on Sherose Island.

Municipal Staff is addressing this matter and will propose appropriate signage in the very near future.

COMMUNITY GRANT REQUEST

A request has been received from the Stoney Island Cemetery Club for assistance in purchasing a new oil tank for their hall.

Resolution COW070314

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a Community Grant in the amount of \$800.00 from the District 5 Community Grants Fund be provided to the Stoney Island Cemetery Club to assist in the purchase of an oil tank for their hall. The estimated cost of the oil tank is \$1,400.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

It was noted that crosswalk signs in the Town of Clark's Harbour are a bright yellow color which is much more noticeable than the white crosswalk signs in Barrington Passage. It was also noted that three posts in the guardrail on the Cape Sable Island Causeway have been destroyed as a result of a recent accident.

Both of these matters will be brought to the attention of the local Department of Transportation office.

DELPHIS COMEAU RETIREMENT

Delphis Comeau is the Clerk-Treasurer for the Municipality of Clare. He is retiring at the end of March after more than 30 years of service to that municipality. The Municipality of Clare is hosting an Open House on Friday, March 23rd, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., in honour of Mr. Comeau.

Since no members will be attending this Open House, it was the consensus of members that a letter be sent to the Municipality of Clare congratulating Delphis Comeau on his retirement and wishing him the best of health in his retirement years.

TOWN OF SHELBURNE

Correspondence had previously been emailed to members indicating that there is a 100th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Town of Shelburne being held on Wednesday, April 4, 2007, at 6:30 p.m., at the Community Hall, in Shelburne. Councillors and the public are invited to this event.

Resolution COW070315

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipality pay expenses of councillors attending the 100th celebration of the founding of the Town of Shelburne to be held on Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION RE: SALE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY BY TEAM SHELBURNE

A Closed Session was held to discuss the sale of municipal property by Team Shelburne.

Members returned to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 11:08 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

On website March 21, 2007