

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

October 1, 2007

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 8:15 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
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- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ISLAND & BARRINGTON PASSAGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INTERVIEW

Chief Dwayne Hunt and President Eugene Stoddard appeared before the meeting on behalf of the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department. The Volunteer Fire Department is presenting a proposal for the purchase of fire department equipment over the next four years. The cost of this equipment was already contained in the proposed budget for the fire department which had previously been submitted to Council.

The Provincial Government has recently come out with a new grant program titled *Emergency Services Provider Fund*. Under this program the Province will fund 60% of purchases by volunteer fire departments for fire fighting and emergency response equipment, including jaws of life, defibrilators, pumps, hoses, compressors, generators, etc. The Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department intends to take advantage of this fund by purchasing the equipment required in the current year and the next three years, and by obtaining 60% of the funds for this equipment from the Provincial Government. In this way Municipal taxpayers will be saved 60% of the cost of this equipment, and the equipment will be obtained sooner. In order to be able to do this the Fire Department must provide the other 40% of the funding for this equipment. The Fire Department is requesting the Municipality to provide the 40% of the funding for the purchase of this equipment and to recover it from the Fire Department's budget over the next four years.

There then followed much discussion among members regarding this proposal and the potential proposals that may be received from other fire departments.

The Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department is also requesting that the Municipality pay, in advance, the sum of the remaining portion of the Fire Department grant for the current year so that additional air packs can be bought. The reason for the Fire Department to purchase these additional air packs is that they are available at a much reduced price if they are purchased immediately rather than waiting until later in the year.

Resolution COW071001

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept the proposal of the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department for the funding and purchase of fire department equipment for the next four year period. This equipment will be purchased in the current year if a grant is provided from the Emergency Services Provider Fund of the Province and the Municipality's 40% of the funds will be provided from the Municipal Reserve Funds and reimbursed to the Municipality through the fire departments budgets over the next four years.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW071002

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay, in advance, \$23,600.00 of the remaining grant to be paid to the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department for the current year, to enable them to purchase air packs at a much reduced price.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having concluded their presentation, members of the Fire Department then retired from the meeting.

WOOD'S HARBOUR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members were informed by the councillor for District 1 that the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department has approached its bankers to obtain longer term financing on a bank loan in order to provide financing to build on to its current fire department building. The Fire Department is asking the bank to extend the term of its loan for another ten (10) years. The Fire Department then will use these funds to apply for the Emergency Services Provider Fund, of the Province, to obtain 60% of the funding from the Province for the new construction. At the present time no presentation or request is being made of the Municipality.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Cat Rock Drive.
- Correspondence Re: CFIB.
- Barrington Bay Trail.
- Insurance.
- Internet.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the minutes of the last previous meeting held September 17, 2007 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

SHELBURNE ASSOCIATION SUPPORTING INCLUSION

Correspondence has been received from the Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion requesting that the sewer charges for their laundromat be reduced. They are also requesting that these sewer charges which are being paid by the owner of the property, at which they are tenants, be reimbursed to the property owners.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality reimburse one half of the charges on the laundromat washing machines to the property owners of Mayflower Place where the Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion are tenants.

There then followed much discussion regarding this motion.

Upon agreement of the mover and seconder the motion was withdrawn.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality charge one half the sewer rate to the property owners of Mayflower Place because its tenant operating the laundromat is a non profit organization.

AFFIRMATIVE

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Louise Halliday
Eddie Nickerson
Wilford Smith
Sean Strang

Motion defeated.

Resolution COW071003

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality respond to the request from the Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion informing them that if they wish to apply for a grant in the coming year it will be under the Municipality's Grants Policy, that their application will be considered by Council at that time, and that the current by-law does not provide for a reduction in the sewer charges which they are requesting.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES RE: AIR CONDITIONERS

Correspondence has been received, by email, from the Department of Community Services requesting that air conditioning be provided in the offices on the southern side of their building so that they are suitably air conditioned during the summer months.

Conflict of Interest

The Warden declared conflict of interest in this matter since her daughter-in-law works in these offices in the Department of Community Services.

The Warden withdrew from the table and the Deputy Warden assumed chairmanship of the meeting for this topic.

Resolution COW071004

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the Property Services Supervisor determine the best method of providing air conditioning that is being requested by the Department of Community Services, and a report be provided to the committee for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Warden then returned to the meeting and resumed the chair.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FUNDS POLICY

It was agreed by members that consideration of this policy would be deferred to the end of the meeting.

POLICY NO. 54 "FIRE DEPARTMENT REGISTRATION"

Resolution COW071005

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that consideration of this proposed policy be deferred to the next Committee of the Whole Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

PLUMBING TENDER

Members were informed that Brian Lamrock has submitted a tender to provide plumbing work to the Municipality for the next three years. Unfortunately, this tender was received past the due date which was advertised in the local newspaper.

Resolution COW071006

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that Mr. Lamrock be informed that his tender was received too late, and therefore cannot be accepted by the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees was circulated to members for their information and review.

CAT ROCK DRIVE

A member stated that he has been asked several times by a resident of Cat Rock Drive regarding drainage on his property. The member was informed of the previous dealings with this resident and the member will inform the resident that if he wishes Council to address a drainage matter he should submit a letter to Council expressing his concerns.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM CFIB

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business has provided information regarding a BusPal program which it is circulating to all of its members to reduce the amount of red tape involved in dealing with government.

Members are being made aware of this information which was received by the Warden.

BARRINGTON BAY TRAIL

A resident of the Municipality has expressed concern regarding the cutting back of brush along the Barrington Bay Trail from the barrier at the western end of the trail to Highway #3 in Doctor's Cove. The Property Services Department has been asked to cut back this area even though it is not part of the Barrington Bay Trail.

Resolution COW071007

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that an explanation be sent to June Nickerson regarding the length of the Barrington Bay Trail, and where the western end of the Trail is located.

Motion carried unanimously.

A member also was informed by a local resident that he would prefer that 4-wheelers not be allowed to travel on the Barrington Bay Trail. This is a concern as the 4-wheeler organizations in Shelburne County are currently beginning to organize the development of the former CNR right of way for multi-purpose trails.

INSURANCE

It was suggested that Municipal Staff contact the Municipality's insurance company to determine whether or not it is possible to obtain insurance coverage, at a reasonable premium, that will allow the Municipality to host events being conducted by non profit organizations within the Municipality on municipal property.

Municipal Staff will investigate this matter to determine if insurance coverage is feasible and will bring information forward to the committee.

INTERNET

A member questioned whether or not there is any guarantee that internet access will be provided to rural communities such as Port LaTour and Baccaro in the very near future. At the present time there is no such guarantee as to how high speed internet access will be provided.

CLOSED SESSION

Members entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter and contract negotiation.

Having completed their discussion of these matters, members then returned to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent of members at approximately 10:25 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

On website October 3, 2007.