

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

November 19, 2007

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 7:00 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 (7:17 p.m.)
 - Wilford Smith
 - Larry Stewart
 - Sean Strang
-
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following changes were made to the agenda:

- Delete: - Item 5, Tourism Interview.
- Add: - Department of Transportation.
 - Nova Scotia Power Inc.
 - Variance Appeal.
 - Tax Reduction Application.

DISTRICT HEALTH AUTHORITY INTERVIEW

Tanya Nixon, Melanie Mooney and Roseanne d'Eon appeared before the Committee for the purpose of discussing the District Health Authority's commitment to an expansion of the Community Health Centre.

Ms. Nixon explained that it would be difficult for the District Health Authority to provide a firm commitment for use of space at the Community Health Centre without knowing the size of the space available. She explained that the District Health Authority is "opportunistic" when adding services. As the opportunity arises, because funds are made available through the Department of Health, the Authority adds services. When less funding is available, or becomes available, or continues to be available, services are added or deleted. Any funds to help the Municipality expand the Community Health Centre would come from the Department of Health, not from the District Health Authority. These funds may be funneled through the District Health Authority by the Department of Health. The District Health Authority continues to build their health delivery system on a collaborative basis through the cooperation of various health professionals.

Ms. Nixon also suggested that the Municipality should request an endorsement of the Community Health Centre expansion plan by the District Health Authority before applying for funding through the Department of Health. She informed the committee that she will send a list of the square footage used by the District Health Authority in the local strip mall in Barrington Passage.

Having completed their discussion of this matter the representatives of the District Health Authority retired from the meeting at 7:45p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that the minutes of the last previous meeting held November 5, 2007 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

R.C.M.P. INTERVIEW

Staff Sgt. Mooney, together with Constable Swim, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of providing the monthly report from the R.C.M.P. Detachment. A written report of statistics for the month of October 2007 was provided to members. The number of calls for the month is recorded as 184 compared to 231 for October 2006.

Sgt. Mooney then discussed the proceedings of the previous Halloween night. He is very satisfied that the efforts made by the R.C.M.P. have continued to improve local policing during Halloween. This year only 7 calls were received during Halloween night compared to 12 the previous year and more than 30 the year before that. The 7 calls were primarily the result of incidents at one location and the R.C.M.P. is further investigating these incidents and anticipates that charges will be laid in the near future.

Cst. Smaltz has completed the D.A.R.E. training and will be conducting courses on this program at the High School in the future.

Sgt. Mooney informed members that it is expected that the training for the Police Advisory Council will be conducted during the month of February 2008.

Having completed their discussion of policing matters, Sgt. Mooney and Cst. Swim retired from the meeting at approximately 8:10 p.m.

SHELLEY D'EON

Shelley d'Eon, together with another lady, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the Walk for a Cause event that is held to raise funds for the Rosalin Nickerson Cancer Care Fund.

There was some discussion regarding the liability of the Municipality and of the individuals conducting this program as well as insurance coverage required.

Mrs. d'Eon has contacted MacDonald, Chisholm Trask Insurance and anticipates putting insurance in place for the event in 2008. She is requesting that no hockey schools or hockey tournaments be held at the Arena on Friday, September 26, 2008, so that there will be no conflict whatever for the Walk for a Cause event.

Mrs. d'Eon was asked to contact minor hockey directly in order to discuss their scheduling of events with them.

Mrs. d'Eon also asked that the Municipality give permission for the use of the stage which is stored at the Arena. This stage will be used for the Walk for a Cause event at the Barrington Regional Curling Club.

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that Mrs. d'Eon be allowed to use the Barrington Regional Curling Club building providing insurance coverage is in place for September 26, 2008.

After some discussion this motion was then withdrawn.

Resolution COW071109

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that Mrs. d'Eon be permitted to use the stage, and make arrangements with the Property Services Supervisor to obtain the stage and return it to the Arena after the event on September 26, 2008.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the ladies then retired from the meeting.

BARRINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

A written request has been received from the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department indicating the funds which they wish to borrow. The Fire Department wishes to purchase \$45,000.00 worth of equipment under the Emergency Services Provider Fund which has been set up by the Province. In order to do this they are requesting the Municipality to loan them 40% of the funds, which is \$18,000.00. The Fire Department is proposing to repay these funds to the Municipality over a period of 5 years at the rate of \$900.00 per quarter. The Fire Department is proposing to make quarterly payments to the Municipality of \$900.00.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into an agreement with the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department to provide a loan of \$18,000.00 for the purchase of firefighting equipment and that repayment be made in quarterly payments of \$900.00 over a period of five years pending approval of the Fire Department's application to the Provincial Emergency Services Provider Fund .

AFFIRMATIVE

D. LeBlanc-Messenger

NEGATIVE

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

Motion defeated.

Deputy Warden Nickerson was asked to assume the Chair by the Warden so that the Warden could address this matter.

Having completed her address, the Warden then resumed the Chair.

Resolution COW071110

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into an agreement with the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department advancing a loan of \$18,000.00 to be repaid out of their annual operating grant in the amount of \$900.00, on a quarterly basis, over a period of five years, pending approval of their application for an Emergency Services Provider Fund Grant from the Province of Nova Scotia.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

The funds loaned to the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department will be expended from Reserve Funds and repaid as a deduction from their annual operating grant, in the amount of \$900.00, on a quarterly basis. In this way Council is assured that no additional fire rate will be required to be put in place without the public hearing that is required by policy.

ACTIVITIES FUND POLICY

A proposed Activities Fund Policy was reviewed with members.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that the proposed Activities Fund Policy be approved.

AFFIRMATIVE

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Wilford Smith

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Louise Halliday
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

Motion defeated.

FIRE RESPONSE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES POLICY

A proposed Fire Response and Emergency Services Policy was reviewed with members highlighting various requirements under the policy.

It was agreed by consensus of members that paragraph 9, covering insurance and insurance premiums, will be amended so that the premiums for insurance coverage will be paid for by the Municipality and deducted from the Annual Operating Grant of each fire department.

Resolution COW071111

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the proposed Fire Response and Emergency Services Policy be circulated to the various volunteer fire departments in the Municipality, including the amendment to paragraph 9, so that they may provide comments to Council within the next 30 days.

Motion carried unanimously.

TOWN OF CLARK'S HARBOUR PROPOSAL RE: RECREATION

Members were informed that the Recreation Director has reviewed the proposal of the Town of Clark's Harbour. The Town is requesting the Municipality to provide recreation services to them for a fee. The events they wish to have covered are: Volunteer Week, July 1st, Seniors Garden Party, Island Days and the Pumpkin Weigh-Off.

The Recreation Director has indicated that she believes the Volunteer Week, the Garden Party and the Pumpkin Weigh-Off could be incorporated into Municipal programs. The other two events would require much more time and effort, and therefore the Recreation Director believes additional assistance would be required in order to conduct these programs.

The Warden requested the Deputy Warden to assume the Chair while she addressed this matter.

Having completed her address, the Warden then resumed the Chair.

Resolution COW071112

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality respond to the Town's request by telling them that the Municipality is currently not able to enter into an agreement to share the Recreation Director's services.

After much discussion and evaluation of the request from the Town, Council has determined that it is not practical to enter into such an agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

PORT CLYDE COMMUNITY HALL

Correspondence has been received from the Port Clyde Community Hall, which is also the Fire Hall, regarding application for funding through the Department of Economic Development and again requesting funding from the Municipality.

Much discussion followed regarding the use of the Port Clyde Hall for community events.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by E. Nickerson that this matter be referred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

After some discussion this motion was withdrawn.

Resolution COW071113

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$5,000.00 be provided to the Port Clyde Community Hall, subject to approval of their grant application to the Province, and a letter of support be provided to the Department of Economic Development for the Port Clyde Community Hall's application to them for funding for improvements to their hall.

The Deputy Warden was then asked to assume the Chair while the Warden addressed this matter.

Having completed her address of the matter, the Warden then resumed the Chair and requested the division on the matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

Request from Island Breeze Inn

This matter was referred to the Committee by Council.

There followed some discussion regarding this request.

It was agreed by consensus of members that the matter had been referred to the Continuing Care Steering Committee, and the matter should be discussed by that committee prior to Council making any further decision.

NOMINATION MEETING

It was agreed by members of the Committee that the Nomination Meeting for members to sit on various committees will be held at the Council meeting of November 26, 2007.

PROPERTY AT SHEROSE ISLAND

Members were provided with pertinent pages from the "Guidelines for Management of Contaminated Sites in Nova Scotia", as well as a copy of the letter received from the Department of Environment and Labour regarding the Sherose Island property.

It is recommended to the committee that a further assessment be done on this site so that the requirements under the guidelines can be met by the Municipality.

Resolution COW071114

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that this matter be referred to the first Committee of the Whole meeting to be held in February of 2008.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees for the previous two weeks was circulated to members for their information and review.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Several issues were brought up regarding the Department of Transportation roads in the Municipality.

Resolution COW071115

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation indicating that the gravel road at Baccaro Light needs to be graded and more gravel needs to be placed on this road. Also, the Upper Clyde Road is in need of repair and maintenance, and that the Old Post Road in Barrington is also in need of grading.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW071116

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting that they evaluate the bridge on Highway #3 at the end of the Forbes Point Road as it may be in a dangerous condition and in need of repair.

Motion carried unanimously.

NOVA SCOTIA POWER INC.

A member indicated that the electrical power has been out three times in the last three weeks in the Port LaTour/Baccaro areas. The residents have complained that this is not a satisfactory provision of service by Nova Scotia Power.

Resolution COW071117

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to both the Utility and Review Board and to Nova Scotia Power requesting that more maintenance be done on the power lines in the Port LaTour area to ensure that there are fewer power interruptions in future.

Motion carried unanimously.

VARIANCE APPEAL

Members were informed that Mr. Martin Hopkins had applied for a variance for construction of a storage building on his property. The variance Mr. Hopkins requested exceeded that which can be granted by our Development Officer, and therefore it was refused. Mr. Hopkins is appealing this refusal to Council and this matter will be dealt with at the next available Council meeting once the required notices have been sent to adjacent property owners.

TAX REDUCTION APPLICATION

An application for reduction of taxes has been received from Mr. Dominic Goreham of Wood's Harbour. Mr. Goreham's house was destroyed by fire on December 16, 2006. Since then the property has been inhabitable and the house that was destroyed by fire has been removed and a new structure has been placed on the property during October and November 2007, and is now just recently been completed. Mr. Goreham is requesting that a tax adjustment be made for the interim period.

Resolution COWQ071118

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that an appropriate tax reduction be provided to Mr. Dominic Goreham because of destruction of his dwelling by fire on December 16, 2006. This will be done by determining the change in assessment from Assessment Services and making the appropriate reduction to the current years tax bill.

Motion carried unanimously.

SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF CANADA POST OFFICE IN BARRINGTON PASSAGE

Some discussion ensued regarding parking in front of the Barrington Passage Post Office.

Resolution COW071119

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation to obtain permission to remove the "green space" next to the sidewalk in front of the Barrington Passage Post Office in order to improve parking.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW071120

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff get estimates from contractors for the removal of the "green space" in front of the Post Office in Barrington Passage.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

It was agreed by members that the Community Health Centre expansion be put on the next Committee of the Whole Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the business of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 11:23 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

On website November 21, 2007.