

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

February 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 7:03 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 (7:09 p.m.)
- Wilford Smith
- Larry Stewart
- Sean Strang (7:08 p.m.)

- Anna Kenney, Recreation Director
- Brian O'Connor, Property Services Supervisor
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Community Grant Request.
- Sign at Clyde River
- Department of Transportation.
- Closed Session Re: Legal Matter.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by W. Smith that the minutes of the last previous meeting held January 21, 2008 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Recreation Director presented her report for the month of January. The Recreation Director submitted a written report covering activities of the Recreation Department during the month and answered pertinent questions.

Having completed her report, she then retired from the meeting.

The Property Services Supervisor provided a written report for the Property Services Department for the month of January. He also provided comments on his report and answered pertinent questions.

Having completed his report, he also retired from the meeting.

AIR CONDITIONING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

Information was provided regarding the provision of six air conditioners for six offices for the Community Services facility.

There then followed some discussion regarding whether these air conditioners were air exchangers, and whether or not heat pumps were investigated as an alternate air conditioning system for the Community Services offices.

Further information will be obtained in regards to this matter and brought back to the Committee before any decision is made.

RETURNING OFFICER APPLICATIONS

The Municipality has advertised in the local newspaper for the position of Returning Officer. This Returning Officer will conduct the Municipal Elections to be held in October of this year. Applications were received from Heather Mundell and from Catherine Clark.

Resolution COW080201

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that Catherine Clark be hired as Returning Officer for the 2008 Municipal and School Board Elections.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY LITTER CLEAN-UP PROGRAM

Information summarizing the Litter Clean-up Program for the previous four years was circulated to members for their review. This information was briefly discussed and reviewed regarding the weight of waste collected in various areas of the Municipality.

Resolution COW080202

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that \$10,000 be included in the Municipal Budget for the fiscal year 2008/2009 for the purpose of a Community Litter Clean-up Program, and that this program begin as soon as can be arranged by Municipal Staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT

Correspondence has been received from the Shelburne County Community Health Board regarding physician recruitment for the County. The Community Health Board strongly encourages all of the municipal units in Shelburne County to work together with the Health Board to develop a plan and incentives to avert the physician staffing crisis that is developing in Shelburne County.

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

The Warden then resumed the Chair.

Resolution COW080203

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the representatives of the Shelburne County Community Health Board, together with Jodi Ybarra, the Administrator of Roseway Hospital; and John Keeler, the Chief of Staff of Roseway Hospital, be requested to meet with the Committee of the Whole for the purpose of discussing this matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

RM GREENWOOD REQUEST

Mark Greenwood has requested that the rent for the former telephone office building be reduced so that he could rent the building for use in his business.

At this time a letter received from Lillian Perry regarding the establishment of a telephone museum in this building was read to members for their information.

There then followed some discussion regarding the use of this building and the interim rental of it.

Resolution COW080204

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality rent the former telephone office building to RM GREENWOOD TELECOMMUNICATIONS for the regular amount of rent for a period of one (1) year only.

AFFIRMATIVE

Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Wilford Smith
Sean Strang

Motion carried.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that a response be sent to Lillian Perry indicating that the telephone museum concept is an excellent idea, and that the Municipality will turn over the building to her group after a period of one year for the purpose of a telephone museum, and that this will be the Municipality's contribution towards her project.

AFFIRMATIVE

Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Wilford Smith
Sean Strang

Motion defeated.

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

Having addressed the matter, the Warden then resumed the Chair.

Resolution COW080205

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept the antique switchboard that Mrs. Perry has found and store it for a period of three years, after which, if it is not used, it will revert back to Mrs. Perry for her use.

Motion carried unanimously.

UNSM RESOLUTION RE: INSURANCE

A proposed resolution regarding municipal insurance coverage was circulated to members for their consideration. This resolution is to be forwarded to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities to be considered by them at their Fall Conference. Because all municipalities across the province pay high premiums for adequate liability and other insurance coverages, it is suggested that the Union should investigate the alternatives available for providing this insurance, and provide a recommendation for future coverage.

Resolution COW080206

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the proposed resolution for municipal insurance coverage to be forwarded to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities for consideration at their Fall Conference, be approved by Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

TREE IN HONOUR OF VETERANS

Some time ago Council had investigated the possibility of planting a tree in honour of veterans of the Municipality. This tree would be a red maple and would be planted at the new library grounds in Barrington Passage.

Resolution COW080207

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that a red maple tree be planted at the Library in Barrington Passage in honour of veterans of the Municipality, and that a plaque also be installed adjacent to this tree indicating the purpose for which it has been planted.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOUTH WEST SHORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ALTERNATE BOARD MEMBER

The current alternate board member for the South West Shore Development Authority is Deputy Warden Nickerson. Members had previously agreed to have Donna LeBlanc-Messenger serve in this position.

After some discussion it was agreed that Deputy Warden Nickerson would continue to be the alternate board member.

Resolution COW080208

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that Deputy Warden Nickerson remain as the alternate board member for the South West Shore Development Authority Board of Directors.

Motion carried unanimously.

TOURISM MATTERS

Tourism DVD

A tourism DVD that has been prepared by Municipal Staff, in conjunction with Mr. Tom Johnson and Lynne Crowell, was shown to members for their information and comment.

Members were pleased with the resulting DVD.

Resolution COW080209

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff complete the promotional DVD and prepare it for subsequent release at a cost not to exceed the amounts included in this years' budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discover Shelburne County Request

Correspondence has been received from Discover Shelburne County requesting the Municipality to participate in a meeting on February 13, 2008, at 10:30 a.m., in the Barrington Municipal building. This meeting will be held for all municipal units and stakeholders to discuss the placement of a Tourism Officer for Shelburne County.

Again, the Deputy Warden assumed the Chair while the Warden addressed this matter.

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

Several members indicated that they would attend this meeting.

Sherose Island Rest Stop

It has been suggested by a resident of Sherose Island that a rest stop be placed at the location where a wharf had been situated, along the shores of Sherose Island, near the Sherose Island Road. Whether or not access can be obtained for this property which is owned by the Department of Transportation is unclear.

Resolution COWS080210

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff determine from the Department of Transportation whether or not access is available for the location of a tourist rest stop along the Sherose Island Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

SHEROSE ISLAND PROPERTY

This matter had been deferred from a previous Committee of the Whole Meeting in November of 2007.

This matter has arisen as a result of a report done by consultants to the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation & Public Works at the time they were investigating the Sherose Island site for the new high school.

Resolution COW080211

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that this matter be deferred until a Committee of the Whole Meeting to be held in June of 2008.

AFFIRMATIVE

George El-Jakl

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

Wilford Smith

Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Members were informed that the Chief and Secretary-Treasurer of the Barrington Fire Department had visited the Municipal Office and stated that the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department wished to obtain the loan which they had negotiated with the Municipality, for the purpose of buying equipment for their department. This loan will be extended to the fire department over a five (5) year period at an interest rate equivalent to the Municipality's borrowing cost.

Resolution COW080212

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a loan to the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department for the purpose of purchasing equipment be extended over a five year period at the appropriate interest rate. The funds for this loan will be taken from Municipal Reserves and repaid to the Municipality by deducting the payments, together with interest, from the Annual Operating Grant paid to the department.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE CHIEFS MEETING

A member reported on the meeting of fire chiefs for the volunteer fire departments which was held recently. At this meeting all of the fire chiefs were present except the fire chief from the Port Clyde Volunteer Fire Department. All of the fire chiefs at this meeting agreed to submit annual budgets to the Municipality no later than the end of March. The fire chiefs also agreed that they would like to have all of their dispatch services provided from Yarmouth, and wish to determine if there would be any discount for this if they were all provided together for Shelburne County.

Resolution COW080213

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff determine if it is advantageous to have all volunteer fire departments dispatched through the Town of Yarmouth.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW080214

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept the budget suggestion from the fire chiefs and request all the volunteer fire departments to submit a budget no later than March 31, 2008 for the coming fiscal year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW080215

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the request of the fire chiefs regarding provision of fire hydrants over the next several years be referred to the budget process, and that the fire chiefs be requested to provide a list of the fire hydrants requested.

Motion carried unanimously.

The fire chiefs also suggested that fire trucks and pump testing be tendered out together in order to provide cost efficiencies for this service.

Resolution COW080216

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that the Clerk-Treasurer attend the next meeting of the Fire Chiefs' Committee in order to prepare information for the tender of fire truck and pump testing on an annual basis.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

A member queried the provision of signs on private roads in the Municipality. Signs that are installed on private roads are done so by private property owners.

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality ask the media not to refer to Council or the Municipality as the "MoB".

Motion withdrawn.

There then followed some discussion regarding the use of this term in reference to Municipal Council.

Resolution COW080217

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that correspondence be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting that tree branches hanging over the road on the Port LaTour Road after snow storms be removed by the department.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY GRANT REQUEST

An application for a Community Grant has been received from the Stoney Island Community Club. The Club wishes to do repairs to the lots in the old cemetery, to clean headstones, install a garbage can, and upgrade the road to the old cemetery. The estimated cost of these repairs are \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00. At the present time the Community Club already has a Community Grant of \$800.00 which was previously approved by Council. These funds have not yet been expended.

Resolution COW080218

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the remaining \$3,700.00 in the District 5 Community Grants Fund be allocated to the Stoney Island Community Club for the purposes of repairs to the cemetery.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLYDE RIVER SIGN

Deputy Warden Pat Nickerson of the Municipality of Shelburne has informed the Municipal Office that Shelburne Municipal Council has approved the placement of a “stylized” community sign along the 103 highway at the eastern end of Clyde River.

Resolution COW080219

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality of Barrington install a “stylized” community identification sign at the western end of Clyde River.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Members then entered into Closed Session for the purpose of updating a potential legal matter.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by W. Smith that the meeting adjourn at 10:50 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

On website February 5, 2008.