

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

April 7, 2008

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
  - Wilford Smith
  - Larry Stewart
  - Sean Strang
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- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
  - Anna Kenney, Recreation Director
  - Brian O'Connor, Property Services Supervisor

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Dangerous & Unsightly Premises.
- Correspondence Re: VON.
- Councillor's Insurance.
- Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation Grant.

### 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 W. Smith and seconded by S. Strang that the minutes of the last previous meeting held March 31, 2008 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### Recreation Department

The Recreation Director presented her report for the month of March. She reviewed various aspects of recreation programming indicating the events that took place during the month and the events that are being prepared for in the very near future.

Having completed her report she retired from the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Property Services Department

The Property Services Supervisor then presented his report for the month of March 2008. He related the circumstances around the incident that took place at the Arena and the subsequent fine that was levied against a patron. He also indicated that grading of municipal roads will be done tomorrow and that the nature trail at Sherose Island will be cut back in the immediate future by a local contractor.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AIR CONDITIONERS

The Property Services Supervisor attended this portion of the meeting in order to discuss the proposed air conditioning system to be installed at the Community Services offices in the Administration Building. It is proposed that new units will be installed in the six offices requiring air conditioning. New units similar to these can be purchased to replace the current units that are already installed in other parts of the building. These units can also be used as an air exchanger as they are vented to the outdoors. They are believed to be more efficient and better suited to air conditioning for individual offices than a central air conditioning system.

Resolution COW080401

**Moved** by W. Smith and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality purchase and install air conditioners for the Community Services offices in the Administration Building at a cost not to exceed \$6,100.00, and that this expenditure be included in the 2008/2009 operating budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed his discussion of this matter, the Property Services Supervisor retired from the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

SHELBURNE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD

Several members of the Shelburne County Community Health Board appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the recruitment of physicians to the County. Among those appearing were Rose Rennehan, Vice President; Anne Smith, Speaker on behalf of the Board; Karen Mattetal, Board Member; Pearl Hart, Board Member; and Harold Hart, Board Member. Also attending the meeting were Shirley Watson-Poole, Recruitment Officer, District Health Authority; Dr. O'Sullivan and Dr. John Keeler. Anne Smith spoke on behalf of the Board and requested Council to provide representation on a Recruitment Committee for the recruitment of physicians for all of Shelburne County.

After Ms. Smith completed her presentation, Dr. O'Sullivan and Dr. Keeler then addressed the meeting in regards to health services at Roseway Hospital and health services for Shelburne County in general. They expressed concern that services at Roseway Hospital appear to be "under threat". They felt that all of the councils in the county need to know the situation for health care in Shelburne County. It is necessary that recruiting be done in an innovative and different way. They emphasized that new Canadian trained doctors were looking for "turnkey" operations when they graduated so that they did not have to set up a business and worry about how to operate a business. Dr. O'Sullivan indicated that there would be regular closures at the Roseway Emergency Room after May 1<sup>st</sup> due to a lack of inadequate number of physicians. He emphasized that a collaborative approach to health care was required for the County.

The Deputy Warden was asked to assume the Chair while the Warden addressed the health care issue.

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

Dr. O'Sullivan was asked if a business manager should be hired for a local office housing physicians.

The doctors asserted that the emergency room is an essential service for Shelburne County and must be maintained. They also indicated that a committee seeking doctors for Shelburne County should first determine their priorities before moving on to hiring a business manager or other subsequent steps.

It was emphasized that a new physician would need to feel part of a group and part of the community. This is a personal thing that is of much significance to a new doctor coming into the community.

At the present time there is little interaction between the doctors in the Barrington area and the Shelburne area.

There is a definite need to address health care as a county wide issue, and there has to be an initiative taken within the communities in the county to do this as it will not be done by government from outside.

It was emphasized also that a Health Services Group should be formed to address all health services in the county, not just for recruiting of doctors.

Having completed their address of this matter, the members of the Shelburne County Community Health Board and doctors Keeler and O'Sullivan retired from the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

#### CLOSED SESSION RE: PURCHASE OF LAND

Mr. & Mrs. Walton Ryer and Mr. & Mrs. Delma Ross, Jr., then joined the meeting for the purpose of discussing the purchase of land by the Municipality. This discussion was done in Closed Session as it involved the negotiation of the price of property.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the Ryers and Rosses then retired from the meeting.

Members then returned to Open Session.

WOOD'S HARBOUR SIDEWALK TENDER

Resolution COW080402

**Moved** by G. El-Jakl and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the tender from Garian Construction for the construction of a sidewalk in Wood's Harbour be accepted with the provision that as much of the sidewalk be built as possible with the funds available under the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

WOOD'S HARBOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

After some discussion it was agreed by consensus of members that Council be prepared to provide a guarantee resolution to the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department for the purpose of borrowing funds from the local bank to finance the repayment of its truck loan and the construction of a new building.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE EXPANSION

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

After completing her address of the matter, the Warden then resumed the Chair.

Resolution COW080403

**Moved** by W. Smith and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that any expansion of the Community Health Centre be deferred until further consultation with local doctors and the community.

Motion carried unanimously.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

Members were informed that there will be a meeting hosted by Discover Shelburne County at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, in the Town Council Chambers in Lockeport regarding this matter. Council was asked to send a representative.

The Warden has agreed to attend on behalf of the Municipality.

#### ADOPT A BOOK PROGRAM

The local library is now conducting its *Adopt a Book Program* and it has been suggested that the Municipality provide funding towards this program.

#### Resolution COW080404

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$250.00 be provided to the Western Counties Regional Library for its *Adopt a Book Program*.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### SHEROSE ISLAND TOURIST REST STOP

Members were informed of the various responses that have been received from residents on Sherose Island. These responses have been received both in writing and verbally.

At the present time correspondence has been sent to the Department of Transportation requesting permission to use the site opposite Civic #91 for the purpose of constructing a tourist rest stop. As yet no response has been received from D.O.T.

#### ACCIDENT POLICY BENEFITS

Members were informed that the accident policy does not require designation of beneficiaries in the event of death. The benefits would automatically be paid out to the individuals estate.

#### NOVA SCOTIA LIQUOR CORPORATION

Members were informed that a phone call had been received today from Service Nova Scotia indicating that the grant that had previously been received from the Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation based on volume of sales will be discontinued as of April 1, 2008. This grant is being discontinued to all municipal units across the province.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence has been received from the VON expressing gratitude for the \$1,000.00 grant provided to them last year, and requesting a grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 this year. This grant request will be included with the other grant requests that are being considered in the budget process.

#### C.S.I. SEWER

Two documents relating to the construction of the sewer on Cape Sable Island were circulated to members. The first is a Terms of Reference for a Steering Committee, and the second is a Terms of Reference for a Project Manager.

Page 6, Committee of the Whole Council Meeting, April 7, 2008

Members were asked to review these documents so that they could be discussed at the next Council meeting. These are the first steps in beginning the project for the construction of a sewer on Cape Sable Island.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:45 p.m.

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Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

**On website April 8, 2008.**