

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

May 29, 2006

The meeting was called to order by the chairperson at 6:55 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Louise Halliday, Chairperson
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Larry Stewart
- Sean Strang

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- CED Centre/Library Update
- Grant Request
- Paintball Field Insurance
- Business Occupancy Tax

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that minutes of the last previous meeting held May 15, 2006 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

CED CENTRE/LIBRARY UPDATE

Mark MacIsaac provided a written update to May 28th for the work done at the CED Centre. Municipal Staff will call John Smith re the design and construction of a sign for the site.

Budget revisions were also submitted by Mr. MacIsaac indicating that the total cost of the project will now be \$912,528.00 net, H.S.T.

Resolution COW060506

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the sign and for the CED Centre/Library be titled Owaissa Park.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed his update of the project Mr. MacIsaac then retired from the meeting.

CLOSES SESSION RE: SALE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES

Council then entered into Closed Session to discuss the sale of municipal properties with a proponent who had submitted a proposal for the former B.M.H.S. property.

Having completed their discussion with this proponent, the committee also discussed the request for the sale of other municipal property.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At approximately 8:45 p.m. Council returned to Open Session.

Resolution COW060507

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that a response be provided to Mr. Albert Newell indicating that the Municipality is not interested in selling property at Ridge Road in Oak Park at this time.

Motion carried unanimously.

JULIE ATWOOD REQUEST

This matter has been referred to committee by Council. Julie Atwood is requesting permission to convert the building next to the Old Court House into a residence in which she may live. She would rent this property from the Municipality.

There then followed much discussion regarding the desirability of the Municipality to become a landlord under the Residential Tenancies Act, and to deal with residential tenants.

It was the general consensus of the committee that Council would rent municipal properties to commercial tenants but did not wish to become involved in residential tenancies.

Resolution COW060508

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality not rent the building next to the Old Court House as a residence at this time.

Motion carried unanimously.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPACITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

An email has been received from the Association of Municipal Administrators requesting volunteers to serve on the joint committee that is being established to help build financial management capacity in local governments in Nova Scotia. The Clerk-Treasurer is interested in volunteering to become part of this committee and is requesting permission of Council.

Resolution COW060509

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Clerk-Treasurer serve on the joint committee being established to help build financial management capacity in local governments in Nova Scotia, and that the Municipality approve and pay for the time and costs associated with this participation.

Motion carried unanimously.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY

Members discussed the need for a leave of absence policy for councillors.

After much discussion it was agreed that the present leaves of absence could be covered by policies now in place, but that a leave of absence policy would be necessary in certain circumstances. As a result Municipal Staff will draft a leave of absence policy for consideration of council.

GLENWRIGHT NICKERSON MEMORIAL SOFTBALL FIELD

The Municipality granted a deed to the Glenwright Nickerson Memorial Softball Field Association in 1982. A clause in this deed states: "It is hereby understood and agreed that should the property cease to be used as a recreational property the grantee will return the property to the grantor by Warranty Deed for the consideration of \$1.00." At the present time the field is no longer being used as a recreational field. In fact, it is not being used for any recreational purposes at all.

Resolution COW060510

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipal Solicitor proceed to have the Glenwright Nickerson Memorial Softball Field property returned to the Municipality as per the deed granted in 1982.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

GRANT REQUEST

A grant request was received by fax from the Beausoleil Multicultural Festival. This organization is requesting financial assistance for its multicultural festival to be held this summer at the Yarmouth Mariner's Centre.

Moved by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$150.00 be provided to the Beausoleil Multicultural Festival.

After asking three times, and having heard no seconder for the motion, the chairperson declared the motion lost as no seconder was received.

BLACK WATCH PAINTBALL INSURANCE

Members were informed that email correspondence has been received from our insurer informing us that an endorsement will be provided for the property being rented from the Municipality requiring an additional premium of \$750.00 to be paid by the Municipality for insurance regarding the lease of property to Black Watch Paintball to be used as a paintball field. This additional premium is required because the proponents of the paintball field have a liability insurance limit of \$1,000,000.00 and do not wish to increase it.

Resolution COW060511

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that Black Watch Paintball be informed that _____ of Black Watch Paintball be advised they must either obtain insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 coverage or pay the additional premium required to be paid by the Municipality to provide adequate insurance for this operation on property leased from the Municipality by Black Watch Paintball.

Motion carried unanimously.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

On Tuesday, June 30th, there will be a meeting of the Yarmouth Hospital Charitable Foundation. This is their annual meeting which will begin at 5:30 p.m. Their representative in our area, Mr. Dave Smith, has requested that a member of Council attend.

Resolution COW060512

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by S. Strang that the expenses to attend the Yarmouth Hospital Charitable Foundation Annual Meeting be paid for Councillor Halliday to attend the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members were also informed that the Premier will be in Shelburne County on Wednesday morning, May 31, 2006, and may attend at Bay Side Home some time later in the day.

BUSINESS OCCUPANCY TAX

The affects of reducing the Business Occupancy Assessment and corresponding affect on commercial property taxes was reviewed by members for clarification purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:55 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

