

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING
BUDGET REVIEW
June 16, 2008

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 8:15 a.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S. with the following members present:

- Louise Halliday, Chairperson
 - George El-Jakl (9:00 a.m.)
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Eddie Nickerson
 - Wilford Smith
 - Larry Stewart
 - Sean Strang
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- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of this meeting was to review the proposed budget for the 2008/2009 fiscal year. A draft of the budget had been forwarded to all councillors in advance of the meeting for their review and comment.

Members reviewed the budget by determining the amount of expenditures according to each category. The first category reviewed was Administrative Services. During their review of Administrative Services, councillors reviewed the applications for Grants to Organizations in detail. As a result of the review of Grants to Organizations, the following grants were approved:

- South West Shore Development Authority	-	\$14,700.00
- Shelburne County Lobster Festival	-	\$ 250.00
- Kids Fair Play FUNd	-	\$ 250.00
- Samuel Wood Museum	-	\$ 500.00
- Chapel Hill Historical Society	-	\$ 500.00
- Archelaus Smith Historical Society	-	\$ 500.00
- Cape Sable Historical Society	-	\$ 500.00
- Military Museum	-	\$ 500.00
- Shag Harbour UFO Incident Society	-	\$ 500.00
- Clark's Harbour Seniors Garden Party	-	\$ 750.00
- Barrington Federation of Agriculture	-	\$ 1,250.00
- S.W.S.D.A. Volunteer Services	-	\$ 4,712.00
- Rosalin Nickerson Cancer Care Fund	-	\$ 2,000.00
- Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps	-	\$ 1,200.00
- Camp Jordan	-	\$ 1,100.00
- Shelburne County Early Childhood Development	-	\$ 500.00
- Tri-County Pregnancy Care	-	\$ 2,000.00
- Victorian Order of Nurses	-	\$ 2,000.00
- Juniper House	-	\$ 500.00
- Shelburne County Genealogical Society	-	\$ 250.00
- Beulah Burman Memorial Animal Shelter	-	\$ 500.00
- Shelburne County Museum	-	\$ 250.00
- Western Shelburne County Health Care Charitable Society	-	\$ 1,000.00
- Wood's Harbour Days Committee	-	\$ 500.00
- Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion (Mayflower Place)	-	\$ 3,500.00

- Women in Local Government Bursary (each year for 3 years)	-	\$ 300.00
- Western Counties Library Board Adopt a Book Program	-	\$ 250.00
- Hawk Dayze Committee	-	<u>\$ 500.00</u>

TOTAL: **\$40,712.00**

In addition, members agreed to provide an amount of \$28,000.00, being \$4,000.00 for each of the seven municipal districts, for Community Grants. The total amount of grants approved is \$68,712.00.

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Eddie Nickerson declared conflict of interest during the discussion of the grant to the Mayflower Place as his wife is an employee of the Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion.

Councillor Nickerson withdrew from the table during discussion of this grant application and returned to the table after the discussion was completed.

Council then proceeded to discuss expenditures for Transportation Services, Environmental Health Services, Health and Welfare Services, Environmental Development Services, Recreation Services and Education Services.

During the discussion of Environmental Health Services it was noted that the collection contract will expire at the end of April of 2009 and will require negotiation of a new contract.

During discussion of Environmental Development Services the proposed Shelburne County Tourism Coordinator position was discussed.

Deputy Warden Nickerson retired from the meeting at approximately 10:30 and returned after the lunch break.

Members then completed their discussion of financing requirements for the coming year and then retired from the meeting for a lunch break.

After lunch members then discussed the provision of Protection Services.

It was agreed by members that the provision for the cost of fire hydrants for fire departments should be increased from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00.

There then followed a general discussion of the tax rate and the effects of increasing or decreasing amounts required. It is necessary to also add \$8,403.00 for the capital expenditures required for recreation properties. As a result there will be an additional \$17,115.00 added to the budget.

There then followed much discussion regarding the provision of playgrounds within the Municipality. As a result of this discussion, it was the consensus of members that an additional \$15,000.00 be included in the budget for the provision of playgrounds, and that a policy be drafted regarding the funding of playground properties within the Municipality. This policy will be drafted by Municipal Staff and provided to Council for their consideration. The policy generally will include the terms that \$15,000.00 will be provided for the construction and maintenance of playgrounds within the Municipality. The Municipality will provide 2/3 of the cost of construction and maintenance, and purchase of equipment for playgrounds, up to a maximum of \$5,000.00 each year for any individual playground site. This funding must be applied for on an annual basis. As a result of adding this additional expenditure to the budget, it will now be necessary to reduce total expenditures by approximately \$64,000.00 in order to maintain the current tax rates.

Members then reviewed the proposed budget in order to determine items that could be deferred or reduced.

The following changes were agreed to by consensus:

- The public sorting station costing an estimated \$40,000.00 will be deferred to the next year. An application will be made to the RRFB for additional funding for this project.
- The resurfacing of the Barrington Bay Trail will be deferred.
- The expenditure for repairs to the Old Telephone Office will be deferred and reduced by \$10,000.00.
- Cost of painting the Old Court House will be reduced by \$5,000.00 since the JCP workers who are currently available to the Municipality are completing this project.
- There will be a further \$7,000.00 reduction in the cost of an additional Public Works employee as this employee will not be hired until some time in July reducing the total cost of the employee for the year.

These reductions amount to approximately \$66,000.00

In addition it was deemed that the following additional reductions or deferrals will be made:

- Painting of beams at Arena, \$4,000.00
- Replacement of gutters at Arena, \$10,000.00
- Enhancement of Sherose Island Parking area, \$10,000.00
- Diversion of the water inflow at the CED Centre Pond, \$5,000.00
- Reconstruction of CED Centre curbs, \$10,000.00

This is an additional reduction in expenditures of \$40,000.00.

These amendments will be made to the proposed budget and a revised budget circulated to members for their approval.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed their consideration of the budget, the meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 3:10 p.m.

Warden

Secretary for the Meeting