

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

July 31, 2006

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
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Eddie Nickerson (7:25 p.m.)
- Larry Stewart
- Sean Strang

Absent was Deputy Warden Fred Bower due to a leave of absence.

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Trail
- Recreation Nova Scotia
- Closed Session - Low Income Exemption

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Strang 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 S. Strang that the minutes of the last previous meeting held July 17, 2006 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

SABA UNIVERSITY

A CD was shown to the committee indicating the history of SABA University. SABA University is a private university at which doctors are trained for the United States and other countries. SABA is an island in the Caribbean Sea on which this private university is operated. There are as many as 90 similar private universities training doctors in the Caribbean Islands.

Resolution COW060733

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that a copy of the CD be sent to Barrington Municipal High School for their information.

Motion carried unanimously.

SEA STAR ICE DOGS

Representatives from Sea Star Ice Dogs, including Dana McCarthy, Steven Crowell and Felton Atkinson, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing fundraising for the hockey team. It was indicated that they are finding it harder and harder to raise funds. The league has grown over the years and it has become far more expensive to operate a team. The team would like to sell logos to local businesses which could be placed on the ice at the Arena. They also are requesting that there be free ice provided to the team for practices during non prime time hours during the day, in particular during the month of January. Operating a team has become very expensive. The representatives indicated that they felt there was a need for a place for players to play when they are too old for minor hockey, and that the Junior C Ice Dogs fulfil this role. It was indicated that last year it cost \$32,000.00 to operate the team. At best there are 200 - 250 patrons in attendance, on average, per game. These patrons pay \$4.00 for regular admission and \$3.00 for student admission, although not all patrons pay when attending games.

There was some question as to why there would be a decline in attendance over the years. It was indicated by the representatives that the Junior A team in Yarmouth was competition for the attention of patrons.

It was indicated that a local business had offered \$1,000.00 to have their logo placed in the ice for the Junior C games. On average there would be 20 home games each year for the Junior C Ice Dogs. The team would like to have an answer as soon as possible regarding their proposal to sell logos to be placed in the ice at the Arena.

Resolution COW060734

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded D. Messenger that this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee of the Whole Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW060735

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the Property Services Manager be requested to attend the next meeting for the purpose of discussing this matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the representatives of the Ice Dogs hockey team retired from the meeting.

RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING CONFERENCE

A Responsible Gambling Conference will be held on October 2nd and 3rd in Halifax. This matter was referred to the Committee by Council.

It was the consensus of members that there was no interest in this conference at the present time.

CED CENTRE/LIBRARY

Members were brought up to date regarding the continued construction of this property. The fence around the pond at the property will be tendered publicly in the newspaper during this week. A purchase order has been issued to John Smith Signsmith for the construction and installation of the sign. A number of change work orders that had previously been approved by Council were reviewed. It was also indicated that a bill has been received from Mark MacIsaac for additional engineering services conducted between February 28th and July 26th, 2006.

Resolution COW060736

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the engineer, Mark MacIsaac, be paid the additional \$1,143.99, which includes H.S.T., for engineering services provided between February 28th and July 26th, 2006.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE DEPARTMENT SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

It was agreed by consensus of the committee that the fire departments be invited to attend a semi-annual meeting on the evening of September 5, 2006, prior to the Committee of the Whole Council meeting that evening.

TAX WRITE-OFF

The Glenwright Nickerson Memorial Ball Field in Oak Park is being returned to the Municipality. The organization formerly operating this ball field is no longer in existence. As a result it is not possible to collect the outstanding taxes on the property.

Resolution COW060737

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality write off the outstanding taxes of \$30.95 on the Glenwright Nickerson Memorial Ball Field as they are deemed to be uncollectible.

Motion carried unanimously.

DIGBY TO SAINT JOHN FERRY SERVICE

A copy of a press release regarding the Digby to Saint John Ferry Service, and a copy of a proposed letter to the Premier, as well as a letter from B. Reynolds Trucking Ltd., in relation to this matter, were previously circulated to members, or read to members at this time.

The Warden has been requested to attend a meeting on August 8, 2006 with the Mayor of Saint John, New Brunswick. The purpose of this meeting will be to continue to keep this issue at the forefront of public issues and in the minds of senior levels of government.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that a letter be sent to our MP, to the Premier, and to Minister MacKay in support of maintaining the Digby to Saint John ferry service and that Mr. Reynolds be requested to give permission to send a copy of his letter with this letter. The letter will indicate the importance of this service to the industry and to the economy of the Municipality of Barrington.

Resolution COW060738

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that the previous motion be amended by including that a copy of the letter be sent to our local MLA.

Amendment carried unanimously.

The division was then taken on the amended motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Warden indicated that she would attend the meeting on August 8, 2006 in Digby, and therefore would not be able to attend the Seniors Garden Party being held in Clark's Harbour.

Resolution COW060739

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that Councillor Donna LeBlanc-Messenger attend the Seniors Garden Party in Clark's Harbour on August 8th, on behalf of the Municipality, and that her expenses be paid accordingly.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW060740

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff contact key stakeholders and request letters of support to maintain the Digby to Saint John ferry service and that these letters be obtained as soon as possible so that the Warden will be able to take them with her to the meeting with the Mayor of Saint John on August 8th.

Motion carried unanimously.

Letters of support will be obtained from Sea Star Seafoods, Xsealant Sea Foods, Island Marine Products, R.I. Smith Ltd., Canjam Trading Ltd., James L. Mood Fisheries, Leroy Walker Trucking, Huskins Trucking and Roger Comeau.

LOCK-UP FACILITY

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Justice indicating that if CCTV cameras are required in Lock-ups they will have to be provided by the operators of the Lock-up, which in our case is the Municipality.

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that since the R.C.M.P. Detachment has been upgraded, the Department of Justice be asked if the R.C.M.P. Detachment Lock-up can be used for the retention of prisoners instead of the Municipal Lock-up.

AFFIRMATIVE

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Louise Halliday
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart

Motion defeated.

DISCOVER SHELBURNE COUNTY

An invoice for membership into Discover Shelburne County in the amount of \$50.00 has been received at the Municipal Office.

Resolution COW060741

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality become a member of Discover Shelburne County and pay the required membership fee of \$50.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

TRAFFIC COUNTS

A summary of the traffic counts done by the Department of Transportation in the Municipality of Barrington has been circulated to members. These traffic counts were done during the week of July 5th - 12th, 2006, at seven (7) different locations in the Municipality. These counts were done at the request of Municipal Council and will require payment to the Department of Transportation.

The results of the counts were circulated to members and reviewed by members for their information.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

TRAIL

Members were informed that a local resident had asked if it were possible for locations to be established along the former CNR right of way where tents may be placed at various times by bikers travelling through the Municipality.

Further information will be obtained on this by a member before further discussion.

RECREATION NOVA SCOTIA

The Warden received information indicating that the annual conference for Recreation Nova Scotia will be held on October 26th to 28th, at the Inverary Inn. At the present time no interest was expressed by any councillors in attending this conference.

CFIB LETTER

Correspondence has been received from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business regarding the elimination of the business occupancy assessment and tax. This matter has previously been dealt with by Council.

RECREATION DIRECTOR INTERVIEWS

It was requested that additional questions be added to the interview sheets for the Recreation Director. Applicants for the position of Recreation Director will be interviewed tomorrow evening. Additional questions will be added including questions regarding the education of applicants and the programming training and education of applicants.

CLOSED SESSION

Members then entered into a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing two personnel matters, two legal matters, the sale of property, the purchase of property and physician incentive agreements.

After completing their discussion of these matters, members then returned to Open Session.

Resolution COW060742

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that Shelly Atwood be made full-time Arena secretary and qualify for pension and medical benefits immediately, if acceptable to our insurer.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW060743

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that Mr. Albert & Mrs. Winnifred Campbell be informed that the Municipality has already obtained another site for the establishment of a tourist rest stop in the Port LaTour area, and therefore is no longer interested in using their property near Crow's Neck Beach.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:47 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

