

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
ISLAND & BARRINGTON PASSAGE FIRE HALL
CENTREVILLE, N.S.
MARCH 24, 2009

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room at the Island & Barrington Passage Fire Hall, with the following members present:

- Louise Halliday, Chairperson
 - George El-Jakl
 - Shaun Hatfield
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Cecil O'Donnell
 - Cathy Stoddard
 - Sean Strang
-
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
 - Willard d'Eon, CBCL Ltd.
 - David MacKinnon, E1 Pumping Systems
 - Chris Hughee, E1 Pumping Systems

There were approximately 125 members of the public in attendance.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The purpose of this meeting was to hold a public meeting on Cape Sable Island to present information regarding the construction of a sewer on Cape Sable Island and to receive input from the public regarding the proposed construction of this sewer system.

An information presentation was first made to the meeting outlining the history of the project to date, and the resulting proposal being placed before the public for their consideration. Information was also provided regarding the construction, maintenance and cost of the Barrington sewer system and the Wood's Harbour sewer systems which are also operated by the Municipality.

A presentation was also made from the engineering point of view regarding the proposed construction of the sewer on Cape Sable Island, and the estimated cost of the construction, and the number of properties that would be serviced. These presentations were completed at approximately 8:00 p.m., after which a brief break period was permitted in order for people to view the sewage pump which had been brought to the meeting for the viewing of the public. Members of the public then presented their

various comments and questions to Council for consideration. These concerns included:

1. What is the actual cost per year for the proposed sewer system and what will be the connection cost?
2. How did the system become changed from the Centreville, North East Point, Newellton area to the Stoney Island, Clam Point, North East Point area?
3. Is there any accommodation being made for seniors and others who are on fixed incomes and will experience an additional burden for which the annual sewer charge will be an additional demand on their incomes?

Page 2, Committee of the Whole Council Meeting, March 24, 2009

4. Is there any accommodation provided or allowed for those who have recently installed on-site septic systems at great expense? Some individuals expressed concern that they had within the last five years installed on-site septic systems at considerable expense, and this investment would now be lost if they are required to connect to the municipal sewer system.
5. Question was raised whether or not the Municipality have identified the exact problem that is to be dealt with, and if the proposed sewer system is the best method of resolving the problem. It is hard to identify whether or not this is the best solution to the problem, if the problem is not adequately defined.
6. It was suggested that sewage treatment is a major problem on Cape Sable Island and that if this problem is not addressed in the near future the water system will become more of a problem than the sewer problem.
7. It was implied that the effluent from the sewer system should not be discharged to the ocean, that it would be better to discharge it to local wetland areas.
8. Some concern was expressed that the effluent would be discharged on the eastern side of Cape Sable Island where it had previously been determined that it was not acceptable to discharge it on the western side.
9. The public was informed that a survey will be sent out in the very near future. There are more than 1250 surveys to be sent out to all property owners on Cape Sable Island, and that it is very important to return these surveys in order for Council to determine the design for this particular project to move forward.
10. Question was asked regarding the charge being placed on the vacant lots within the area being serviced.

11. It was also asked if Cat Rock Drive and Spruce Drive would be included in the sewer servicing area.

All of these issues that have been raised have been, and will continue to be, considered by Council in determining whether or not to move ahead with this project.

All councillors indicated that receiving the survey results would be an important factor as well in determining whether this project would go ahead.

ADJOURNMENT

Having heard the comments and suggestions of the public, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:20 p.m.