

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

March 29, 2010

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Louise Halliday, Chair
 - Murray Atkinson
 - George El-Jakl
 - Shaun Hatfield
 - Cecil O'Connell
 - Cathy Stoddard
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

Absent was Councillor Messenger who is on vacation.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that minutes of the last previous meeting held March 15, 2010 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON REGIONAL CURLING CLUB

Mr. Elwin Smith appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the operations of the Barrington Regional Curling Club. Mr. Smith indicated that the finances of the curling club now look good, however, during this coming summer they will lose one of their fundraising events. The fundraising event they will lose is the "bike tour". This tour has been coming to the area for the past several years and staying overnight at Sherose Island. The Curling Club has provided meals and facilities to the bike tour. This has produced revenue to the Club at approximately \$1,500.00 which they will not receive this year. On a more positive note, Mr. Smith indicated that the High School girls team had qualified and participated in provincials and that a seniors curling team also qualified for provincials.

Mr. Smith indicated that there are some problems with the cement along the edge of the curling surface. Because the cement is being affected by frost and water is coming into the building underneath it, it has affected the use of the curling ice. He indicated that during the third week of February part of the ice was unable to be used this year. This matter will have to be addressed by Property Services before it becomes more significant. Water seems to be entering the building at ground level near the emergency exit doors along the side. Also, the air exchanger in the lounge has not been working for quite some time. One of the motors has been removed in order to be repaired, however, it has been discovered that this motor is not repairable. This matter also has to be addressed during the summer months when there is less activity at the Curling Club. The Curling Club will be turning the ice plant off on Easter Sunday, ending their current season.

Having completed his discussion of these matters, Mr. Smith then retired from the meeting at approximately 7:14 p.m.

RCMP MONTHLY REPORT

Sgt. Forbes appeared before the meeting and provided written statistical reports for the month of February 2010 and February 2009.

The matter of littering in the Barrington Passage area was brought to the attention of Sgt. Forbes. He indicated this is a very difficult matter to resolve and enforce as individuals have to virtually be caught in the act of littering.

When asked, Sgt. Forbes also informed members that it is not legal for 4-wheelers to be driven on the Upper Clyde Road.

Sgt. Forbes indicated there is a significant problem with civic numbering in various sections of the Municipality. In some areas the civic numbering is done very poorly so that the numbers are not readily visible for emergency vehicles. Sgt. Forbes is requesting Municipal Council consider putting a by-law into effect requiring the placement of civic numbers in a more highly visible position.

Sgt. Forbes also informed members that there will be training on Saturday, April 25th, for the members of the Police Advisory Board. Council members on this Board are Councillor El-Jakl and Councillor O'Donnell. Further information will be provided to these members regarding the training.

Having completed his discussion of these matters, Sgt. Forbes retired from the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

BLANCHE ROAD

A member indicated that a resident of the Blanche Road is requesting that resurfacing be done to the road, at least as far as the fish plant that is located along the Blanche Road.

Resolution COW100323

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation be requested to place crushed stone on the Blanche Road as far as the fish plant.

Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL SOUND SYSTEM

Information that had been provided from Blair's Computer Service regarding the provision of webcasting equipment and rental of space on a server for this purpose was provided to Council. There is a significant cost to the Municipality in providing a potential webcast system. Members were also informed that the cost of providing lapel microphones for councillors would be in the range of \$400.00 each.

It was the consensus of members that additional information be obtained from another service provider. This will be done by Municipal Staff and returned to the committee.

C & D LANDFILL TIPPING FEES

Conflict of Interest

Warden Halliday declared conflict of interest for the discussion of this matter as her spouse's business is a frequent user of the facility and retired from the meeting table.

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that Councillor O'Donnell be nominated chairperson of the meeting for the purposes of discussing this matter.

Having asked for nominations three times and having heard no further nominations, the Clerk declared Councillor O'Donnell elected by acclamation.

Members then discussed the proposal for implementing tipping fees at the C & D Landfill Site. The implementation of tipping fees at the site would also mean that the cost of operating the landfill site would then be removed from the general tax rate providing the revenue received from the tipping fees paid for the cost of operating the site.

A summary of the tipping fees charged at various construction and demolition landfill sites across the province was provided by the Region 6 Waste Coordinator and circulated to members for their information and review. This information indicates that there are tipping fees imposed on both mixed waste and source separated waste, and that all of the construction and demolition landfills across the province, with the exception of the landfill at St. Marys. The tipping fees range from a high of \$110.00 per ton in Yarmouth to a low of \$38.58 per ton at the Cumberland Joint Services Landfill. These are the fees that are charged for mixed waste. It had been proposed at a previous council meeting that the Municipality put in place a tipping fee of \$60.00 per ton for sorted waste and \$115.00 per ton for mixed waste at the municipal facility.

In the proposal it is also indicated that the Town of Clark's Harbour would also pay tipping fees for deposits made by them at the C & D site.

Resolution COW100324

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality institute tipping fees at the Construction and Demolition Landfill Site at the rate of \$100.00 for mixed waste and \$60.00 for sorted waste, with the provision that deposits of 100 kilograms or less will not be charged any tipping fees.

AFFIRMATIVE

Murray Atkinson
George El-Jakl
Cecil O'Donnell
Cathy Stoddard

NEGATIVE

Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the Warden then returned to the table and resumed the chair.

NOTICE OF MOTION RE: COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION

Together with their agenda councillors were previously provided with the following notice of motion which was moved by Councillor Hatfield and seconded by Councillor O'Donnell.

WHEREAS citizens are recognized to be at the highest point of the political pyramid in a democracy;

AND WHEREAS it is a conflict of interest for municipal councillors to set their own wages and benefits;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Barrington Municipal Council begin to draft a policy for establishing a citizen's panel which would set councillor wages and benefits.

There then followed much discussion regarding this matter and regarding the "awkwardness" that arises in Council setting its own remuneration.

Moved by S. Hatfield that the previous motion be amended to include that a recommendation be made from the proposed panel to Council for the setting of council remuneration.

No seconder was obtained for the proposed amendment and therefore the proposed amendment was lost.

The division was then taken on the motion.

AFFIRMATIVE

Shaun Hatfield

NEGATIVE

Murray Atkinson

George El-Jakl

Louise Halliday

Cecil O'Donnell

Cathy Stoddard

Motion defeated.

Resolution COW100325

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities regarding the determination of wages for municipal councils, asking the Union if they have previously discussed or investigated any avenue of changing the way in which councillors wages are set, and providing some background information regarding Barrington Municipal Council's discussion of this matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

DR. KINSLEY

Correspondence has been received from Dr. Yee indicating that Dr. Kinsley will be serving a locum in Dr. Yee's office this summer while Dr. Yee is away on vacation. Dr. Yee also indicates that he will be having a third year medical student at his office in the very near future. Dr. Yee is requesting these individuals be allowed to stay in the apartment above the Community Health Centre while they are here.

Resolution COW100326

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that correspondence be sent to Dr. Blair requesting use of the apartment for both the student and the locum during the summer and asking Dr. Blair for his intentions for the use of the apartment.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES FUNDING

Members were informed that a letter is being sent to the minister requesting fire services funding, and that a request for proposal is being placed on the provincial government website requesting consultants to complete a Fire Services Study for the Municipality. Both of these actions will be completed in the very near future.

RESERVED SEATING AT ARENA

This matter was referred to the committee by Council.

Resolution COW100327

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that a section of seating at the Barrington Municipal Arena be reserved for bonafide volunteers and that the size and location of this section be determined by the Arena Manager, and that it be painted a different color and include the words “event volunteers” being painted in this section for the information of patrons.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100328

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O’Donnell that it be recommended to Council that James Nickerson be recognized as an honorary volunteer and a seating space be reserved for him in the volunteer section.

AFFIRMATIVE

Louise Halliday
Shaun Hatfield
Cecil O’Donnell
Cathy Stoddard

NEGATIVE

Murray Atkinson
George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

TRAVEL - TOURISM COORDINATOR FUNDING

A request for funding has been received from the Discover Shelburne County Tourism Association. This request is for funding for specific items for the 2010 season and includes funding for attendance at the Saltscapes Trade Show in Halifax, the Joie de Vive Tourism Trade Show in Moncton, for a Shelburne County Lighthouse map, and for a Shelburne County FAM Tour which is to be held in September of 2010 and is to include 30 people. The municipalities in Shelburne County are already funding the services of a Tourism Coordinator for the County. The funding that is being requested in this case is through Discover Shelburne County Tourism Association. There appears to be some overlap in the funding arrangements for both organizations. Discover Shelburne County is requesting the municipal units to fund the specific events and is requesting all of the five municipal units to contribute towards them.

Resolution COW100329

Moved by C. Stoddard and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality contribute \$525.41 for the Shelburne County Tourism Coordinator to attend the Saltscapes Trade Show from April 30th to May 2nd, in Halifax, and that the Municipality pay these funds to the Shelburne County Tourism Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100330

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that the Municipal Clerk draft questions and comments for the Tourism Committee regarding funding of tourism services for the County.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:40 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website March 31, 2010.