

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

April 6, 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
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Cecil O'Donnell
 - Cathy Stoddard
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- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Parking Issue in Wood's Harbour.
- Dangerous and Unsightly Premises.
- Wood's Harbour Ball Field.
- Department of Transportation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINTUES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. Stoddard that the minutes of the last previous meeting held March 29, 2010 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY MEETING

Members discussed holding another community meeting at a different location in the Municipality, for the purpose of providing better access to residents.

Resolution COW100401

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the next meeting be held in Wood's Harbour.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Wood's Harbour Fire Hall will be contacted in order to arrange an appropriate date and time for a meeting in their community.

UNSM ANNUAL SPRING WORKSHOP

The Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Annual Spring Workshop is being held April 29th and 30th at the Old Orchard Inn in Greenwich, N.S. Councillors Hatfield, Messenger, Stoddard, and the Municipal Clerk have indicated they wish to attend. Confirmation will be made by the end of the week so that registrations can be done.

TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

Municipalities in Nova Scotia are now required by Service Nova Scotia to record their tangible capital assets according to the Public Sector Accounting Board's standards. This requires that a Tangible Capital Assets Policy be put in place indicating how capital assets are to be valued and amortized. Service Nova Scotia has developed a manual that is a guide for this purpose. Municipal assets have recently been reviewed and valued according to this manual. It is now proposed that a Tangible Capital Assets Policy be put in place for the Municipality. A copy of this policy has been circulated to all councillors for their information and review.

Resolution COW100402

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that notice be given at the next Council meeting of the intention to adopt a Tangible Capital Assets Policy for the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE APARTMENT

Correspondence has previously been sent to Dr. Blair asking what are his intentions regarding the use of the apartment at the Community Health Centre. Dr. Blair is now operating walk-in clinics three nights a week between 6:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. He is seeing patients regularly on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights and providing a valuable service to residents. In the very near future there will be a medical student from Dalhousie University in the community from June 7th to June 24th, and also Dr. Kinsley will be here serving a locum from July 5th to August 20th.

Resolution COW100403

Moved by C. Stoddard and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the cost of housing a student and a locum during the summer of 2010 by paying their rent to stay at a local bed and breakfast during that time, and that this be included in the 2010/2011 budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100404

Moved by C. Stoddard and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a letter of thanks be sent to Dr. Blair for his continued service to our community in providing additional medical services to those who currently do not have a permanent physician.

Motion carried unanimously.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Municipality has a Capital Investment Plan that is completed as part of the requirement for the Gas Tax Agreement. As part of this agreement the Capital Investment Plan must be reviewed and updated each year by Municipal Council. Information will be forwarded to members for this purpose.

It was the consensus of members that they would meet at 8:00 a.m. on May 18th in order to further discuss the Capital Investment Plan and the project ranking for the coming year.

BUSINESS PARK PROJECT

Members were informed of the progress to date on the Business Park Project. The lowest bidder on the project was Aberdeen Paving. Engineers have been in discussion with Aberdeen in order to have as much of the project completed as possible with the funds available. They have now negotiated the best possible procedure for constructing as much as possible of the Business Park. It is expected that an agreement will be signed in the next few days and the project will begin within the next two weeks. The project is expected to take five weeks for completion and should be completed by approximately the end of May.

PARKING ISSUE IN WOOD'S HARBOUR

Conflict of Interest

Councillor George El-Jakl declared a conflict of interest and retired from the meeting table as he owns the convenience store across the road from Mr. Goreham's property.

Members were informed that Mr. Gary Goreham had called the Municipal Office regarding parking on his property in Wood's Harbour. He indicated that vehicles are parking in front of his building in Wood's Harbour and sometimes blocking the entry to the property for delivery trucks.

It was suggested to Mr. Goreham that “No Parking” signs be placed in front of the property so that vehicle operators would know that parking is not allowed there. There are no municipal regulations that govern this particular issue. Mr. Goreham was informed that the Municipal Land Use By-Law would be checked to ensure that the store across the road had adequate parking spaces provided. The Development Officer reported that the store across the road was required to provide 8 parking spaces and it was calculated that there is a space for at least 16 parking spaces provided at that location so that the building was well within the requirements of the Land Use By-Law.

Councillor El-Jakl then returned to the meeting table.

DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

A member wished to be updated on the progress being made on the investigation of the Leroy Martin property in Brass Hill. The repairs have been made within the last few days to the Martin property which appear to address the deficiencies that were identified. The By-Law Enforcement Officer has been there this afternoon and will be providing a report indicating that the deficiencies have been addressed. The owners of the property have been contacted and correspondence will be sent to them indicating the current condition of the property. The owners have indicated that they will be dealing further with the property sometime during the early summer of this year.

WOOD’S HARBOUR BALL FIELD

The local minor baseball association wishes to investigate whether or not there is potential for the Municipality to take ownership of the ball field in Wood’s Harbour that is used by minor baseball. This matter will be further investigated by the councillor for the area.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

It was indicated that a D.O.T. sign near Civic #704 on the South Side Road is in need of repair. This will be communicated to the local Department of Transportation office.

There then followed some discussion regarding the guardrails on the Cape Sable Island Causeway.

Resolution COW100405

Moved by C. Stoddard and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that in the interest of public safety that the Department of Transportation install metal guardrails along the Cape Sable Island Causeway and that a copy of this request be sent to our MLA.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was also indicated by members that there is an erosion along the shoulder of the road just beyond the parking lot at the church in Shag Harbour and that this needs to be reported to the Department of Transportation. Municipal Staff will report this to the D.O.T. Office.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 8:08 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website April 7, 2010.