

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

September 7, 2010

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 p.m., in the Jury Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- George El-Jakl, Chair
- Murray Atkinson
- Louise Halliday
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Cecil O'Donnell
- Cathy Stoddard (7:02 p.m.)
  
- Don Harding, Municipal Solicitor
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### CLOSED SESSION

Members entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing engineering fees on the Barrington Business Park, and the Waste Collection Contract. These matters were discussed with the Municipal Solicitor so that direction could be given to him.

The discussion was completed at approximately 7:30 p.m., at which time the meeting moved to the Council Chambers and entered into Open Session.

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Stray Cats.
- Meeting with Minister of Education.
- North East Point Gazebo.
- Motions as a result of Closed Session.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. O'Donnell that minutes of the last previous meeting held August 16, 2010 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### MINK FARM

Since there were members of the public present to hear the discussion regarding the mink farm this matter was addressed next by the Committee.

A letter had been received from Mrs. Sandra Wilson, a resident of Brown's Pit Road, which is near the mink farm located on Highway #103 in Clyde River. This letter had been circulated to all committee members earlier in the day, by email.

It is apparent that there is an odor emanating from the mink farm early in the mornings, at least in the last few days, as witnessed by one of the committee members. Correspondence has been sent to both the Department of Environment and the Department of Agriculture regarding this odor. In addition, an email letter sent to MLA Sterling Belliveau's Office from Mr. Dennis Moerman of the Department of Agriculture was provided to the meeting by a resident of Brown's Pit Road and read to members for their information.

### Resolution COW100901

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment requesting him to stop in and investigate the odor at the mink farm as soon as possible, and also that the Minister of Agriculture be asked to stop in and investigate this matter in person himself as well.

Motion carried unanimously.

### Resolution COW100902

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that an offer be extended to the owner of the mink farm providing him an opportunity to explain to the Committee or to Council what is the cause of the odor and what is being done to address this matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

### PRIVATE ROADS AND CIVIC NUMBERING SIGNS

As a result of previous discussion, the by-law from the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg was provided to members for their information and review. The by-law encourages residents to post their civic addresses on their properties in a visible manner for emergency service vehicles. The requirement to have civic numbers posted for the use of emergency service vehicles was emphasized by members.

### Resolution COW100903

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff draft a policy making the placing of civic addressing signs mandatory in the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION POLICY

It was noted that the Certificates of Recognition Policy did not at present include the auxiliaries of the various volunteer fire departments. Many of these auxiliaries have members who have served the community for a great many years and who should be recognized for their service.

Resolution COW100904

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that a Certificate of Recognition be prepared for the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department Extrication Team that competed in the Atlantic Regional Vehicle Extrication Competition in Halifax recently. This team received the best Incident Commander Award, the top safety award and placed second in the unlimited pit, and were judged second place overall in the competition.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100905

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Certificates of Recognition Policy be amended in order to include members of the fire department auxiliaries and that notice be given of this amendment at the next subsequent Council meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100906

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that Paragraph 5 of the Certificates of Recognition Policy be deleted from the policy and that notice of this amendment be provided at the next subsequent Council meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100907

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Emergency Management Organization thanking them for their commitment during Hurricane Earl which recently passed through the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

AMENDMENTS TO POLICY 52 RE: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

Proposed amendments to Policy 52 were circulated to members for their review. It is proposed that the method of bringing recommendations forward to Council from Committee of the Whole will change.

Resolution COW100908

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that Policy 52 be amended by adding paragraph 6(4) stating:

*“6.4 Councillors shall take turns presenting committee recommendations to Council. The Chair shall request a mover and seconder for each recommendation put forth.”*

and that notice of this amendment be given at the next subsequent council meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE CHIEF'S COMMITTEE

Councillor Hatfield informed members, by email, that he will no longer be able to serve on the Fire Chief's Committee since the meetings will be held on a night that conflicts with a previous commitment.

Resolution COW100909

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that Councillor Hatfield now sit on the Planning Advisory Committee and that Warden El-Jakl sit on the Fire Chief's Committee so that the Municipality will continue to be represented on both committees.

Motion carried unanimously.

RCMP INVITATION

The Warden informed members that in discussion with the Staff Sergeant from the RCMP Detachment, it had been indicated to him that he may be receiving an invitation to attend the graduation ceremonies at the RCMP Training Depot in Regina. This will be confirmed in writing by the RCMP for consideration of members.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SIGNAGE

It was noted that there were no signs near the Cape Sable Island Causeway indicating that the communities of Wood's Harbour, Shag Harbour, Bear Point, Forbes Point, and Charlesville are west of the causeway.

It was also noted that there was an accident recently at “Twinkie’s Corner” in Wood’s Harbour and that there is no guardrail along the highway at that corner.

Resolution COW100910

**Moved** by C. O’Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting that a sign be placed in Barrington Passage, near the Cape Sable Island Causeway, directing the public to the communities further west along Highway #3, including Wood’s Harbour and Shag Harbour.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100911

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting that a guardrail be placed along the highway at Twinkie’s Corner in Wood’s Harbour.

Motion carried unanimously.

PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT

Members were informed that correspondence has been received from Dr. Abud indicating that she will be leaving the community at the end of January 2011 when her contract expires.

Resolution COW100912

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O’Donnell that it be recommended to Council that a letter of thanks be sent to Dr. Abud expressing the community’s gratitude for her service over the past four years.

Motion carried unanimously.

WIND FARMS

There has recently been information in the newspaper regarding the construction of wind farms by Atlantic Wind Power in the Pictou area.

Resolution COW100913

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that Atlantic Wind Power be contacted in order to request what are their requirements regarding the location of wind turbine generators.

Motion carried unanimously.

### DIGITAL RECORDING

Members were informed that the digital recorder has been received today and is being evaluated. As soon as this is done, digital recordings will be made of committee and council meetings and placed on the Municipality's website.

### SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees was circulated to members for their information and review.

### STRAY CATS

Recently there was an article in the local newspaper concerning the stray cats in the Municipality. The following four suggestions were made for dealing with this issue:

1. Stiffer fines and penalties should be imposed on owners.
2. There could be a discounted spay/neuter program supported by the Municipality.
3. A small shelter could be provided for kittens.
4. More signs should be located at various locations in the Municipality indicating that it is illegal to leave unwanted cats in the area.

There was some question regarding the authority of municipalities to implement a by-law regarding the control of cats.

### Resolution COW100914

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to Ms. Minnie Atkinson thanking her for her suggestions which were reported in the local newspaper, and asking her for potential locations for additional signs throughout the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

### NORTH EAST POINT BEACH BOARDWALK & GAZEBO

It was indicated that there are some posts at the Causeway end of the North East Point boardwalk that are in need of repair. It was also indicated that the seat of the picnic table in the gazebo at North East Point has been damaged and needs to be repaired as well.

The Property Services Department will be made aware of the need for these repairs.

MOTIONS AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSIONS

Resolution COW100915

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Clerk and Solicitor meet with the Waste Collector to negotiate terms of reconciliation on contract matters.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW100916

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that the Solicitor contact the MacDonnell Group to finalize the engineering requirements on the Barrington Passage Business Park.

Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING WITH MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Members were informed that the Minister would be available to meet with members on either Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, or Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, regarding schools on Cape Sable Island.

It was the consensus of members that they meet on Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., in Halifax, with the Minister.

Councillors Stoddard, Atkinson, Hatfield, El-Jakl, Messenger and Halliday agreed to meet with the Minister.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:12 p.m.

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Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

**On website September 8, 2010.**