

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, July 12, 2010.

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:40 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported that all councillors representing all districts of the Municipality were present:

- Warden George El-Jakl
- Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Murray Atkinson
- Councillor Louise Halliday
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield
- Councillor Cecil O'Donnell
- Councillor Cathy Stoddard
  
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

#### CLOSED SESSION

At 6:30 p.m. a Closed Session of Council was held to deal with waste collection, C.S.I. sewer project, personnel matter, and land acquisition.

Motions were made later in the meeting as a result of the Closed Session of Council.

#### DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by C. Stoddart and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the minutes of the 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Council Meeting held June 29, 2010 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that due to the Closed Session of Council the appointment with School Board representatives regarding C.S.I. School closure be dealt with now.

Motion carried unanimously.

CAPE SABLE ISLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Andrea Huskilson-Newell, School Board representative; and Steven Stoddart, Director of Operations, Tri-County Regional School Board, appeared before the meeting.

Mr. Stoddart explained the School Review and Closure Process.

Mr. Stoddart advised that every four years a Capital Construction Report is prepared. In 2004 the Board made a decision to recommend renovations to the Cape Sable Island Elementary School. Due to additional land being required, in 2008 the Board made a decision to recommend renovations to the Clark's Harbour Elementary School instead of the Cape Sable Island Elementary School.

In February 2010 the School Utilization Study was carried out by Gunns Leadership Consulting Services. Based on recommendations of the report, both the Cape Sable Island Elementary School and Clark's Harbour Elementary School were identified by the Tri-County Regional School Board for review.

The Impact Assessment Report for both schools has been completed and staff is recommending that the Clark's Harbour Elementary School receive renovations to become a P-6 elementary school which will result in the closure of the C.S.I. Elementary School.

The School Review Process will take a year to complete. As part of the review process a Study Committee must be put in place by October 7, 2010. The Study Committee is made up of the School Advisory Committee for both schools currently consisting of four members plus two vacancies. The Study Committee will hold a public meeting and obtain public input and provide a response to the Assessment Report. The School Board will then present the Study Committee's recommendations at a public meeting and hold one public meeting for input, then the Board will decide how to proceed. The Board is currently supporting the closure of the Cape Sable Island Elementary School and renovations to the Clark's Harbour Elementary School.

Mrs. Newell and Mr. Stoddart were both thanked for appearing before Council.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Street Lights

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from the Municipality of Digby which advised that their council certainly agrees that the rates Nova Scotia Power currently charge municipal units for street lights is too high. The letter further advised that Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine sits on the UNSM Board, and that the UNSM is currently looking at putting together a report that examines what municipalities are currently paying for street light rates and the long term financial benefit that municipalities could gain if each municipality purchased their own LED street lights and hung them on Nova Scotia power poles.

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has also been received from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities which advised that UNSM Board members and staff have been closely watching the LED street light pilots that have been happening across the province. The UNSM Board at their meeting held last week passed a motion that the UNSM approach the Province of Nova Scotia through Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations to find ways to advance the installation and funding of LED technology on municipally and Nova Scotia Power owned street lights throughout the Province.

#### Caucus Meeting

The Clerk informed members that in response to our invitation to the Premier to hold a caucus meeting in the Barrington area, the Premier has advised our request has been forwarded to the NDP Caucus Chair, Vicki Conrad, since the caucus makes the decisions as to where meetings are held.

Correspondence has also been received from MLA Sterling Belliveau thanking us for our invitation and advising that it will be reiterated to the Premier and his caucus colleagues.

#### Old Ferry Wharf

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter from Minister Bill Estabrooks which thanked Council for their letter regarding the removal of the old ferry wharf in North East Point. Minister Estabrooks advised that our request has been forwarded to department staff and he has asked that they fully investigate the issue and provide him with a more detailed report. As soon as he receives the requested information, a further response will be forwarded to Council.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

##### Tri-County Housing Authority

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services advising that the Annapolis Valley Housing Authority, the South Shore Housing Authority and the Tri-County Housing Authority are merging services under a new name, the Western Regional Housing Authority. The formal amalgamation takes place on December 1, 2010. The letter further advised that no offices will be closed and no employees will lose their jobs or will be expected to relocate as part of the merger.

#### REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

##### Dr. O'Connor

The Warden reported that he met with Dr. O'Connor to discuss when he would be returning to the Municipality of Barrington. Dr. O'Connor advised that he would be returning but at the present time has no definite date. When asked Dr. O'Connor advised that there would be no problem with the Municipality using the offices at the Community Health Centre for another doctor. The Warden suggested that Shirley Watson-Poole, Physician Recruitment Officer, should be approached regarding physician recruitment for the Municipality.

Resolution C100701

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Halliday that Shirley Watson-Poole, Physician Recruitment Officer, and Jodi Ybarra, Administrator, Roseway Hospital, be invited to attend an upcoming Committee of the Whole Council meeting to discuss physician recruitment for the Municipality of Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Deputy Warden Messenger gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

Resolution C100702

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. Stoddard that Deputy Warden Messenger be authorized to attend the upcoming Library Conference to be held at White Point and that her expenses be paid.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Cathy Stoddard

Councillor Cathy Stoddard gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Cecil O'Donnell

Councillor Cecil O'Donnell gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Shaun Hatfield

Councillor Shaun Hatfield gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Murray Atkinson

Councillor Murray Atkinson gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Committee of the Whole Council

Councillor Atkinson reported on the recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Council.

Reclassification and Ditching at McGray Avenue

Resolution C100703

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by S. Hatfield that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting that McGray Avenue be reclassified due to the high traffic volume, especially on the lower portion of the road, so that more maintenance will be done on the road and that it may possibly be paved by the Department of Transportation.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C100704

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Department of Transportation be requested to evaluate ditching the upper portion of McGray Avenue between Civic #123 and the Flemming's residence, as at present there is no ditching along this portion of the road and this causes water during rainy periods to erode the road and leave potholes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development

Resolution C100705

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the Municipality support the project proposal for an Economic Development Coordinator for Shelburne County for a period of one year pending the support of all five municipal units and the support of the Province of Nova Scotia.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson  
Shaun Hatfield  
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger  
Cecil O'Donnell  
Cathy Stoddard

**NEGATIVE**

George El-Jakl  
Louise Halliday

Motion carried.

Community Grant Request

Resolution C100706

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. Stoddard that a grant of \$1,000.00 be provided from the District 7 Community Grants Fund for the purpose of assisting with the installation of a fence at White Lily Cemetery in South Side.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Louise Halliday

Councillor Louise Halliday gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

As a result of the Closed Session of Council held earlier in the meeting, the following motions were brought forward:

Property of Carroll Knowles - Barrington Passage

Resolution C100707

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by M. Atkinson that the Municipality offer to purchase property owned by Carroll Knowles located in Barrington Passage at a purchase price of \$25,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

C.S.I. Sewer

It was reported that correspondence has been received from the Town of Clark's Harbour advising that a motion was passed not to allow the Municipality of Barrington to connect to the Clark's Harbour sewer system.

It was the general consensus of Council that action now be taken to identify other land options for the Cape Sable Island sewer.

REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER

The Clerk-Treasurer gave a report on his activities during the month of May.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy No. 58 "Playground Funding Policy"

The Clerk informed members that at the last meeting of Council notice was given regarding proposed amendments to Policy No. 58, "Playground Funding Policy". It is proposed that Section 7 which currently reads: "The deadline for applications is March 31<sup>st</sup>." be deleted.

Resolution C100708

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that proposed amendments to Policy No. 58, "Playground Funding Policy", to delete the deadline date, be approved as presented.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson  
George El-Jakl  
Shaun Hatfield  
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger  
Cecil O'Donnell  
Cathy Stoddard

**NEGATIVE**

Louise Halliday

Motion carried.

Notice of Consideration - Policy No. 38

The Clerk informed members that notice is being given tonight for proposed amendments to Policy No. 38 "Construction and Demolition Landfill Policy". Amendments will be considered at the next meeting of Council. Proposed amendments deal with tipping fees and procedures which are currently being carried out at the Landfill Site such as tires being stockpiled for recycling, etc.

Request for Playground Funding

The Clerk informed members that two applications have been received for playground funding, both requesting the maximum grant of \$5,000.00. One application has been received from the Brass Hill Playground Association and the other has been received from the District 5 Playground Association.

During discussion of this matter it was noted that \$10,000.00 has been put in the budget for playgrounds.

Resolution C100709

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the applications received from the Brass Hill Playground Association and the District 5 Playground Association requesting maximum funding of \$5,000.00 each, be approved, subject to all requirements of Policy 58 "Playground Funding Policy" being met.

Motion carried unanimously.

V.I.C. Stats Report

The Clerk informed members that information has been received from the V.I.C. Manager indicating that from May 21<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 there were 118 less visitors to the Visitor Information Centre. This is a decrease of 15% over last year. The majority of visitors were from Nova Scotia looking for information about the local area including museums, lighthouses, beaches, UFO Site and Cape Sable Island, as well as an increase in the interest in walking trails. Many of the US visitors were those who owned property in the Municipality of Barrington.

Statistics were also provided by the Tourism Coordinator for Shelburne County. The overall June visitation in Shelburne County is showing a 16% decrease from 2009. May visitation showed a 16 ½% decrease from 2009. Lockeport statistics are not included in this total since their V.I.C. was late opening this year.

Organizational Study Evaluations

It was reported that the RFPs received for an Organizational Study were reviewed and evaluated by the Warden, Clerk and Deputy Clerk. Based on evaluations, it is recommended that the RFP received from Jack Novak, Dalhousie University, be accepted.

Resolution C100710

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the RFP for an Organizational Study received from Jack Novak, Dalhousie University, in the amount of \$20,888.00, including H.S.T. be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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Warden

Clerk

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website July 13, 2010.**