

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

April 18, 2011

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00 p.m., in the Conference 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
- Cathy Stoddard

Absent was member Cecil O'Donnell due to a family illness.

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

CLOSED SESSION RE: PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTER

Councillors met in Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a personnel and legal matter.

Having completed their discussion of these matters, the Committee then entered into Open Session at 7:00 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m. the Clerk-Treasurer joined the meeting together with members of the public.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. Stoddard that minutes of the last previous meeting held April 4, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INTERVIEW

Mr. Greg Newell, Supervising Engineer for the Tri Counties for the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing local road maintenance. The following items were discussed with Mr. Newell:

1. Placing metal guardrails on the Causeway.
Mr. Newell explained that the two cable rail that presently exists on the Causeway is a better system for allowing snow to blow through and not accumulate on the road bed. He also indicated that the cable type of railing is just as safe and effective as any metal railing, and that there is no evidence that the metal railing is any safer. Mr. Newell indicated that the cost of placing a metal railing would be in excess of \$100,000 and there is not enough funds in his local maintenance program to provide for this.
2. Guardrail on Sherose Island
It was indicated to Mr. Newell that placing a guardrail on the Sherose Island Causeway has caused the shoulder of the road to be very narrow on that side. It was also noted that the intersection with Highway #3 may not be wide enough to allow for adequate turning range of school buses.
3. Guardrail at Bull Head Road
It was also indicated that the guardrail at Bull Head Road is in need of repair.
4. Clam Point Road Repairs
It was suggested that the pavement in the Clam Point area is also in need of repair. Mr. Newell indicated that maintenance funding this year is very limited and as a result the amount of maintenance would be very much restricted during this year.
5. Newellton Road Repairs
It was indicated that there are holes eroded in the shoulder of the road near the guardrail in the Newellton area.
6. Sidney Heights Road Repairs
It was also related to Mr. Newell that the storm gutter across the foot of the Sidney Heights Road is in need of repair.
7. Shag Harbour Road Repairs
It was indicated that there is a hole in the road near the former store in Shag Harbour.
8. Wood's Harbour Road Repairs
The asphalt just prior to the ballfield in Wood's Harbour is in need of repair.

Mr. Newell indicated that he would send an outline of planned maintenance for the roads in the Municipality for the coming year. He indicated that the best time to discuss maintenance plans for the coming year would be during the month of February when the budget is being prepared.

Having completed his discussion of these matters, Mr. Newell then retired from the meeting.

SENIORS INDEPENDENT HOUSING INITIATIVE

Ms. Joan Bower and Pastor Tim Johnson appeared before the meeting for the purpose of making a presentation for the Senior Independent Housing Initiative.

It is recognized that isolation is a huge problem for seniors. As a result it is desirable to have seniors living in a community which allows them to socialize on a regular basis. The Senior Independent Housing Initiative is attempting to determine the need in Shelburne County for seniors independent housing. This project will fulfill a need for housing required by seniors who do not fit the provincial government's subsidized housing programs. This group is working with the Atlantic Baptist Seniors Homes which is a non profit registered charity which has been building these types of complexes since 1970. Their first step in their project is to determine the need for this type of housing in Shelburne County. They will be doing this by conducting a survey throughout the County.

Having reached the end of the allotted time for their presentation, it was:

Resolution COW110409

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Hatfield that the discussion of this project continue until all questions have been dealt with.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members then continued to discuss the project with the proponents in order to determine the potential municipal involvement. The survey that is being circulated will be revised somewhat to make it more pertinent to our area, and will be circulated also through the Municipal Office as well as the other locations listed on the survey.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the proponents then retired from the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Members then retired for a short refreshment break after which the meeting was then reconvened.

CSI SEWER

Information that had been provided by the Project Manager was reviewed with members. The information regarding the Receiving Water Study being completed for Clam Point/Stoney Island area and the South Side area has not yet been finished. The Receiving Water Study will need to be completed and the information provided so that members can make a further decision regarding this project before meeting with the representatives of the Canada/Nova Scotia Infrastructure Program. It is anticipated the Receiving Water Study will be completed in the next few weeks at which time the Project Manager will provide additional information to members.

YARMOUTH HOSPITAL FOUNDATION SPRING GALA

This matter was referred to Committee by Council. The Yarmouth Hospital Foundation will be hosting their 7th Annual Spring Gala at the Yarmouth Mariners Centre from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 7, 2011. The purpose of this spring gala this year is to raise funds for two new laparoscopic suites for the operating department of the Yarmouth Regional Hospital. The cost per plate at the spring gala is \$150.00 which is a donation to the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation for which an income tax receipt will be provided. Municipal units in the area are being asked to sponsor a table of eight at a cost of \$1,200.00.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality sponsor a table of eight at the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation Spring Gala by making a donation of \$1,200.00.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that it also be added to the motion that the seats at the table sponsored by the Municipality of Barrington also be sold to the public at the price of \$150.00 each in order to raise additional funds for the Foundation.

Amendment carried unanimously.

The division was then taken on the main motion.

The amended motion now reads:

Resolution COW110410

“...that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality sponsor a table of eight at the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation Spring Gala by making a donation of \$1,200.00, and that the seats at the table sponsored by the Municipality of Barrington also be sold to the public at the price of \$150.00 each in order to raise additional funds for the Foundation.

Motion carried unanimously.

COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT

This matter was also referred to Committee from Council. It is suggested that the section of the Personnel Policy dealing with the Cost of Living Adjustment be amended so that this can be done automatically each year.

Resolution COW110411

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Personnel Policy be amended to indicate that any cost of living increase up to 2.5% be automatically granted each year, and that any Cost of Living Adjustment over 2.5% be referred to Council for confirmation in any given year.

AFFIRMATIVE

Murray Atkinson
Louise Halliday
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Cathy Stoddard

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

BARRINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST

The request of the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department to pay an excavator bill of \$460.00 which had been required to move debris at a fire at Civic #830 Oak Park was referred to the Fire Chiefs Committee by Council.

The Warden informed members that no decision had been communicated from the Fire Chiefs Committee.

Resolution COW110412

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the excavator bill for the use of an excavator at a fire located at Civic #830 in Oak Park, and that a letter be sent to the Fire Chiefs Committee giving them direction as to how to proceed in future.

AFFIRMATIVE

Murray Atkinson
Louise Halliday
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Cathy Stoddard

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

FIRE CHIEFS MEETING MOTIONS

There were two motions which were brought forward from the recent Fire Chiefs Committee meeting.

1. A motion was made to have Council look into hiring someone to administer the fire services in the Municipality of Barrington.

In order to do this further information is required; such as:

- What would this cost?
- Would this be done in the current year?
- What would be the job description or duties of this employee?
- What is it that the chiefs are looking for?

Resolution COW110413

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipal Clerk get information pertinent to the request of the fire chiefs to look into hiring someone to administer the fire services in the Municipality of Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. The second motion made at the Fire Chiefs Committee meeting was to approve Barrington's request to put an area fire rate in place in their fire district.

Resolution COW110414

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipal Clerk provide the information necessary to the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department to put in place an appropriate area fire rate.

Motion carried unanimously.

HIRING COMMITTEE MEETING

Due to the absence of Councillor O'Donnell this evening it is not possible to determine a date for a Hiring Committee Meeting. This matter will be dealt with by sending a proposed date to the members of the committee by email.

ORGANIZATIONAL STUDY MOTION

Resolution COW110415

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that this matter be referred to the next Council meeting for consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

NOVA SCOTIA BOAT RACERS ASSOCIATION REQUEST

The Nova Scotia Boat Racers Association wishes to use the area on the Causeway near the gazebo for a Fun Day. This will be held on September 10, 2011, with September 11th as a back-up day in the case of bad weather. The group will have insurance put in place for that day and will send a copy of the policy to the Municipality.

Resolution COW110416

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Nova Scotia Boat Racers Association be given permission to hold their Fun Day on municipal property at the Cape Sable Island Causeway pending their provision of proof of insurance to the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

DORY CLUB REQUEST

The Queen of Hearts Dory Club is requesting permission to put an 8 X 12 building on municipal property at McGray Avenue near the Cape Sable Island Causeway. This building will be used to house their equipment such as oars, seats, etc. The Dory Club will be using a wharf which they own at McGray Avenue which will be very near the location of the site of this proposed building.

There then followed some discussion regarding the liabilities attached to this building and the insurance requirements.

Resolution COW110417

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Queen of Hearts Dory Club be given permission to place an 8 X 12 building on municipal property near the Causeway at McGray Avenue providing it has been confirmed that the proper insurance is in place, and they provide a statement of indemnification to the Municipality from any resulting liabilities, and that the building be removed at the end of the 2011 rowing season.

Motion carried unanimously.

PROPERTY SERVICES DEPARTMENT SUMMER STAFF

It is proposed that the Municipality will hire two students for the summer months as soon as possible and continuing until the end of August. These students will work in the Property Services Department to mow grass and maintain municipal properties and will be paid at the rate of \$10.00 per hour.

Resolution COW110418

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality hire two students for the summer months in the Property Services Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees for the previous two weeks was circulated to members for their information.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:35 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website April 20, 2011.