

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

May 19th & 20th, 2011

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 8:45 a.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 (9:15 a.m.)
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Cecil O'Donnell
- Cathy Stoddard

- Cameron Whiteway, Property Services Manager
- Anna Kenney, Recreation Director
- David Andrews, Building Inspector
- Shelly Blinkhorn, Arena Manager
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

PROPERTY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The managers then presented the budgets for their individual departments beginning with the Property Services Department.

The Property Services Manager reviewed the C & D Landfill. The most significant change in the operation of the Landfill is that three (3) men are needed to adequately run the facility. A third man has been included in the budget for this fiscal year.

The Property Services expenditures were then reviewed. It was suggested that a breakdown be provided of the sundry expenses.

The Property Services Manager then reviewed the estimates for the Barrington sewer system and the Wood's Harbour sewer system. He also reviewed the capital expenditures that are anticipated throughout the municipality.

There was much discussion regarding the purchase of a new truck for the Property Services Department.

It was the consensus of members that a used 3/4 ton diesel truck be purchased for this department in order to reduce the cost of the vehicle. This used vehicle could be a dealership leftover or demonstrator from a previous year.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Recreation expenditures were then reviewed and explained by the Recreation Director.

The summer staff wages included funding for “Kids in Motion”.

At the Barrington Municipal Pool it is anticipated that a walkway will be constructed adjacent to the Arena wall. That will make it easier for people to walk in that area.

The estimated expenditures for repairs and maintenance at the Rec Centre are \$12,000.00. This estimate will be reviewed to determine what this is comprised of.

ARENA

The Arena Manager then reviewed the revenues and expenses anticipated at the Barrington Municipal Arena.

It is proposed that the hourly rental rate be increased from \$115.00 per hour to \$120.00 per hour.

\$15,000.00 has been included in the budget to install automatic taps and toilets in the washrooms in the Arena.

An expenditure for a laptop for monitoring the compressors for the ice maintenance is also included in the budget.

Having completed their presentations, the managers then retired from the meeting and the Committee then broke for dinner.

BUILDING INSPECTION

Members returned for further consideration of the budget at approximately 1:40 p.m.

The Building Inspector then reviewed his estimated expenditures for the coming year.

He suggested that there could be some fee changes for the various building permits and subdivision permits as these have not been increased for some time.

The Building Inspection Department is now also doing the civic addressing.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES

The tax bill form was discussed and it was suggested that it may be reviewed for the purpose of bringing it more up to date.

There was also some question regarding expenditures from previous years which will be investigated and subsequently reported.

The ESmart Program was discussed. This program had previously been approved by Council for its funding for a three year period.

It was suggested that miscellaneous expenses should be further identified as this is a significant expenditure.

Grants to Organizations were further reviewed by members. It was agreed that the grant to the Tri-County Pregnancy Care Centre be increased from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 in the budget and that the contingency amount be reduced accordingly.

It was agreed that the provision for playgrounds would include \$5,000.00 for District 5 Playground, \$5,000.00 for ERMES Playground, and \$5,000.00 for the Barrington Ballfield Playground. These playground grants will be issued subject to the Municipality's policy.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

The Fire Services Advisory Committee has requested funding for ice rescue equipment. It is anticipated that \$5,000.00 will be included in the budget for this purpose.

It was also requested by the Fire Services Advisory Committee that provision be made for funding of a Fire Services Officer. It was suggested that \$40,000.00 be included in the budget for this purpose.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Transportation Services were reviewed. It was suggested that the provision for road maintenance be reduced by \$5,000.00.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Environmental Health Services were reviewed. The majority of these had been previously discussed with the Property Services Manager, including the Landfill and sewer services.

The collection and disposal of waste was further discussed. The cost of these are dictated by the Waste Collection and Disposal Contract.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

It was the consensus of members that a provision would have to be added for the rent being paid by the Municipality on the office being used in Dr. Premachandra's space.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Members were informed that \$25,000.00 has been included in this area for economic development initiatives.

Members then agreed to adjourn the meeting for the day at 4:15 p.m. and resume the meeting on Friday morning, May 20th.

CONTINUATION OF BUDGET MEETING

The meeting was reconvened on the morning of Friday, May 20th, at approximately 8:30 a.m.

It was suggested that the following items be reviewed with the Arena Manager:

- remove \$15,000.00 for the automatic toilets and washrooms
- what constitutes the \$2,600.00 for permits
- what constitutes the provision for building maintenance
- why is the freight allowance at \$2,100.00
- what are the increases provided for in the training conferences and travel expenditures
- what constitutes the refrigeration maintenance expenditure

These items will be reviewed with the Arena Manager by the Clerk-Treasurer.

Members then continued to review other aspects of Recreation and Cultural Services.

There was some question as to why the telephone service at the Learning Centre is more than \$2,200.00.

It was agreed a provision of \$3,000 per district would be included for Community Grants.

RESERVE FUNDS

Members then discussed the balance contained in Reserve Funds and the uses of what those funds have been designated for in the past.

It was suggested that the funds reserved for waterfront development could now be used for the “look-off project” at North East Point Beach.

OTHER REVENUES

Members again reviewed other revenue sources to the Municipality with the suggestion that a list be prepared comparing the revenues from various municipal fees with those fees charged by other municipal units.

Councillor O’Donnell retired from the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Having completed their review of the draft budget, members expressed the opinion that they would like to keep the residential and commercial tax rates the same as the previous year if at all possible.

The revisions that had been discussed will be made to the budget and a second draft will be returned to the committee for further review.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed their review of the draft budget, the meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 11:15 a.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website May 25, 2011.

