

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

July 18, 2011

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:

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

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Marathon.
- Garden Party.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that minutes of the previous two Committee of the Whole meetings held July 4th and July 11th, 2011, be approved with the amendment that the minutes of July 4, 2011 be corrected to show the Community Grants in districts 5 and 6 shown properly as follows:

- Newellton Community Hall, District 6
- Atlantic Cemetery Club, District 5
- Old Kirk Cemetery, District 5
- Stoney Island Community Club, District 5

Motion carried unanimously.

MLA INTERVIEW

Minister Sterling Belliveau appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing jobs, health care, education and the environment with committee members.

Ms. Joy Knight the Minister's Executive Assistant also attended the meeting with the Minister.

The first subject discussed was the South West Shore Development Authority. The Minister assured members that he had asked the Province to protect municipalities and small business in the settlement of the South West Shore Development Authority's debts. He also reiterated that he had been the first elected official to request an audit of the South West Shore Development Authority. The Minister informed members that discussions are continuing regarding the proposal that is now before the Province. The subject of individual Board members' liability was discussed and Minister Belliveau indicated that he had expressed concern to the Provincial Minister of Economic and Rural Development regarding this issue.

Members then discussed health care and the recruitment of doctors to rural areas of Nova Scotia. Mr. Belliveau indicated that the sale of seats to Saudi Arabia at Dalhousie Medical School had no negative affect on Nova Scotia.

The Minister then discussed the attraction of jobs and job opportunities to rural Nova Scotia including the proposal that was put forward by Mr. James Mood. At the present time the Province is waiting upon a business plan for this proposal.

The Minister also discussed the nurse practitioners who are now working in the area including the Geriatric Nurse Practitioner.

It was suggested that the Provincial Government also provide an incentive to attract more doctors to settle in rural Nova Scotia. The Minister also referred to the technology that is now being used by doctors in the form of tele-health and other matters. It was suggested that with the advent of this technology it would be possible to relocate other jobs to rural Nova Scotia, including government jobs.

The Minister then addressed environmental issues and suggested that communities must trust the science of environmental management to help develop jobs in rural communities that did not detrimentally affect the environment.

The Minister suggested the Municipality enter into a pilot project with the Province to obtain a de-watering truck to pump solids out of on-site septic systems. He indicated this would be of no cost to the Municipality or to the homeowner.

Resolution COW110726

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality contact the Department of Environment to discuss the pilot project for a de-watering truck proposed by the Minister of Environment.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Minister then also discussed coastal erosion and the assistance provided to property owners for uninsured losses as a result of storms last fall. He indicated that the \$1,000,000 ceiling for Federal Government assistance under the EMO Program seriously affected any compensation available.

It was also suggested to Minister Belliveau that fire services in rural communities are now suffering from a shortage of volunteers and an increase in training requirements. This means there will be more funding required from the Province for this purpose.

Having completed his discussions with the Committee, the Minister Belliveau retired from the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

BIOSOLIDS FREE NOVA SCOTIA

Correspondence has been received from Dr. Marilyn Cameron who is the Chair of Biosolids Free Nova Scotia. Dr. Cameron wishes to appear before the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities in order to gain support for the Biosolids Free Nova Scotia Initiative. She is asking Council for its support by writing a letter to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities on her behalf requesting that they have a meeting with her to discuss this matter.

Resolution COW110727

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities in support of the request of Dr. Marilyn Cameron to meet with the Union representatives in order to discuss the Biosolids Free Nova Scotia Initiative.

Motion carried unanimously.

WASTE DIVERSION

Members were informed that the preliminary estimate of Waste Diversion monies to be received from Region 6 has recently been received. A cheque for the advance on 2010 Diversion Credits will be sent to the Municipality in the amount of \$12,332.00. Approximately 10% of this amount is payable to the Town of Clark's Harbour. Together, the Municipality of Barrington and the Town of Clark's Harbour diverted 1,236 tons of waste from landfill during the 2009/2010 fiscal year.

SC TRANSPORTATION SOCIETY REQUEST

The SC Transportation Society has sent correspondence, by email, requesting the Municipality of Barrington and the Municipality of Shelburne to become more involved in their public transportation society. At a previous meeting the Committee had agreed to have Municipal Staff obtain further information regarding public transportation organizations in other municipal units before responding to the SC Transportation Society.

It was the consensus of the Committee that this information be obtained before any response is made.

SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL REQUEST

This matter had been referred to the Committee by Council. Correspondence had been received, by email, from the Director of Community & Economic Development of the Town of Shelburne requesting funding for a Shorebird Festival. The Shelburne County Tourism Coordinator had indicated to the Municipal Clerk, verbally, that the Shorebird Festival was requesting \$100.00 from each of the municipal units for this purpose, although this had not been stated in the email received.

Resolution COW110728

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$100.00 be provided from the District 7 Community Grants Fund to the Shelburne County Shorebird Festival as one of the tours conducted will be held at The Hawk, in District 7.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY GRANT REQUESTS

Three Community Grant requests had been received from the Chapel Hill Historical Society and the Shag Harbour Community Hall. These requests had been further investigated by Councillor Halliday and discussed with the proponents.

Resolution COW110729

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a letter addressing all three requests be forwarded to the Chapel Hill Historical Society indicating that \$1,000.00 has already been granted to them from the District 2 Community Grants Fund, and that the fund has a limit of \$3,000.00 for the current year. As a result no further funds will be forwarded at the present time. The grant requests may be further considered at a later date should no further funding be required for that district before the end of the year.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was also indicated that one of the grants was for the former Chetwynd property owned by the Municipality which the Incident Society will not be using as arrangements have not been completed for this purpose.

Resolution COW110730

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a \$500.00 grant be provided to the Shag Harbour Incident Society from the District 2 Community Grants Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW110731

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$1,000.00 be provided from the District 1 Community Grants Fund to the Wood's Harbour Fisherman's Memorial for the purpose of upkeep of the monument site.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW110732

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a summary of Grants to Organizations and of Community Grants approved by Council be listed on the Municipal website and updated on a regular basis.

Motion carried unanimously.

GEORGE SALISBURY REQUEST RE: BLOCKED RIGHT OF WAY

Information has been received from the RCMP regarding their response to Mr. Salisbury's request regarding a blocked right of way. The RCMP has indicated that Mr. Salisbury should contact a lawyer and deal with this matter through legal advice as it is a civil legal matter. Should any criminal related matter develop in regards to the right of way, the RCMP would then deal with it.

CLERK'S EVALUATION FORM

The Warden has consulted with the Municipal Advisor regarding the use of the DGH Consultants Ltd. CAO evaluation form. The Warden indicated that the Municipal Advisor stated it would be O.K. to use this form as it was provided on a public website.

It was suggested that the Municipal Solicitor be contacted regarding the use of this form.

Resolution COW110733

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that use of the DGH Consultants' form for the evaluation of the Clerk-Treasurer be deferred until the Warden consults with the Municipal Solicitor regarding the form.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Members had been provided with a report from the Clerk-Treasurer regarding the Fire Services Committee and a draft of the Terms of Reference. An email has been received at the Municipal Office indicating that the Fire Services Advisory Committee has approved the Terms of Reference.

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept the Terms of Reference and a letter be sent to the committee transmitting the Terms of Reference to them and also to all of the fire departments.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that the above motion be amended to include a clear statement in the Terms of Reference that minutes of the Fire Services Committee will be made available for public review and perusal at the Municipal Office when required by the public.

Amendment carried unanimously.

The amended motion now reads:

Resolution COW110734

“...that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept the Terms of Reference and a letter be sent to the committee transmitting the Terms of Reference to them and also to all of the fire departments and include a clear statement in the Terms of Reference that minutes of the Fire Services Committee will be made available for public review and perusal at the Municipal Office when required by the public.

The division was then requested on the amended motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES COORDINATOR

Email correspondence has been received from the Chair of the Fire Services Committee indicating possible duties of a Fire Services Coordinator. Information has also been received from the Clerk-Treasurer regarding the Fire Services Coordinator position.

Resolution COW110735

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the information provided be reviewed by members and discussed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

INTERVIEWS FOR CASUAL EMPLOYMENT AND BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Members were asked to determine a date for interviews for these positions.

Resolution COW110736

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff hire casual employees and that the Hiring Committee interview and recommend hiring of a By-Law Enforcement Officer.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was agreed by members of the Hiring Committee present that the number of applicants to be interviewed for the position of By-Law Enforcement Officer be short listed by the members from six to four prior to interviews being scheduled.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

MARATHON

Correspondence has been received from the Recreation Director requesting that a member of Council attend at the Marathon in order to present the awards at the finish line, and also to help present awards at the reception to be held following the Marathon.

It was agreed by the Warden and Councillor Stoddard that either both, or at least one of them, would be present at the finish line of the Marathon from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and at the reception to follow.

GARDEN PARTY

Correspondence has been received by fax today from the Town of Clark's Harbour requesting the Municipality to reconsider its grant to this function for the current year.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that a letter of response be sent to the Town indicating that the amount granted for the current year is what can be afforded at the present time by the Municipality, and that should circumstances change in another year the amount of the grant may also change.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:56 p.m.

_____ Chair

_____ Secretary for the Meeting

On website July 19, 2011.