

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

August 2, 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:

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

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Department of Transportation Issue.
- Walking Trail.
- Sign.
- Hiring Committee Meeting.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. Stoddard that the minutes of the last meeting held July 18, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Information was provided to members informing them of public transportation activities throughout the Province. A map was provided indicating the areas in which public transportation was provided, either by community groups incorporated as societies, or by private companies, or by municipal units. Information was also provided on the operation of Kings Transit, the Cumberland County Transportation Society and the Trans County Transportation Society based out of Bridgetown.

Discussion then followed regarding the commitment required to provide public transportation in a large rural area such as Shelburne County.

Resolution COW110801

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that correspondence be sent to the SC Transportation Society indicating that Council is favorably disposed towards their public transportation project and supports the project. Council will take a supportive role in this project and will assist where possible. Council believes that provision of public transportation in the area needs to be an initiative of a volunteer society lead by community members in order to make it feasible and sustainable.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES/FIRE SERVICES OFFICER

Members were informed by the Warden that the Fire Services Advisory Committee does not believe that a Fire Services Officer needs to be hired tomorrow, but that the position should be further discussed with a view to hiring an officer in the future. A list of suggested duties of the officer had been received and reviewed by members, and comments and questions were made concerning uncertain areas of the duties of the officer. Members were informed that all of the fire chiefs had an opportunity for input in the list of duties.

There was some discussion of a term position for a Fire Services Officer being either one (1) year, three (3) year or five (5) year terms.

It was suggested that a meeting with the Advisory Committee be held to determine the needs of the fire services in future.

It was the consensus of members that there would be one Fire Services with one Fire Service Coordinator and one fire rate across the entire municipality. It was also stated that training of fire fighters is believed to be a priority by the Advisory Committee. There was some question regarding who would have authority to make decisions for the Fire Services, and it was stated that final decisions must come from Council. It was believed that it would be advisable to develop a statement of intent that could be discussed with the committee.

Resolution COW110802

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Halliday that the Committee of the Whole initiate a meeting with the Fire Services Advisory Committee to discuss the development of fire services in the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLERK-TREASURER'S EVALUATION FORM

An evaluation form was previously circulated to members, by email, at the request of the Warden. The Warden asked that members complete the form and forward it to him.

A meeting for the Clerk's evaluation will be held during the second week of December. The evaluation form to be completed is up to the discretion of each individual completing it. The evaluation form must be returned to the Warden no later than September 12, 2011.

### NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

As a result of a motion made by Council on March 24, 2011, information is being provided regarding the reduction of the number of councillors from the present seven (7) to a proposed level of five (5). It was also suggested that a CAO should be put in place when reducing the number of councillors.

There was some suggestion that there would be two (2) councillors on Cape Sable Island and three (3) councillors on the mainland. There should be public consultation regarding the number of councillors before deciding on a set number.

#### Resolution COW110803

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality conduct public consultation regarding the reduction of councillors from seven (7) to five (5) in the future.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Resolution COW110804

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that there be public consultation inviting members of the public to provide their opinion on the election of a mayor for the Municipality rather than a warden.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Resolution COW110805

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that both a paper survey and a social media survey be conducted to obtain public information on the possible reduction of councillors from seven (7) to five (5), and on the possible election of a mayor instead of a warden.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW110806

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the public also be asked in the survey if there is some other alternative for the number of councillors which they would suggest.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

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

**NEGATIVE**

Cecil O'Donnell

Motion carried.

RCMP PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Correspondence has been received, by email, from the Federal RCMP Offices requesting that a Performance Assessment Survey be completed and returned to them.

It was suggested to members that any member wishing to complete this survey could do so and forward it.

NOVA SCOTIA NATURE TRUST INVITATION

An invitation has been received from the Nova Scotia Nature Trust inviting members to celebrate the permanent protection of the Crow Neck Conservation Lands. This event will take place at 10:30 a.m., on August 6, 2011, and will be followed by a guided walk with Bird Studies Canada and the Nova Scotia Nature Trust. Members are asked to RSVP to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust.

Councillor O'Donnell volunteered to attend this announcement on behalf of the Municipality.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ISSUE

Members were informed that the West River Road is in need of grading.

Resolution COW110807

**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 Office in Shelburne requesting that West River Road be graded and upgraded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON BAY TRAIL

Members were informed that there are holes in the middle of the Barrington Bay Trail where posts were formerly located and have been removed. The holes that are left as a result are a safety hazard and should either be filled in or the posts should be replaced.

Property Services Department will be consulted regarding resolving this matter.

SIGN

It was noted that there is a sign near Hirtle's Pond at The Hawk that has been pushed over. It is uncertain whether this sign is a municipal sign or Department of Natural Resources sign.

Property Services personnel will be asked to further investigate and address the situation.

HIRING COMMITTEE MEETING

It was agreed by members of the Hiring Committee that there would be a meeting held on Wednesday, August 10, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of interviewing applicants for the position of Property Services Technician at the C & D Landfill.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:18 p.m.

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Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

**On website August 3, 2011.**