

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, April 11, 2011.

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 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 OF COUNCIL

At 6:30 p.m. a Closed Session of Council was held by the Warden and members of Council only to deal with personnel/legal matter.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the minutes of the last meeting of Council held March 28, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION - YARMOUTH HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin, Manager/Director, and Elnathan Smith, Director, of the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation, appeared before Council.

Mrs. Sweeney-Goodwin provided background and future plans of the Foundation.

The Yarmouth Hospital Foundation was established in 1970 and has raised over \$16,000,000 to date for health care in the region. To date, the Municipality of Barrington has contributed \$281,263.00. The Foundation is now raising funds for two laparoscopic surgery suites to be established at the Yarmouth Hospital. The two signature events of the Foundation are golf and spring gala. The theme for this years' gala is 250th Celebration Gala. The event will be held at the Mariner's Centre on May 7, 2011 and councillors were encouraged to take part in the event.

Resolution C110401

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that this matter be referred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss the possibility of the Municipality purchasing a corporate table for the Spring Gala to be held on May 7, 2011.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Sweeney-Goodwin and Mr. Smith were both thanked for appearing before Council and making their presentation.

SHELBURNE COUNTY eSmart PROJECT

Ms. Dixie Redmond of the Community Business Development Corporation, and Mr. Jerry Locke, Economic Development Coordinator for the Town of Shelburne, appeared before the meeting and made a presentation regarding the Shelburne County eSmart Project. The project is designed to increase the use of the internet, business website, email, social media and other digital tools for county-based businesses. The project is expected to increase the overall "digital footprint" of Shelburne County and to enable Shelburne County businesses to capitalize on the provincial broadband network and increase development of business-friendly digital tools.

The eSmart workgroup includes the following:

- Municipality of Shelburne
- Town of Shelburne
- Municipality of Barrington
- Community Business Development Corporation
- Shelburne & Area Chamber of Commerce
- Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce
- Destination Shelburne
- Shelburne County Tourism

The work group at this time is requesting the Municipality of Barrington to provide a liaison with council and staff, a letter of support for the project, and a financial commitment of \$3,000 per year for the next three years.

Resolution C110402

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded C. Stoddard that the request for financial support of the eSmart Project be referred to the budget process.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C110403

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipal Council forward a letter of support for the Shelburne County eSmart Project.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Redmond and Mr. Locke were both thanked for appearing before Council and making their presentation.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Barrington Court

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from the Minister of Justice in response to our letter of March 2, 2011 in which Council expressed concern regarding the possible closure of the Barrington court facility. The Minister explained in his letter that as part of next year's budget process the Department of Justice was requested to look at ways to reduce spending and improve service delivery. As a result, the Department is reviewing all of its programs and services. These deliberations will be part of the budget process. He further advised that the budget process is confidential, and consequently he cannot disclose the contents of any discussions in Cabinet.

Provincial Road Standards

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from the Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal as a result of Councils' request for a copy of the standards for grading of gravel roads, standards for secondary roads, and also for the Highway 103 realignment.

The Minister provided information in his letter on how the requested information can be obtained from the internet.

The Clerk informed members that the standards have been printed off and will be kept in the Office for easy access.

Resolution C110404

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that a letter be forwarded to the Shelburne Office of the Department of Transportation asking that an assessment be carried out on the Clam Point/Stoney Island Road since there are many areas with gullies and dips which fill with water and create a hazard to motorists.

Motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from the Town of Clark's Harbour advising that the Town is in favour of the program encompassing the Town of Clark's Harbour, but is not able to provide funding to the program at this time.

Resolution C110405

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Municipality of Barrington support the Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program and allocate funds from the 2011/2012 budget to support the program.

Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Vernon d'Eon Sign Request

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of an email received from Lloyd d'Eon of Vernon d'Eon Lobster Plugs Ltd. Mr. d'Eon is once again requesting permission to install a sign on municipal property advertising his business which is located in Barrington Passage off of the main highway.

Resolution C110406

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that a letter be forwarded to Vernon d'Eon Lobster Plugs Ltd., notifying them that we are in support of their business interests in the Municipality of Barrington, however, our concern is with respect to liability and the fact that we have never placed any other business sign on municipal property, the precedent is not there for such action, and further that there is the opportunity that they can place a sign on the fence as other businesses have done for their purposes, and so at this time we would decline their request to post a sign at this location.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Councillor Cathy Stoddard

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

Councillor Shaun Hatfield

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

Councillor Murray Atkinson

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

Councillor Cecil O'Donnell

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

Cape Sable Island Elementary Schools

Resolution C110407

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that a letter be sent to our MLA, the Premier, and the Minister of Education, expressing our concern as to why we feel the Cape Sable Island Elementary School should have been selected for the retrofit, and ask why the Tri-County Regional School Board chose the Clark's Harbour Elementary School, and that a copy of the letter be forwarded to the other opposition leaders to find out where they stand on this issue, and that provincial officials be invited to visit both school sites for themselves.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Louise Halliday

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

Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

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

Deputy Warden Messenger reported on Committee recommendations to Council.

Notice of Motion Re: Closed Sessions

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that:

Resolution C110408

BE IT RESOLVED that whenever Council emerges from a Closed Session held under conditions permitted by the MGA that it be the first order of business for the Warden or Chairperson to provide for the record and public gallery the type of matter that was discussed in Closed Session, and then invite from members any motion related to Closed Session business.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

School Board Association Annual General Meeting

Resolution C110409

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the Municipality send an assortment of promotional items and draw prizes to the Tri-County Regional School Board for the Annual General Meeting of the Nova Scotia School Board's Association.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C110410

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipality pay the expenses of the Warden to attend the Opening Ceremonies of the Annual General Meeting of the Nova Scotia School Board's Association on Thursday, May 26, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., at Digby Pines, if he wishes to attend.

Motion carried unanimously.

Youth Theatre Program

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that a letter be sent to the Town of Clark's Harbour indicating to them that they have been requested to support the Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program, at least in principle, if not with financing, and have yet to respond to the request and that although Municipal Council is grateful for the inclusion of youth in the Theatre Program being conducted by the Town, Council regrets that it must decline contributing towards this program.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the above motion be amended by deleting the first part of the motion dealing with the Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program since this matter is now redundant as it was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The amended motion now reads as follows:

Resolution C110411

“...that a letter be sent to the Town of Clark’s Harbour indicating to them that although Municipal Council is grateful for the inclusion of youth in the Theatre Program being conducted by the Town, Council regrets that it must decline contributing towards the program.

Motion carried unanimously.

Incomplete Projects

Resolution C110412

Moved by C. O’Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipality transfer \$38,600 to the Special Reserve Fund Operating to complete the following projects:

- Brass Hill STP Roof
- Wood’s Harbour STP Roof
- Robertson Building Roof
- BRCC Air Exchanger
- Admin. Bldg. Floor/Roof

during the 2011/2012 fiscal year, and that these funds be taken into the fiscal years revenues for these projects.

Motion carried unanimously.

During discussion of this matter it was agreed that a list of municipal properties be provided to councillors for review.

Long Distance Charges

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that a letter be sent to the Town of Clark’s Harbour requesting them to send Aliant a letter with a similar request as the Municipality and that another letter be sent to Aliant requesting a response.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O’Donnell that the above motion be amended to clarify the request of Council to Aliant, that the same local calling area be provided for the 745 exchange on Cape Sable Island as is available to the 637 exchange in Barrington, and delete the reference to another letter being sent to Aliant since this request should be made in a separate motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The amended motion now reads as follows:

Resolution C110413

“...that a letter be sent to the Town of Clark’s Harbour requesting them to send a letter to Aliant with a similar request as the Municipality that the same local calling area be provided for the 745 exchange on Cape Sable Island as is available to the 637 exchange in Barrington.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C110414

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that a letter be forwarded to Aliant asking for a response to our letter requesting the same local calling area be provided for the 745 exchange on Cape Sable Island as is available to the 637 exchange in Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program Request

Resolution C110415

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O’Donnell that the Recreation Director attend the Physical Activity Forum on Friday, May 6, 2011, together with a councillor or another employee.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

Economic Development Meeting

In advance to the meeting members were provided with a copy of the news release advising that the Province is supporting economic development in South West Nova Scotia by investing in a new private sector lead task force that will seek business opportunities for the region.

The release indicated that the task force has six members of the private sector representing various businesses and municipal representatives are also being asked to join.

During discussion of this matter the Warden indicated that he had received information regarding this task force by way of email and will check this matter further.

Resolution C110416

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that correspondence be forwarded to Toby Koffman, Economic and Rural Development and Tourism, as well as Keith Condon, Chairman of Task Force South West, advising that the Municipality of Barrington would like to be advised of upcoming meetings and would be willing to send a council representative.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Meeting Dates

It was agreed that budget meetings would be held on May 19, 2011 commencing at 8:30 a.m. and May 20, 2011 commencing at 8:30 a.m.

Date to Review Grant Requests

It was agreed that members would meet on April 18, 2011, at 1:30 p.m., to review grant requests.

Property Services Technician Vacancy

The Clerk requested approval of Council to advertise to fill the current vacancy in the Property Services Department as a result of the recent passing of Karl Lamrock. The Clerk further requested that he be permitted to advertise both internally and externally at the same time.

Resolution C110417

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the Municipality advertise to fill the Property Services Technician vacancy and that the position be advertised both internally and externally at the same time in order to fill this position as soon as possible.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by C. Stoddard that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Warden

Clerk

Secretary for the Meeting

On website April 14, 2011.