

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

April 16, 2012

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 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
  - Cecil O'Donnell
  - Cathy Stoddard
- 
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### CLOSED SESSION

Members entered into a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter as well as public member appointments to the Planning Advisory Committee.

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

### REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

#### Resolution COW120420

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that Stacey Chetwynd be transferred, and employed in the Property Services Department until such time as summer students are hired in that department, to assist employees of that department to complete the work required.

Motion carried unanimously.

Further information will be required for the appointment of Planning Advisory Committee members.

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Gravel Pits.
- Upper Clyde Road Repairs.
- Little Goose Creek.
- West River Road.
- Watts Wind Energy Request.
- Barrington Passage Sidewalks.
- Arena Rental Request.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. Stoddard that minutes of the meeting held April 2, 2012 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON REGIONAL CURLING CLUB

Mr. John Joyce, President of the BRCC, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of providing a monthly report. Mr. Joyce indicated that the Club at the present time is "financially O.K.". He indicated that the Club has funds on hand and will be able to pay its final power bill which it anticipates receiving in the near future. It was also indicated that there are a number of rentals scheduled for the Club during the summer months. Mr. Joyce indicated that the next significant extra expense for the Curling Club will be the reprofiling of the curling stones. Curling stones are reprofiled by replacing the striking bands on the stones. This is done periodically as the rocks deteriorate over time from regular usage. It is estimated the cost of having the reprofiling done will be in the range of \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00. The Curling Club is currently looking into the timing of having this done.

Having completed his discussion of the Curling Club activities, Mr. Joyce then retired from the meeting.

RALPH "CREAMER" ATWOOD MEMORIAL BALLFIELD

John Nickerson and Paul Thomas appeared before the meeting on behalf of the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department owns the ballfield and is asking the Municipality to take over ownership.

There then followed some discussion regarding the activities at the ballfield, the use of it by the local community, the construction of a playground next to the ballfield, and the conditions the Fire Department wishes to place on the ownership of the ballfield.

Resolution COW120421

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept ownership of the ballfield and enter into an agreement with the Fire Department to take over the ownership of the field, and agree that there would be no change to use of the ballfield without further consultation with the Fire Department or its successors.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter of thanks be sent to the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department for their continued operation of the ballfield over the past number of years.

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the previous motion be amended to address the letter to Mr. Paul Thomas and have it copied to the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

The division was then taken on the main motion as amended.

The amended motion now reads as follows:

Resolution COW120422

*"...that it be recommended to Council that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Paul Thomas for his continued operation of the ballfield over the past number of years, and have it copied to the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department."*

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW120423

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the agreement between the Municipality and the Fire Department include a provision that the Fire Department's *Show and Shine* event be scheduled each year on the weekend prior to the civic holiday in August, each year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW120424

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality advertise that the scheduling of the ballfield will be done by the Municipal Recreation Department in future.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed their discussion of these matters, the Fire Department representatives then retired from the meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AMALGAMATION

Information had previously been circulated to all members which included all of the information and motions that had been provided by both the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department and the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department. This information was provided to members together with Section 15 of Policy No. 18 for their review and consideration.

Members were also informed of information received from the Municipal Solicitor concerning the proposed amalgamation. Members were informed that the Municipal Solicitor has advised that the Municipality must ensure that the new amalgamated fire department is a body corporate, and that it has applied for registration under Section 294 of the Municipal Government Act. Providing these things are done, the fire departments may amalgamate and Council may set an Area Rate for the new area provided Section 15 of policy is followed.

Discussion then ensued regarding the "heavy rescue truck" that is included in the proposed budget for the new fire department. Concern was expressed regarding the increase in the Area Fire Rate in the Shag Harbour/Bear Point area from \$0.094/\$100.00 to \$0.120/per \$100.00. It was suggested that the Fire Services Coordinator should evaluate and determine the need for the new vehicle.

Resolution COW120425

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Fire Services Coordinator review and provide advice concerning the need for, and purpose of, the new vehicle included in the proposed budget of the amalgamated fire department.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW120426

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the fire departments indicating the requirements of Policy No. 18, Section 4, and that a copy of this policy be sent together with the letter.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW120427

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality maintain funding of the current fire departments during the amalgamation process.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOBILE BURN UNIT

A letter of request has been received from the Fire Services Coordinator. In this correspondence it is requested that the Mobile Burn Unit from the Nova Scotia Fire Fighters School be permitted to use the parking lot at the Barrington Municipal Arena from July 3 -10, 2012, for the purpose of providing firefighter training to the local fire departments.

Resolution COW120428

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the request for use of the parking lot at the Barrington Municipal Arena from July 3 - 10, 2012 by the Mobile Burn Unit be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOU'WEST NOVA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

This matter had been referred to the Committee for consideration by Council.

Resolution COW120429

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that this matter be placed at the end of this evening's agenda as it will require considerable time for consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

NOVA SCOTIA BOATRACERS ASSOCIATION

A request has been received from the Nova Scotia Boatracers Association. The Boatracers Association wishes to have permission to hold a fundraising dance at the Barrington Municipal Arena on July 16, 2012. They are requesting a reduced rental rate for the Boatracers Association.

Resolution COW120430

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that the Boatracers Association be charged a fee of \$100.00 to rent the Barrington Municipal Arena for the purpose of holding a fundraising dance on July 16, 2012, and that they be required to provide insurance coverage, security, and a waiver of indemnification to the Municipality.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

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

**NEGATIVE**

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS LIABILITY

As a result of a previous motion, copies of insurance policies had been sent to the Municipal Solicitor for his review. These insurance policies are from various boards and agencies on which councillors participate as members. Correspondence has been received from the Municipal Solicitor, by email, suggesting that a meeting be convened with the Municipality's insurance broker so that questions may be answered, and advice may be provided to councillors concerning any liabilities attached to serving on various boards and committees.

Resolution COW120431

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that a meeting be scheduled with the Municipality's insurance brokers after the upcoming municipal elections for the purpose of discussing liability considerations for councillors and committee members.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLERK'S PENSION PLAN

The actuarial valuations have been received on the Municipal Clerk's pension plan for Mr. Jack Fry. This valuation is as of March 31, 2011. The actuarial valuation is required to be done every three years and the Municipality is subsequently required to adjust its funding for the unfunded portion of the pension plan. The funding adjustment will be included in the Municipality's budget.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OFFICES RELOCATION

Newspaper articles were circulated to members regarding the potential relocation of provincial government offices. One such potential relocation that was mentioned was for the Provincial Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture offices to be relocated to Shelburne County.

Resolution COW120432

**Moved** D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to Minister Belliveau in support of having provincial government offices for the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture relocated to Shelburne County, and that a copy of this letter be forwarded to all the municipal units in Shelburne County.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW120433

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that a press release be drafted indicating that the Municipality is in support of the province relocating government offices to the Municipality of Barrington, and to Shelburne County, which are excellent locations to accommodate such offices.

Motion carried unanimously.

SENIOR SERVICES

Correspondence has been received from the Senior Safety Services Coordinator. In this correspondence the Coordinator is requesting funding for the coming fiscal year. The amount of funding requested is \$7,590.88 and is the same amount as requested in the previous year.

Resolution COW120434

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality approve funding for Senior Services for the 2012/2013 fiscal year in the amount of \$7,590.88.

Motion carried unanimously.

DESTINATION SOUTHWEST NOVA ASSOCIATION

Correspondence has been received from the Destination Southwest Nova Association requesting funding in the amount of \$4,960.00 for the coming fiscal year.

Resolution COW120435

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Hatfield that the funding request from this organization be forwarded to the budget process for further consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Discussion ensued regarding the procedure for orienting new employees and having them introduced to Council. It was suggested that at times there also be informal gatherings held inviting both employees and councillors. It was suggested these gatherings be some type of social event at which councillors and employees could "get to know each other".

Resolution COW120436

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff determine what other units do in regards to the introduction of new employees to Council and suggest what might be done in regards to such introductions and in regards to informal gatherings between employees and councillors.

Motion carried unanimously.

ARENA FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

It was indicated to members that the Arena Fundraising Committee is still somewhat active at times in the community.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees was circulated to members for their information and review.

TAX REDUCTION APPLICATION - MARY ROSS

Information is being gathered pertinent to this application and will be provided at the next meeting of Committee.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Members were informed that active transportation initiatives had previously been discussed at various times by committee.

At the present time the Municipality has a Physical Activity Coordinator who is preparing a Physical Activity Strategy. Active transportation initiatives would form part of this strategy.

Resolution COW120437

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Physical Activity Coordinator be requested to include active transportation initiatives in the Municipal Physical Activity Strategy being developed for the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

NOVA SCOTIA POWER INC. EASEMENT

Nova Scotia Power has provided a request for an easement at Strang's Lane in Port Clyde. A resident has built a cottage on private property at the end of Strang's Lane. Nova Scotia Power will need an easement to provide adequate electrical service to the private property. This service would cross municipal property at the very end of Strang's Lane next to the picnic area and boat launch owned there by the Municipality.

Resolution COW120437

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality provide the requested easement to Nova Scotia Power Inc. on municipal property at the end of Strang's Lane in Port Clyde.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING IN NEWELLTON

Members were reminded that the next Committee of the Whole Meeting will be held on April 30th at the Newellton Community Hall.

GRAVEL PITS

A member queried who is responsible for the regulation of gravel pits. The Nova Scotia Department of Environment regulates gravel pits throughout the province.

Resolution COW120438

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Nova Scotia Department of Environment be requested to look at all gravel pits on the Upper Clyde Road to determine if they are being regulated and operated properly.

Motion carried unanimously.

UPPER CLYDE ROAD REPAIRS

Resolution COW120439

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the local Nova Scotia Department of Transportation Office be requested to repair the chip sealed portion of the Upper Clyde Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

LITTLE GOOSE CREEK

Members were informed that a copy of correspondence has been received from Mr. Doug Brannen. This is a letter from Mr. Brannen to Minister Belliveau. The letter informs Mr. Belliveau that there is green algae located in the small collector's stream situated east of Maranatha Fur Farms on Highway 103 which flows into Little Goose Creek.

WEST RIVER ROAD

A member informed the Committee that there is now gravel rocks present on the pavement at the entry to West River Road.

Resolution COW120441

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Department of Transportation be requested to sweep the pavement at the end of West River Road to clear the rocks off the area.

Motion carried unanimously.

WATTS WIND ENERGY REQUEST

Members were informed that Watts Wind Energy has requested a letter of support for the proposed wind energy project which they presented to Council on March 26, 2012. At the present time Watts Wind Energy is waiting to determine whether what type of letter they will require. This request will be brought back for further consideration once Watts Wind Energy provides additional information.

BARRINGTON PASSAGE SIDEWALK

The engineered drawings for the proposed Barrington Passage sidewalk were circulated to members for their information and review, together with an estimate of the cost of construction. The drawings and the cost estimates were provided in three different phases for the consideration of members.

Resolution COW120442

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality proceed with the construction of a concrete sidewalk in the Barrington Passage area and proceed to tender the project.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONTINUATION OF MEETING

Having reached the hour of 10:00 p.m., it was moved by L. Halliday and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the meeting continue until all matters have been adequately dealt with.

Motion carried unanimously.

ARENA RENTAL REQUEST

The 1688 Professional Lobster Fishermen Association is requesting use of the Arena for either April 17th or 18th, 2012 to host a meeting for their organization.

Resolution COW120443

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the 1688 Professional Lobster Fishermen Association be granted use of the Arena for a meeting at a fee of \$100.00 providing the date is available and adequate arrangements are made with the Arena Manager.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

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

**NEGATIVE**

George El-Jakl  
Louise Halliday

Motion carried.

SOU'WEST TRANSIT ASSOCIATION & CIVIC ADDRESSING BY-LAW

Resolution COW120444

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O'Donnell that these two matters be placed at the beginning of the next Committee of the Whole agenda for further consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:18 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website April 18, 2012.**