

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

November 19, 2012

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:

- Eddie Nickerson, Chair
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna Leblanc-Messenger

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Fire Department Meetings.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that minutes of the meeting held November 13, 2012 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON REGIONAL CURLING CLUB REPORT

Mr. John Joyce, President of the Curling Club, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of giving a report. Mr. Joyce gave a verbal report. He indicated to members that the Curling Club had experienced a net loss in membership of four (4) members thus far this year. There is a potential that two of these members may rejoin before the end of the season. He indicated that the Curling Club's financial position is still good, and indicated to members that their first bonspiel would be held in January. The Curling Club will also be holding three bonspiels during the months of February and March. All of these bonspiels are deemed to be fundraisers for the Club.

Having completed his report to Council, Mr. Joyce then retired from the meeting.

RCMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Sgt. M. J. Deluco appeared before the meeting for the purpose of giving the RCMP Quarterly Report. Sgt. Deluco circulated a written, statistical summary of the calls experienced by the Detachment over the last five months, since April 1st. She briefly reviewed this summary and the information contained in it.

Sgt. Deluco also indicated that Cst. Drenthe is now the School Safety Officer who will be dealing with issues at the local schools.

Sgt Deluco also indicated that they now have a constable off duty until February. There are now six (6) officers on duty at the local Detachment. Cst. Drenthe will be going on leave in February for the remainder of the year. Also, Cst. Israel will be off during the months of March, April, May and June. During that time the Detachment will then be down to five active members, unless an additional member is supplied from another source in the RCMP. It is not anticipated there will be a replacement.

Sgt. Deluco indicated that she had brought up the subject of the Coastal Watch Program as a result of recent, unusual activity reported in local waters off the coast of Cape Sable Island.

Sgt. Deluco also indicated that their Office Assistant is taking a leave of absence beginning in late December. This leave will be for a period of one year. In the interim she is attempting to have a new person brought in from another detachment during the leave of absence.

Sgt. Deluco was then asked about the fireworks display that would take place at the Causeway on December 1st. She is currently making arrangements for traffic control during that time. She will also be making arrangements for traffic control during the Christmas Parade being held on November 29th.

Sgt. Deluco was also asked about meetings of the Police Advisory Board. The Chair of the Police Advisory Board is no longer a councillor in the Town of Clark's Harbour and consequently there have not been any meetings of late. This matter will be further investigated by the Municipal Clerk to determine if a meeting can be scheduled.

Having completed her discussion of these matters, Sgt. Deluco retired from the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

SEAL ISLAND LIGHT RESTORATION

The Warden informed members that he has as yet not had an opportunity to meet with the MLA regarding this matter.

This matter will be placed on the agenda of the Council meeting on November 26th for further discussion.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO POLICY 62 "BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL ARENA"

The proposed amendments to Policy 62 were circulated to members together with the agenda.

Discussion of this draft policy then ensued. It was agreed by consensus of members that further discussion of these proposed amendments would be deferred to another meeting of Council so that additional information could be circulated to members for consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

Members were informed that ditching at Spruce Drive would be done in the very near future as soon as the backhoe which is being purchased by the Municipality has arrived. The backhoe is scheduled to arrive on Tuesday, November 20th. The culvert that had been brought to the attention of Municipal Staff had previously been cleared. There then followed some discussion regarding the corner turn near the property of Walton Smith in North East Point.

Resolution COW121116

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal be asked to evaluate widening the turn on the Centreville/South Side Road near the Walton Smith property, being Civic #205, approximately where the Sable Sands Lane intersects with the Stoney Island/Centreville Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL NOMINATION

Members were informed that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities had recommended six individuals for Diamond Jubilee Medals. The UNSM had not nominated former councillor, Cecil O'Donnell.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to former councillor, Cecil O'Donnell, expressing Council's appreciation for his municipal service and informing him that the UNSM had not nominated him for a Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that the motion be amended to insert "Council will also be nominating him directly for this medal".

Amendment carried unanimously.

The division was then taken on the amended motion.

The amended motion reads as follows:

Resolution COW121117

"...that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to former councillor, Cecil O'Donnell, expressing Council's appreciation for his municipal service, and informing him that the UNSM had not nominated him for a Diamond Jubilee Medal. Council will also be nominating him directly for this medal."

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW121118

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that former councillor, Cecil O'Donnell, be nominated for a Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Motion carried unanimously.

CIVIC NUMBERING PROGRAM

As a result of previous deliberations it had been requested that a motion be drafted to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities asking them to request the Province to put in place a province-wide program for civic numbering.

Members were informed that such a motion had previously been brought to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Conference in the fall of 2009. At that time the motion had not been recommended by the UNSM Resolutions Committee, and the motion had been defeated at the Conference.

Resolution COW121119

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a motion be drafted for consideration of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities indicating that the Province is responsible for civic numbering program throughout the Province, and that as a result the Municipal Government Act should be amended accordingly to make the Province responsible for a uniform system of posting civic address signs consistently for all municipalities.

Motion carried unanimously.

There then followed some discussion regarding the naming of streets. Further information will be obtained and circulated to committee members for discussion at a later date regarding this matter.

TAX REDUCTION APPLICATION

Pursuant to Policy #46, "Tax Reduction Policy", two applications have been received due to catastrophic events taking place in recent months. The first application received is from Anne Atwood requesting a tax reduction due to a fire taking place at property owned by her at Sherose Island. The Assessment Office has been notified and indicated the appropriate reduction in assessment that would be applied as a result of the fire at this site. The corresponding reduction in taxes would amount to \$626.31 for the year ending March 31, 2013. The appropriate reduced assessment would then be applied by the PVSC for the following year.

Resolution COW121120

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that a tax reduction in the amount of \$626.31 be provided to Anne Atwood in consideration of the fire which took place at her property at Sherose Island.

Motion carried unanimously.

A second application has been received as a result of a fire at the property of Mr. Cory Hunt on the Stoney Island Road. As a result of the fire that took place at this property, Mr. Hunt is requesting a reduction in taxes for the current fiscal year. The corresponding reduction in taxes would be \$250.99.

Resolution COW121121

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended by Council that as a result of a fire at the property of Cory Hunt on the Stoney Island Road, taxes on his property for the year ending March 31, 2013 be reduced by \$250.99.

Motion carried unanimously.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS FIREWORKS DISPLAY

A memo from the Recreation Director was read to members for their information. The Recreation Director has investigated various alternative sites for the Festival of Lights event. None of these are as satisfactory as the North East Point Beach. The North East Point Beach is the best venue, both for the actual fireworks and for viewing of the display. The Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department provides one truck with firefighters at this event each year. This year they will be asked to provide a second truck to be located at McGray Avenue in order to provide extra protection from debris falling from the fireworks.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

The Warden informed members that he was approached by a public citizen concerning the draft proposal of the Fire Services Coordinator for capital expenditures on fire services in the future. The Fire Services Coordinator had circulated a draft proposal for capital expenditures on fire services to the fire chiefs of the departments and the representatives of the departments after the recent Fire Services Committee meeting. The purpose of circulating this draft was to have it discussed by the Fire Services Committee at a subsequent meeting and to obtain an agreement on a future capital purchases plan. This draft apparently has been circulated to other members of the public and has been misconstrued by them as being a completed document which it is not.

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that having reached the hour of 10:00 p.m. the meeting continue until all items on the agenda have been dealt with.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW121122

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Committee of the Whole have the Fire Services Coordinator attend a meeting once a quarter in order to bring them up to date on fire services issues.

Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING AGENDAS

Other suggestions for changing the agendas and conduct of meetings were discussed by members. These included:

1. Reducing the number of meetings to two Committee of the Whole Council meetings per month and one Council meeting.
2. Having no additions to the agenda.
3. Having the agenda circulated a week in advance so that members had adequate time to review it and prepare for discussion.

Members then discussed these suggested changes. It was the general consensus of members that additions to the agenda should still be allowed as time sensitive items do arise on occasion. It was also the consensus of members that these proposed changes would be further discussed in early January.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:30 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website November 20, 2012.

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