

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL
STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING**

April 25, 2013

The meeting was called to order by the Warden, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson, Chair
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussion regarding overall plans for the Municipality. The various expenditures of the Municipality were being reviewed in order to determine appropriate actions.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Activities at the Barrington Municipal Swimming Pool, the Barrington Regional Curling Club and the use of ball fields were discussed at length. It was suggested that there be some increase in the rates charged for rentals at the pool, and that season passes and gift cards be instituted at the pool in an effort to increase the use of the pool and the revenue therefrom.

There was also some question as to why the telephone expense at the pool would be so much. Programs are being scheduled by the Recreation Department. There was some question as to how much usage each was receiving and whether this justified the related expense.

LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTRE

Members then reviewed the costs associated with the operation of the Barrington Municipal Library as well as the Learning Centre in Barrington Passage. Discussion then ensued regarding the benefits to the Municipality from the Learning Centre.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Administrative services were then discussed. The cost of Legislative Services which form part of Admin Services will be reduced as a result of reducing the number of councillors and the number of meetings. It was suggested that the Municipality hire a Director of Finance in order to better address the financial reporting needs of the Municipality which have increased substantially in recent years. It is also suggested the Municipality purchase new accounting software for the Municipality which would be more up to date and flexible providing financial reports.

FINANCING

The debentures which the Municipality has through the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation were reviewed briefly indicating when they would be maturing.

Fire Department loans were briefly discussed with members.

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed by members that the next meeting would be held on Monday, May 6th, at 7:00 p.m., to review the various revenue sources that are in place for the Municipality.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual agreement of members at 10:04 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website April 29, 2013.