

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

May 21, 2013

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:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
- Jody Crook
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Councillor El-Jakl was absent on leave.

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Western Counties Regional Library Request.
- Invitations.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by J. Crook and seconded by D. Messenger that minutes of the meetings held May 13<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### RCMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Sgt. Deluco appeared before the meeting for the purpose of presenting the Quarterly Report for the month of April. Sgt. Deluco circulated a written report stating the calls received during the month. She reviewed the statistics and the meeting that was conducted with a local bar owner. She also indicated there were various personnel both arriving and departing from the Detachment. Sgt. Deluco indicated that Cst. Toope will stay in the Barrington Detachment until he sells his house in the area, at which point he will be transferred. There is a Managerial Review being held for the Detachment next week. The Warden has agreed to discuss this review at that time.

Sgt. Deluco indicated that for the three week period during which the Miss Ally incident occurred there were extra resources brought in from other outside detachments to serve in this community. There was also space rented for these extra resources to work out of. A final review was conducted with the families involved in this tragedy. The review was conducted last night in Yarmouth. There was no additional charge to the Municipality for these extra resources employed during this tragedy.

A copy of the Detachments' Annual Performance Plan was also circulated to members for their information and review. It was indicated that a tactical vehicle may be brought to the Municipality in September. Councillors may be invited to view it at that time. In the Annual Performance Plan there are four priorities listed:

1. Domestic Violence.
2. Driving related offences.
3. Reduce the number of calls to Detachment.
4. Safer Youth.

Merchants or property owners who are experiencing unwanted activities in their parking lots should call the RCMP in order to deter these activities. Calls should be placed when the activities occur so that the RCMP may respond.

Having completed her discussion of her report, Sgt. Deluco retired from the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

#### FIRE SERVICES

The Fire Services Coordinator, David Kendrick, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the condition of fire services in the Municipality at present.

There was some question of the authority of the Fire Services Coordinator. The Fire Services Advisory Committee needs to review and scrutinize the proposed budget for the coming year.

Some discussion then followed regarding the unification meetings and the progress being made for the unification of the fire services. The Coordinator will have the Fire Services Advisory Committee consider the budget and review it as necessary.

#### BURNING STRUCTURES

Correspondence has been received from the Fire Services Advisory Committee indicating that they do not wish to have fire departments burning structures within the Municipality as was done some years ago. This creates a significant liability and safety issue for the Municipality.

#### Resolution COW130513

**Moved** by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that Policy 54 be amended to prohibit the burning of structures within the Municipality by registered fire departments.

Motion carried unanimously.

COST OF SECURITY AT FIRE SCENES

Correspondence has also been received from the Fire Services Advisory Committee requesting the Municipality to pay for the cost of security at fire scenes when necessary, and to collect these amounts from property owners under Sections 30 and 31 of the Fire Safety Act.

Resolution COW130514

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality review the Fire Safety Act and the appropriate sections applicable to this matter and obtain a legal opinion from the Municipal Solicitor regarding this request.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Fire Services Coordinator then retired from the meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICES LEASE AGREEMENT

Members were informed that the Lease Agreement with Community Services has recently expired and will need to be reviewed. A renewal has been negotiated with the Department of Community Services. The Department wishes to have some leasehold improvements made to the rented space. They have indicated in an offer of renewal the changes they wish to have made, and they wish to have the cost of these changes amortized as additional rent. The Municipality would thus recover the cost of any improvements through the five year term of the lease.

Resolution COW130515

**Moved** by J. Crook and seconded by seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept the offer of renewal of leased space by the Department of Community Services, with a subsequent amendment to the lease agreement to recover the costs of leasehold improvements as agreed to by Community Services.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEED TRANSFER TAX

Information concerning the implementation of a Deed Transfer Tax was circulated to members prior to the meeting. A Deed Transfer Tax is a tax that can be levied on the transfer of real property which is payable at the time of conveyance of the title. The present system requires that the Deed Transfer Tax be paid at the Registry of Deeds Office when the property is being registered. The Registry of Deeds collects the tax and then forwards it to the Municipality where the property is located.

Additional information was provided this evening. This additional information indicated the number of sales in the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years as well as the number of sales to which Deed Transfer Tax would be applied. The value of the sales to which Deed Transfer Tax would be applied was also provided in order that members could determine an approximate amount of Deed Transfer Tax that would be raised. In order to put a Deed Transfer Tax in place it would be necessary to follow the proper process for the Municipality to enact a Deed Transfer Tax by-law.

Resolution COW130516

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that further consideration of a Deed Transfer Tax be deferred to a future committee meeting once Councillor El-Jakl has returned from his leave of absence.

Motion carried unanimously.

WIND TURBINE GENERATORS

A brief slideshow was provided for consideration of members. The committee had previously had a presentation from Seaforth Energy for the establishment of wind turbine generators within the Municipality. Wind turbine generators would be an alternative form of electrical power generation that would help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The establishment of wind turbine generators would provide additional revenues to the Municipality which could be used to offset the cost of LED street lights, which again would reduce gas emissions within the Municipality.

There then followed much discussion regarding the location of wind turbine generators on the municipal property at Sherose Island. Two towers of approximately 38 meters could be located to the rear of the Arena, and this is a good site because there is very little road construction required, and the connection point to three phase power could be located nearby with little expense.

Members reviewed the information provided together with the financial estimates for revenues and expenditures. It was suggested that the project be financed through debentures and with funds from reserves and gas tax funds.

The first step is to have a Wind Resource Assessment completed. The estimated cost of a Wind Resource Assessment is \$3,500.00.

Resolution COW130517

**Moved** by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality have a Wind Resource Assessment completed, and that it be funded from economic development funds contained in the current budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH EATING POLICY

Members were informed that the Municipal Physical Activity Leader is working with a group of employees of various municipal units on the South Shore to develop a Healthy Eating Policy. She will be bringing forward information on this policy at a council meeting in June.

LEGAL SERVICES RFP

Members were informed that legal advice had been obtained from an independent solicitor regarding the RFP that had been advertised for legal services. It was the opinion of the legal adviser that the Municipality could reject the RFP received and issue a new tender in order to promote the Request for Proposal for legal services to a broader audience. The RFP that had previously been issued was advertised in the local newspaper only and not outside of the Municipality.

At this time members indicated there was no objection to continuing the meeting until the business of the meeting was completed.

Resolution COW130518

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality reject the proposal received in response to the RFP for legal services, and notify the proponent who had submitted a proposal providing the reasoning for rejecting the proposal, and that a new Request for Proposal be advertised more broadly to provide more transparency and fairness in obtaining legal services.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW130519

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality advertise a Request for Proposal for legal services on the Nova Scotia Government website, and in the local newspaper, the Coast Guard, and also in the Yarmouth newspaper, the Vanguard, in order to provide for a more open and inclusive purchasing process.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW130520

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the current Municipal Solicitor be asked to continue providing legal services to the Municipality until the RFP process has been completed.

Motion carried unanimously.

WESTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY REQUEST

The Western Counties Regional Library is requesting the Municipality to provide pool passes for the Municipal swimming pool. These passes will be used as prizes in the Library's Youth Book Reading Program.

Resolution COW130521

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality provide pool passes to the Western Counties Regional Library as requested.

Motion carried unanimously.

INVITATIONS

Members were informed that the following invitations have been received:

- Thursday, June 20, 2013, 6:30 p.m., Nova Scotia Community College, Shelburne Campus – Climate Data Presentation
- Saturday, June 1, 2013, 10:45 a.m., Annual Cadet Review - 327 Unicorn Cadet Corp Barrington
- Thursday, May 23, 2013, 6:00 p.m., Barrington Ball Field Playground Society Grand Opening

A report has also been received to meet with Noel and Melissa Baker regarding physician recruitment. Members agreed that they would meet with the Bakers on Thursday, June 13, 2013, at 4:00 p.m., and would invite them to a local restaurant for supper.

REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORKS

A report has been circulated to members regarding the Regional Enterprise Network meeting that was held on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, in Yarmouth.

Resolution COW130522

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality inform the Regional Enterprise Network organizing committee that the Municipality will not be able to make a commitment to a network prior to May 31st, but will continue to discuss formation of the Regional Enterprise Network in this area.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the business of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website May 23, 2013.**