

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 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, 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:

- Department of Transportation.
- Closed Session: Re: Physician Agreement.
Re: Legal Matter – Former BMHS Property.

Conflict of Interest

The Warden declared conflict of interest in regards to the second matter being discussed in Closed Session, and indicated that he would withdraw from the meeting before discussion of that matter.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that minutes of the previous meetings held June 17th, June 25th and July 2nd, 2013 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE

Emma Norton appeared before the meeting on behalf of the Ecology Action Centre. Her primary purpose was to discuss energy efficiency, especially in relation to lighting and heating within the Municipality. One of the goals of the Ecology Action Centre is to show how municipalities can provide the same services at a lower cost through energy efficiency. Many pamphlets were circulated from Efficiency Nova Scotia.

Ms. Norton then proceeded to discuss various forms of energy reduction solutions and rebates available from the Province, including potential rebates for heat pumps at the Old Court House. She indicated that there were two particular programs the Municipality may be able to take advantage of; one is a lighting program which supplements the cost of changing all lights in municipal buildings to more energy efficient lighting, and the second is the possibility of installing heat pumps in the Administration Building. She indicated that a lady named Erica Wicks, at Efficiency Nova Scotia, would be the contact person who does most of the energy efficiency processing for municipalities.

Resolution COW130702

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality invite Efficiency Nova Scotia to assess the lighting and heating in the Administration building.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW130703

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality partner with the Ecology Action Centre in the Municipal Showcase Program.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed her presentation, Ms. Norton then retired from the meeting.

UNSM CAUCUS REVIEW

Correspondence has been received from the UNSM requesting councils to indicate whether or not they wish to have a caucus review completed. The UNSM has provided a number of questions to be answered by councils.

There then followed some discussion regarding the benefits of the current UNSM Caucus system as well as the challenges of the caucus system.

There also followed discussion regarding the 2012 regional caucus structure that is proposed for the first meeting to be held in the fall of 2013.

It was consensus of members that the regional structure based on a geographic distribution would be preferred, as it would provide better communication and more common issues to be discussed throughout the area.

It was also suggested that quarterly meetings of these caucuses be held.

Resolution COW130704

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff draft a response for approval of Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was the general consensus that some type of hybrid structure should be put in place that would also allow towns, rural municipalities, and regional municipalities to discuss issues unique to them as well.

J CLASS ROADS

Information has been circulated to members indicating that the Province still has funding available for cost-shared paving of J Class Roads.

There then followed discussion regarding Snow's Road in Barrington Passage.

The petition was presented to the meeting from the residents of Nickerson Road who wish to have their road paved, and paid for 50% from the Department of Transportation and 50% from the Municipality.

It was indicated that a petition may come forward in the next few days from Snow's Road residents.

A Special Meeting of Council will be scheduled for next Monday evening in order to deal with these petitions.

ARENA EVENT COMMITTEE

The Tourism Coordinator and the Arena Manager were invited to attend the meeting for the purpose of discussing the establishment of a committee to promote the Boston Bruins Alumni event to be held at the Barrington Municipal Arena in October.

After much discussion it was indicated that potential members for this committee could include Shelly Blinkhorn, Arena Manager; Suzy Atwood, Tourism Coordinator; Eddie Nickerson, Warden; Donna LeBlanc-Messenger, Deputy Warden; and public members Craig Nickerson, Robbie Symonds, Debbie Mader and Garret Goreham would also be approached.

It was the consensus of members that a committee be formed, and that this committee proceed to promote the event at the Arena, and prepare a budget to be submitted to Council for approval.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the Arena Manager and Tourism Coordinator retired from the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

BEAR POINT WHARF ROAD

The Bear Point Wharf Road has deteriorated in condition. Local residents have contacted D.O.T. and have not received any response to date.

Resolution COW130705

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the local office of the Department of Transportation requesting that maintenance work be done to the Bear Point Wharf Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

LEGAL SERVICES RFP

The proposals that have been received as a result of the Municipality's advertisement were circulated to members. Two (2) proposals have been received; one from Don Harding and one from Stewart McKelvey. Both of these proposals were reviewed by members and further discussed at this meeting. Members noted that the law profession regulates all of its members on the same basis in regards to conflicts of interest.

Resolution COW130706

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept the proposal of Don Harding, and continue with our current Municipal Solicitor for the provision of legal services.

Motion carried unanimously.

MUNICIPAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEADER

A Memorandum of Understanding has been received from the Department of Health and Wellness. This memorandum puts in place an agreement for the funding and operation of a Municipal Physical Activity Leader within the Municipality for the five years ending March 31, 2018.

Members agreed to further review the information provided in the Annual Report and the June Monthly Report provided to them today, and further discuss the Memorandum of Understanding at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

BARRINGTON BAY TRAIL

Information was provided to members from the Woodland Multi Use Trail Association. The Trail Association had been requested to provide information regarding the upgrading of the trail and the cost of so doing.

Correspondence has been received from the Treasurer of that Association and circulated to all members.

It was the consensus of members that the Trails Association be invited to attend a committee meeting in order to discuss this matter further once the approved Letter of Authority has been received from the Department of Natural Resources.

ELECTRICAL SERVICES TENDER

The Municipality has advertised in the local newspaper for the provision of electrical services for the next three (3) years. As a result of publishing this tender, only one (1) response has been received which is from Mr. Richard Balcom.

After some discussion it was the consensus of members that Mr. Balcom should be approached and an agreement developed by which he would become the first call electrician for the Municipality according to the terms of the tender document that he has provided.

Resolution COW130707

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality negotiate an agreement with Balcom's Electric for the provision of electrical services for the next three (3) years, as advertised.

Motion carried unanimously.

GOOSE LAKE ROAD

Members were informed that signed petitions have been received from 37 residents of Goose Lake who live on private roads in the area. There are 62 property owners on the private roads in the area of Goose Lake. It is now suggested that a by-law be drafted and put in place for the maintenance and improvement of private roads in the Goose Lake area.

Resolution COW130708

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Goose Lake Association be contacted to determine how the maintenance work will actually be administered.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Resolution COW130709

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Department of Transportation be requested to put gravel on the shoulders of the road in the Centreville area on Cape Sable Island, and especially in the Newellton area on Cape Sable Island.

Motion carried unanimously.

There followed some discussion regarding litter along the Centre Woods area on the South Side Road on Cape Sable Island.

Resolution C130710

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that due to the high volume of littering in the Centre Woods area on the Centreville/South Side Road, correspondence be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting them to place "No Littering" signs at both the northern and southern end of this area.

Motion carried unanimously.

A map will be provided to D.O.T. indicating where the signs should be placed.

Having reached the hour of 10:03 p.m., it was the consensus of members that the meeting continue until all business on the agenda was addressed.

CLOSED SESSION RE: PHYSICIAN AGREEMENT

Members agreed to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the Physician Rental Agreement at the Community Health Centre.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, members then returned to Open Session.

Resolution COW130711

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that based on legal advice received, the Municipality cannot accept responsibility for personal property of any tenant in the apartment at the Community Health Centre.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION RE: FORMER BMHS COURT CASE

Conflict of Interest

The Warden then declared conflict of interest and retired from the meeting room.

Members then entered into Closed Session so that the Clerk could update them regarding the court case held on Thursday and Friday, July 4th and 5th, 2013.

After completing this update, members then returned to Open Session.

SUMMARY OF CLOSED SESSION

Members were informed that the court case had taken place on July 4th and 5th, 2013, and was now complete. The Judge, Pierre Muise, has indicated that he will provide a written judgement at some time in the future. No date has been determined when this will be received.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website July 10, 2013

