

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

February 17, 2014

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
- George El-Jakl
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Absent were members Shaun Hatfield due to vacation, and Jody Crook due to work commitments.

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Municipal Physical Activity Leader.
- Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal.
- Fire Services.
- North East Point.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that minutes of the meeting held February 11, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### DONATION OF LAND

Members were informed that further legal information would be required regarding this property and that this will be obtained from the Municipal Solicitor.

It was the consensus of members that this matter be deferred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting to be held in March.

At the same time members also were informed that the meeting with the Solicitor was scheduled for this Wednesday.

It was the consensus of members that the meeting with the Solicitor be postponed for a week if possible. The Municipal Solicitor will be called in order to have this done.

#### REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN OWNERSHIP BY-LAW

Information has been received from the Nova Scotia Herpetoculture Society indicating they are willing to assist in preparation of a by-law or policy, if necessary. The information was also provided to the Fire Services Coordinator who is a member of EMO, for their input. It was the suggestion of the EMO members that a list of owners be provided to them; if they are known. The best means of determining the owners would be to put in place a by-law requiring the licencing of reptiles and amphibians.

Members discussed this matter briefly and concluded by consensus that further information should be obtained from adjacent municipal units regarding their by-laws covering this matter.

#### BARRINGTON REGIONAL CURLING CLUB

Mr. John Joyce, President of the Barrington Regional Curling Club, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing his Monthly Report. He indicated that the operation of the Club is going well, and confirmed that the compressor belts would need to be replaced during the summer. He indicated that the Clubs' membership was down "a couple". They have a youth program which they conduct on Saturday, and there is one High School team which is currently playing in the Men's League. The Lions Spiel that had been scheduled was canceled due to lack of participation, and they have a Ladies Spiel scheduled for the near future. On March 4<sup>th</sup> they will be having a Pancake Supper from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as a fundraiser.

Having completed his discussion of the Curling Club, Mr. Joyce retired from the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

#### MAYOR/WARDEN DISCUSSION

This matter was deferred by consensus of members to the Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for March 10, 2104.

#### 2014 BOUNDARY REVIEW

This matter was also deferred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting as it may be affected by any decisions taken as a result of the mayor/warden discussion.

#### SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

A draft Social Media Policy was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. It was the consensus of members that this policy would be acceptable.

#### Resolution COW140207

**Moved** by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that the proposed Social Media Policy be forwarded to Council as notice for consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### ARENA POLICY RE: ICE TIME DONATIONS

Members discussed the possibility of providing donations of ice time to local non profit organizations who made requests in order to raise funds for their organizations and other charities.

It was suggested that the regular users of the facility would qualify to have 2 to 3 hours of ice time available for which they would not be required to pay. These hours would be accrued based on one hour of free time for each ten hours rented, up to a maximum of three hours. The proposed three hours available to these regular users would be used for raising funds for non profit organizations. The use of the three hours of ice time by the regular users would be subject to the availability of the time at the Arena. It was also suggested that the words "2011/12 season" be removed from the section covering Ice Rental Cancellation Policy. The draft amendments to the policy will be completed and provided by Municipal Staff for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL

It was indicated that there is water flowing from the highway and running into a private driveway at Civic #321 on the Bear Point Road. This matter will be referred to the Department of Transportation by Municipal Staff.

#### NORTH EAST POINT BEACH

A member questioned use of municipal property at North East Point Beach. He was informed that the Municipality has a policy for commercial use of municipal property at North East Point and other locations. Any request to use the property commercially would be administered under this policy.

#### MUNICIPAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEADER

Council has previously made a motion to approve this position for a period of one year. The motion was made in January 2013 and provides for this position to be in place until the end of March 2014, the period during which funding has been provided.

There was some question regarding confirmation of this funding for the coming year through the Provincial Department of Health & Wellness. The Recreation Director has been asked to confirm the Province's funding.

There was also discussion regarding the MPAL position on the Municipality's Recreation Department and the related benefits obtained as a result.

It was the consensus of members that the Recreation Director be invited to attend a Committee of the Whole Meeting for the purpose of discussing the Municipal Physical Activity position with members.

FIRE SERVICES

The organization structure of the fire services has implications for the provision of these services within the Municipality. There is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2014 for the Fire Services Advisory Committee. It was suggested that the Fire Services Coordinator bring this matter up for discussion at that meeting.

Members were informed that the Fire Services Advisory Committee has recommended that the Fire Chief for the Municipality be a full-time paid position. This recommendation was not supported by members at this time.

It was suggested that the Coordinator also act as Chief for an interim period. It was also suggested that Council needs to look at the fire service as a whole in order to determine what is needed, including the organization structure, and any area rate funding. It was also suggested that the Municipality maintain the current system with five chiefs, one in each department, plus the Fire Services Coordinator.

It was the consensus of members that the Fire Services Coordinator be asked to again bring the organization structure to the attention of the Fire Services Advisory Committee meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> for further discussion.

FINANCIAL CONDITION INDEX

The Financial Condition Index is a tool that has been developed by the Province for assessing the capacities of municipal units. There will be workshops held throughout the Province for elected officials to learn more about how it explains the financial condition of a municipality. Members will be informed once the date and times are released for these workshops.

It was agreed that this presentation would be made at a subsequent Council meeting when all members were available.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 8:45 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website February 19, 2014**