

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

March 10, 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
- 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:

- Barrington Passage Post Office.
- Symond's Lane.

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 G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that minutes of the meeting held February 17, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

RENEWABLE ENERGY – NSPI

Mr. Mark Sidebottom and Mr. Greg Weseen appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing renewable energy. Both of these gentlemen are representatives of Nova Scotia Power Inc., and are familiar with wind and tidal power generation within the Province.

Members were informed that Nova Scotia Power was mandated to have 40% of their energy generated from renewable sources by the year 2020. This currently is being done under the COMFIT Program which includes wind generation, tidal generation or biomass generation of power.

Members were also informed that the wind portion of this COMFIT Program had been closed on Friday as it has been oversubscribed.

The discussion then turned to the possibility of generating tidal power at the Cape Sable Island Causeway. It was indicated that the generation of tidal power is two or three times more expensive than the generation of wind power. Tidal power projects need attention from knowledgeable people in the area in this field. Tidal power is **not** the lowest cost of supply for electrical energy for NSPI.

NSPI representatives indicated they would advise the Municipality how much tidal power generation remains under the COMFIT Program and will facilitate a meeting with knowledgeable people and municipal representatives on small tidal projects that would be appropriate to the C.S.I. Causeway.

It was indicated that NSPI personnel can help determine what might be required for a tidal project, and who would get involved in the permitting required.

Having completed their discussion the NSPI reps vacated the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

SOU'WEST NOVA TRANSIT GRANT REQUEST

Renata Tweedy, Howard Rozell and Carol Deveraux appeared before the meeting on behalf of Sou' West Nova Transit.

Renata Tweedy acted as spokesman for the group. She reviewed their presentation which had previously been provided in writing. This presentation was a request from the Municipality for funding for the coming year. Their request includes a per capita contribution of \$12,589.20, plus a second contribution of \$2,000.00, to be matched through a grant application to the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness. She indicated that the Association now had a car which would be driven by staff members. This car would be used to provide transportation to those in need in Shelburne County. The car has just recently been obtained and its first trip was made on February 28th.

Members were informed that an agreement is needed from the Municipality regarding the licensing of this car so that it can be used within the Municipality and not just between municipalities.

The Transit representatives were informed that the Municipality will contact the UARB and the Municipality's Solicitor in order to determine what agreement is required.

Having completed their presentation, the members of the Transit Society retired from the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

MUNICIPAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROGRAM

The Municipality's Recreation Director, Anna Kenney, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the MPAL Program. A written report was previously circulated to members. This report was completed by the Recreation Director and summarized the duties of the Recreation Director, the MPAL Coordinator, and the effect of the MPAL position on the Recreation Department programs.

The Recreation Director informed members that having another person in the Recreation Office increased the productivity of the Department. She also indicated that there is very little overlap in their activities, and that they do not very often attend the same meetings.

Members were also informed that a letter approving the funding from the Department of Health and Wellness for the coming fiscal year has been received.

There then followed some discussion of the promotion of the Nova Scotia Marathon. Various aspects of its promotion were discussed generally by members.

Having completed her discussion of this matter, the Recreation Director retired from the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

SHELBURNE COUNTY TOURISM ASSOCIATION

Charlene Harris, Brenda Maxwell and Suzy Atwood appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing a funding request for the Shelburne County Tourism Association. Charlene Harris acted as spokesperson for the group.

The Association is asking the Municipality to commit to a three year funding program for the Association. The request from the group is for the Municipality to provide \$25,000.00 per year for three years to fund a Tourism Coordinator position. In addition, the Association is asking the Municipality to provide \$7,500.00 per year for three years for specific tourism projects which will be undertaken by the Association. The Association wishes to create a positive tourism environment in Shelburne County. The Association members had met earlier in the evening with the Committee of the Whole for the District of Shelburne and indicated that their presentation to them was positive. Upon questioning, it was indicated that the Association had previously met with the Town of Clark's Harbour. The Town indicated that they would not be part of this funding request. The towns of Shelburne and Lockeport are also not part of this request as they are pursuing a different approach to tourism. It was indicated that the municipalities are not functioning in the best interest of the County as a whole. It was suggested that the municipal units should talk to each other in regards to the provision of tourism. It was suggested that the committee members defer a decision on this request to the Council meeting at the end of the month.

Members were informed that there are now 28 members in the Shelburne County Tourism Association, of which 5 or 6 members are from the Town of Shelburne.

Resolution COW140301

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality of Barrington support the Shelburne County Tourism Association's three year plan and match the contribution requested by the Association pending approval of the Municipality of the District of Shelburne.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

It was also indicated that the Municipality of Shelburne will fund the Tourism Coordinator position for the months of April and May in their budget if the Municipality of Barrington also provides funding. The District of Shelburne will be contacted to inform them of the funding requirements needed by the Association for a three month period. This information will also be provided to the Municipality of Barrington by the Association.

Having completed their presentation, the Tourism Association members retired from the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

NOVA SOCTIA ELECTRIC VEHICLE HIGHWAY

Correspondence has been received from the Nova Scotia Electric Vehicle Highway group requesting the establishment of an electric vehicle charging station in the Barrington/Barrington Passage area.

Resolution COW140302

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality respond to the Nova Scotia Electric Vehicle Highway group indicating that the Municipality is interested in their project, and in establishing an electric vehicle charging station in the Barrington/Barrington Passage area, and will consider a site in the coming year.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES

Having reached the hour of 10:00 p.m., it was the consensus of members that the meeting continue.

The Clerk-Treasurer then provided a power point presentation for members indicating the proposed organization for the Barrington Municipal Fire Service. His presentation included information on the duties of the Fire Service Coordinator, the Fire Service Advisory Committee, the Deputy Fire Chiefs proposed in each of the three districts - east, west and central, the fire departments and fire stations resulting from this organization, and the Station Chiefs who would be in charge of each of the fire departments.

Proposed amendments to Policy No. 54 which had been circulated to members were also reviewed briefly. These amendments will put in place the required logistics of the fire service operations, fire services funding and the general operating guidelines for the fire departments.

Having completed this discussion, members then began to discuss recommendations that had been received from the Fire Service Advisory Committee. These recommendations included the unification of the Barrington and Port LaTour Fire Departments and resulting recommendations from those fire departments.

At this time it was indicated that there had been some reservations expressed by the firefighters in the Port LaTour area regarding this combining of departments.

Resolution COW140303

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that all of the recommendations from the Fire Service Advisory Committee in regards to combining of the Barrington and Port LaTour Fire Departments be deferred for consideration until the next meeting of the Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

A recommendation was also brought forward from the Fire Service Advisory Committee requesting that purchase orders be put in place for the fire departments. Any purchase orders in the amount of \$500.00 or more would be approved by the Station Chiefs and the Deputy Chiefs for each district.

It was agreed that the CAO for the Municipality of Shelburne would be contacted by telephone to inform him of the Municipality's proposed change in funding for fire departments.

FINANCIAL CONDITION INDEX

The Financial Condition Index information that was provided by Service Nova Scotia was reviewed for the information of members.

REMAINING AGENDA ITEMS

Resolution COW140304

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by D. Messenger that the remaining agenda items be deferred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
George El-Jakl
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

BARRINGTON PASSAGE POST OFFICE

Members were informed that there are signs on the lawn of the Barrington Passage Post Office which appear to be obstructing the view of patrons coming and going from the Post Office.

Resolution COW140305

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipal Staff contact the Post Office and inform them of the concerns of patrons.

Motion carried unanimously.

SYMOND'S LANE

The condition of Symond's Lane is deemed to be deteriorating due to the weather conditions.

Resolution COW140306

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal be contacted requesting maintenance work at Symond's Lane.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:35 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website March 12, 2014.