

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

August 18, 2014

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

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

Councillor George El-Jakl was absent due to vacation.

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Fire Station Location/Accounts
- Kelley Penney Request

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by E. Nickerson that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that minutes of the meeting held August 11, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

RCMP REPORT

Constable Mike O'Callaghan appeared before the meeting for the purpose of providing the local RCMP Detachment's Report. Cst. O'Callaghan indicated that the crime statistics for the month are down and that break and enters for the most recent month are 17% less than they were for the same month 1 year ago.

He indicated that the detachment has been monitoring the traffic on the Old Post Road and found that there was no real issue there. He also indicated that in the Clyde River area along Highway 103, the RCMP have recently issued 14 warnings, 2 tickets and have conducted 2 check stops in the area. It was also indicated to the RCMP by a resident of that area that they noticed that the speeding had recently decreased in the area.

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Cst. O'Callaghan also indicated that the RCMP had monitored the dance that was recently held at the Barrington Municipal Arena. He indicated that there had been some drinking in the parking lot and future dances would be more closely monitored by the RCMP.

He indicated that parking at the recent Exhibition had become an issue. The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal had placed temporary "No Parking" signs along the highway near the Exhibition Grounds. This caused some inconvenience for those attending. It was indicated by Cst. O'Callaghan that next year there would be better regulations put in place.

He also indicated that there are transfers scheduled for the RCMP in the near future. It is anticipated that the officers being transferred out will be replaced almost immediately by other officers being transferred in.

Cst. O'Callaghan was reminded that school will be starting soon and the RCMP should monitor the parking situation along the side of the highway near the high school.

Having completed his discussion with members Cst. O'Callaghan retired from the meeting at approximately 7:35 p.m.

TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

Suzy Atwood, Tourism and Community Development Co-ordinator appeared before the meeting for the purpose of providing her monthly report. The report was previously circulated to all members by email. At the end of August she will collect the "guest books" that have been located in various local businesses so that she can summarize them to determine the number of Americans visiting the area and the number of people who arrived on the ferry in Yarmouth. She indicated that some local businesses had indicated that there was an increase in traffic due to the ferry. She also indicated that the "Visit Barrington" webpage would target the US for visitors in the future. She also provided information regarding Nova Scotia Tourism and indicated that they would work with the Municipality to advertise the Nova Scotia Marathon more. The participation in the Marathon, this year, was 19% more than it was the previous year. Adding a new t-shirt and new medals to the Marathon next year will help increase the number of participants.

Members then discussed the relocation of the Nova Scotia Webcam within the Municipality. It was suggested that this could be live streamed from other locations using municipally owned equipment linked to the Nova Scotia Webcam site or to other sites. It was suggested that more information be obtained and other alternatives be explored for the location of the webcam before a decision being made. This matter will be referred to a subsequent committee meeting.

The Tourism and Community Development Co-ordinator retired from the meeting at approximately 8:08 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION RE: FORMER EMPLOYEE AND CAMP LEASE

Members then entered into Closed Session with Gardiner Allen Jr. and Gardiner Allen Sr. for the purpose of discussing the Municipal Pension Plan.

Having completed their discussion with these gentlemen, the gentlemen retired from the meeting at approximately 8:40 p.m.

Members then continued their Closed Session to discuss the Camp Lease issued to Mr. James Brannen.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Members returned to open session at which time the Chairperson reported that the Municipal Clerk has been instructed to seek legal advice in both of the matters discussed in Closed Session.

DR. BAKER REQUEST RE: EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Dr. Baker has provided a request for equipment purchases for his medical office. These purchases are necessary to replace some of the equipment that has been moved to the Community Health Centre. The total amount of the purchases requested is \$21,285.00 plus a request that was received today for four additional chairs. Members then discussed the provision of this equipment for the medical office and the replacement of the equipment that was moved to the Community Health Centre.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality contact Dr. Baker and put in place a plan for the purchase of this equipment which will be included as part of the incentive for the start-up of his practice in the Municipality and that this purchase be done on a one time basis as part of the incentive to locate here and will not be repeated in the future.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Hatfield that the motion be amended to include that the maximum amount of the purchases be \$22,000.00 plus net hst.

Motion carried unanimously

The amended motion reads as follows:

Resolution COW140810

“...that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality contact Dr. Baker and put in place a plan for the purchase of this equipment which will be included as part of the incentive for the start-up of his practice in the Municipality and that this purchase be done on a one time basis as part of the incentive to locate here and will not be repeated in the future and the maximum amount of the purchases be \$22,000.00 plus net hst.

Motion carried unanimously

HOSPITAL PARKING FEES

Conflict of Interest

Deputy Warden Messenger declared conflict of interest and retired from the meeting room as she is a member of the Yarmouth Hospital Charitable Foundation.

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Concern was expressed that Hospital Parking Fees are increasing from \$3.00 to \$4.00 effective September 1, 2014. This is an additional burden placed on rural patients who live in rural areas of Nova Scotia. Rural patients not only must travel to the hospital, but must also pay additional parking fees.

Resolution COW140811

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the District Health Authority expressing concern for the increase in the parking fees and the letter be copied to all municipal units in Nova Scotia and a draft resolution be prepared for the Fall Conference of the UNSM.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Deputy Warden then returned to the meeting.

Having reached the hour of 10:00 p.m., it was the consensus of members that the committee continue until all business has been completed.

ILLEGAL DUMPING

It was suggested that the Municipality begin using cameras in various areas of the Municipality to monitor and deter illegal dumping at various locations.

The cost of using monitoring cameras on both municipal and private property will be further investigated and information returned to a committee meeting.

BACCARO ROAD MAINTENANCE

An email response from the local Supervisor of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal was read to members for their information. This email indicated the repairs and maintenance that had been done to roads in the Baccaro area over the course of the summer thus far.

GRANT REQUEST

Members were informed that additional information has been obtained regarding the grant request received from the “Do for Others Club” to maintain the Greenwood Cemetery. The “Do for Others Club” has been responsible for the maintenance of the Greenwood Cemetery and has continually applied for grants for this purpose. The “Do for Others Club” has not applied for any other grants to our knowledge.

Resolution COW140812

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$500.00 be provided to the “Do for Others Club” for the maintenance of the Greenwood Cemetery.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE STATION LOCATION/ACCOUNTS

Members were informed that correspondence has been received from the Fire Services Co-ordinator advising that the Barrington/Port LaTour Fire Department has passed a motion to not use the Visitor Information Centre property as the location for the new fire hall as the location is further removed from the Port LaTour area. It was also indicated by memo from the Fire Services Co-ordinator that the Barrington and Port LaTour fire departments wish to have all their accounts consolidated into one fire department statement from now on. This will be done beginning with the August financial statements.

KELLEY PENNEY REQUEST

A request has been received from Kelley Penney asking for a donation to charities on her behalf because she will be attending the 2015 Miss World Canada Pageant. She is required to raise funds for a variety of charities in order to qualify for this pageant.

It was the consensus of members that Miss Penney be requested to provide the names and addresses of three local charities from which the Council may choose to make a donation on her behalf. This information will be obtained and brought back to a future meeting of Committee.

WESTERN COUNTIES
REGIONAL LIBRARY

The Nova Scotia Libraries Association will be conducting a Conference on September 26 and 27th in Amherst. The Municipality's Representative on the Western Counties Regional Library Board is Councillor Hatfield.

Resolution COW140813

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the expenses of a councillor to attend the Nova Scotia Libraries Association Conference, September 26th and 27th in Amherst.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:45 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting