

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

November 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:05 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 & Infrastructure Renewal.
- COMFIT Project.
- Argyle Request.
- Municipal Review.
- Darren Hudson Log Rolling Champion.
- Tourism Seminar.
- Drinking Brook Park.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that minutes of the meeting held October 20, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

WAYBRET PROPERTY UPDATE

Members were informed that an email has been received from the Federal Government indicating that the Waybret property at Clam Point would be purchased by them in the very near future and subsequently cleaned up.

MEDICAL CLINIC VISITS

Members indicated that some would be able to attend the medical clinics visits on certain dates and others would not be able to. On November 18th the medical clinic in Elmsdale will be visited at 4:00 p.m. On November 20th the medical clinic in Bridgewater will be visited at 10:00 a.m., and the clinic in Pubnico at 3:00 p.m.

BARRINGTON REGIONAL CURLING CLUB

Mr. Bob Cushing, President of the Barrington Regional Curling Club, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of providing a verbal report of their operations to date. He indicated that they have leagues playing on Monday to Friday nights. They also have a *Learn to Curl* program for youth on Saturday mornings. On Wednesday afternoon they have “stick curling”, and on Sunday afternoons they have “scurling”.

Mr. Cushing indicated that the current membership is almost the same as last year. There were 80 members last year. At present there are 75 members and it is anticipated a few more will join. He also indicated that the equipment is now working well. It was necessary for CIMCO to bypass a switch which needs to be replaced. They will be doing this the next time they visit the Curling Club.

Mr. Cushing also indicated that the Fall Fling fundraiser went well and the Club is doing satisfactorily financially.

Having completed his report Mr. Cushing retired from the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

ENGAGE NOVA SCOTIA

Members discussed the purpose of having Engage Nova Scotia come to the community and begin an initiative here. It was the general consensus that there was a need for a project for people to become involved in. It was questioned how people could become involved in the Lobster Expo. It was suggested that community engagement be developed for specific projects which could include the Lobster Expo, possibly a Community Health Centre. It was suggested that a conference call be held with Mr. Graham and his associates in order to obtain direction in this matter, and that the call should last no more than one hour.

CAPE SABLE ISLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Correspondence has been received from the local School Board indicating that the property will be transferred back to the Municipality in the very near future. The Board is asking the Municipality to have municipal representatives to schedule a walk-through of the building in order to view it, and subsequently to determine when it can be returned to the Municipality. There was some question as to the legal disclosure requirements of the School Board. This will be further discussed with the Municipality’s solicitor. A time will be scheduled for a walk-through of the building.

BUILDING CANADA FUND

A new Building Canada Fund Agreement has been developed. Information was provided to members as well as the website for the Building Canada Fund. At the present time there are no eligible projects for this funding, however, members should consider projects that may be able to be funded through this method in future.

GAS TAX AGREEMENT

A new Gas Tax Agreement has been received from the Province. This agreement needs to be approved by Council.

Resolution COW141101

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into the new Gas Tax Funding Agreement provided by the Province, and that the Warden and Clerk-Treasurer be authorized to sign this agreement on behalf of the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES

Port Clyde Volunteer Fire Department

A Financial Statement has been received for the Port Clyde Volunteer Fire Department. This statement covers the period from January 2014 to July 31, 2014. It indicates that there is a significant accumulated surplus. The Fire Department has already been requested to provide information to the Municipality regarding any funds it has in its possession.

Surpluses/Deficits

Members discussed the possibility that each year there may be surpluses and deficits relative to each individual fire department.

After some discussion it was agreed by consensus that surpluses may be accumulated by individual fire departments at the discretion of Council, and that these funds would be accumulated in the Fire Services Reserve Fund and designated to the individual fire departments.

It was also the consensus of members that any deficits incurred at the end of any given year would be repaid in the subsequent year and included in the budget for that year.

Resolution COW141102

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that policy amendments be drafted to put in place the accounting for surpluses and deficits of the various fire departments.

Motion carried unanimously.

Barrington/Port LaTour Fire Department – Driveway

Legal advice has been received from the Municipal Solicitor concerning the procedure to follow for the construction of the driveway for an anticipated new Barrington/Port LaTour Fire Department building. This legal advice was circulated to members at the meeting for their information.

Resolution COW141103

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Barrington/Port LaTour Volunteer Fire Department get bids on the driveway project before proceeding.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW141104

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipal Purchasing/Procurement Policy be updated to make it consistent with the Public Procurement Act of Nova Scotia, and that changes be italicized for the information of members.

Motion carried unanimously.

ARENA OPERATIONS

Members were informed that an email has been received from a constituent regarding concerns at the Barrington Municipal Arena. This email was brought forward for the information of members. A response will be sent to the constituent addressing the concerns in the email.

The Warden reviewed the meeting that was held by himself, Councillor Crook and the Clerk-Treasurer with the Municipality's Recreation Director regarding Arena issues. During the conversation it was suggested that the operation of the Arena canteen be offered to users to be used as a fundraiser for the organizations such as minor hockey, figure skating, Junior C Hockey and High School Hockey. The Deputy Warden was asked to assume the Chair so that the Warden could further discuss this matter.

Resolution COW141105

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by G. El-Jakl that a public meeting be held and that major users of the Arena be invited to attend and also those who had emailed complaints be invited to attend along with the Recreation Director for the purpose of discussing issues and concerns at the Arena. The meeting will be held on Monday, November 24, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., prior to the regular Council meeting. This will be advertised on the Municipality's sign in the community as well as the website and facebook page so that ice users will be notified.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Warden then resumed the Chair.

CAMERA AT THE CAUSEWAY

The Warden indicated that there is a pole behind the gazebo at North East Point Beach on which the Municipality's camera could be located. The ownership of this pole is undetermined at the moment.

Resolution COW141106

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality affix the camera to the pole located behind the gazebo on municipal property.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL

There was concern expressed regarding the plowing of Bay Side Drive leading to Bay Side Home. The concern is that during the winter months this road is not plowed until the end of the current schedule. Employees at Bay Side Home wish to have this road plowed earlier in the Department of Transportation schedule as it affects the ability of employees to report to work.

Resolution COW141107

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that it is recommended to Council that correspondence be sent to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal asking them to make the plowing of the road to Bay Side Home a higher priority on their plowing schedule during the winter months.

Motion carried unanimously.

A copy of this resolution will be sent to our local MLA.

It was also indicated that the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal be requested to address issues in front of the property at 19 Fresh Brook Drive, and also the hole in the pavement along the Sherose Island Road just past the entry to the Arena.

DARREN HUDSON WORLD LOG ROLLING CHAMPION

It was suggested that a billboard be placed recognizing the achievements of Darren Hudson as seven (7) time world champion logroller. During this discussion it was also indicated that Mr. Phil Scott should also be recognized on such a billboard.

Resolution COW141108

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipality obtain prices and the design for a sign recognizing Phil Scott and Darren Hudson as log rolling champions.

Motion carried unanimously.

TOURISM SEMINAR

Members were reminded that there is a Tourism Cooperation Seminar being held on November 12th and 13th at the River Hills Golf and Country Club which they are invited to attend.

Resolution COW141109

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipality pay any expenses incurred by members attending the Tourism Cooperation Seminar on November 12th and 13th, 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMFIT PROJECT – C & D LANDFILL SITE

Members were informed that the Municipality's COMFIT Project has received approval and we will now be proceeding with the work required to construct this project.

The next step in this project is to determine a specific site for the construction of the wind turbine generator. For this purpose, test pits will be dug on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, with an engineer from CBCL Limited who has been recommended by Endurance Wind Power. The test pit locations will be analysed to determine adequate locations.

MUNICIPALITY OF ARGYLE REQUEST

Mr. John Sullivan, an employee of the Municipality of Argyle, has called requesting that our municipal employees provide assistance to them over a period of 3 to 6 months by providing sewage treatment plant maintenance in Lower West Pubnico. Their current operator will be off work for a period of 3 to 6 months and they are requesting the Municipality to provide maintenance service to their sewage treatment plant in Lower West Pubnico during that time. In order to assess this situation the Property Services Supervisor has been asked to view their treatment plant and provide a recommendation on whether or not this work can be done. As a result a memo has been forwarded from our Property Services Supervisor indicating that this work can be done providing our employees are given at least two (2) full days of training to ensure that our staff is comfortable with the Sequential Batch Reactor plant and the maintenance required for that facility. Our employees will not at any time be working on the collection system or the lift stations in Argyle as this is contracted to a local plumber in the area. Our Municipality would bill Argyle for mileage and time spent by our employees doing this maintenance work and the wasting of sludge in the plant. If these conditions are met our Property Services Supervisor believes that we have the ability to provide this service for the interim period requested.

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into an agreement with the District of Argyle to assist them with maintenance at the sewage treatment plant in Lower West Pubnico for a 3 to 6 month period as requested.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that this motion be amended to add one condition, providing Mr. Shand has been consulted and he feels comfortable and competent to do this work.

The division was then taken on the amendment.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Motion carried.

The main motion as amended reads as follows:

Resolution COW141110

“...that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into an agreement with the District of Argyle to assist them with maintenance at the sewage treatment plant in Lower West Pubnico for a 3 to 6 month period as requested, providing Rodney Shand, Property Services Technician – DRC, has been consulted and he feels comfortable and competent to do this work.”

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Amended motion carried.

A division was then taken to adjourn the meeting.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Cook
George El-Jakl
Donna Messenger

NEGATIVE

Shaun Hatfield
Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

Having reached the hour of 10:00 p.m., Councillor El-Jakl retired from the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website November 13, 2014.