

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

November 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:

- Jody Crook, Chair
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
  
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor El-Jakl declared conflict of interest as Louanne Goreham who is representing the Barrington Sea Star Ice Dogs is an employee of his company.

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- NHL Hockey Game.
- C.S.I. School Inspection.
- Clinic Visits.
- Arena Issues/Public Meeting.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by G. El-Jakl 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 G. El-Jakl that minutes of the meeting held November 10, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### BARRINGTON SEA STAR ICE DOGS

#### Conflict of Interest

Councillor El-Jakl declared conflict of interest, vacated his seat and retired from the meeting room.

Louanne Goreham and Felton Atkinson appeared before the meeting on behalf of the Barrington Sea Star Ice Dogs. Mrs. Goreham read her presentation to members. The Sea Star Ice Dogs have a large outstanding balance from the previous year in excess of \$5,500 and are requesting “forgiveness” of this amount. Mrs. Goreham indicated that she had cheques which she would submit tonight to pay for the current years’ ice rentals by the Ice Dogs bringing them up to date for the current year. It was indicated that the Ice Dogs team is going through a “hard time”. They indicated they cannot afford to rent a bus for travel this year.

There was some question regarding the legality of “forgiving” the previous years’ bill for the Ice Dogs hockey team. There was also some question regarding not charging interest on the outstanding amount.

Members then discussed the situation with Mrs. Goreham and Mr. Atkinson. There arose questions regarding how much the players pay to play hockey, what fundraising events were held, how much monies were raised from these fundraising events, revenues that are received by the teams through sponsorships, through ice logos and through 50/50 draws, and through the admissions to games. Financial statements were requested but are not available. Mrs. Goreham agreed to provide further financial information so a proposed repayment agreement can be developed.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, these members retired from the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Councillor El-Jakl then returned to the meeting room.

#### TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT

The Tourism and Community Development Officer provided a written report for the month of October.

There then followed some discussion of the development of the Municipality’s website. It is proposed that the AMANS website proposal be used to develop the Municipality’s website. This would necessitate the Municipality entering into an agreement to pay \$3,000 a year and a three year commitment for this purpose.

Members also discussed the webcam to be placed at the C.S.I. Causeway. At the present time we are waiting for Eastlink to install an internet connection at that location.

The recent Tourism Symposium was discussed. The main theme coming out of the symposium is that communities need to build partnerships in order to successfully promote tourism in their area.

#### Resolution COW141111

**Moved** by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into an agreement for development of a website through the AMANS, and have the Tourism and Community Development Officer proceed to develop the website as soon as possible.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed her discussion of her report, the Tourism and Community Development Officer retired from the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

#### WESTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY

Erin Comeau, Director of the Western Counties Regional Library, appeared before the meeting in order to inform members of the various services offered for residents in the western counties. She informed members that this is the 7<sup>th</sup> presentation she has made. One of the programs that the library offers is the *Adopt a Book* program. This is a fundraising effort through which the library raises approximately \$35,000 every second year. Ms. Comeau then reviewed various programs that the library conducts through partnerships with other local and community organizations, some of which include an on-line vertical reference, e-books, books by mail, and institutional deliveries.

Having completed her discussion of the library services in the community, Ms. Comeau retired from the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

#### TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER POSITION

Members were informed that a motion had been made at the September 22, 2014 Council meeting that this position be again considered and discussed at the February 9, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting. Members chose to discuss the matter at this time. There was some discussion concerning the timing of a decision to continue with this position. There is a time requirement to continue the position depending on the actions taken by Council. It was suggested that members review the job description and the related salary scale. It was suggested that rates of pay be obtained from other municipalities with similar jobs. There was also some discussion regarding the legal process for hiring. Can this position be filled internally, and if so what are the legal implications. No definitive motions were made regarding this matter. Additional information will be obtained as soon as possible for further discussion.

#### MUNICIPAL FISCAL REVIEW

Members were informed that the Province is requesting that feedback be submitted to them on the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Review no later than December 15, 2014.

It was suggested that a meeting be held solely for the purpose of discussing this matter. Members agreed to meet on Tuesday, November 25, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., for this purpose. The questions circulated by the Province, together with the Executive Summary, will be provided to all councillors as soon as possible.

#### NHL HOCKEY GAME

Members wished to know the current status of the hockey game that is scheduled for this spring. There is a similar hockey game being conducted in Yarmouth, on December 10, 2014. At the present time there has been no recent communication from this group.

It was suggested that in the contract with the NHL Legends there had been an agreement not to host any similar games between Digby and Liverpool. It was requested that the organization be contacted for an explanation regarding the game being held in Yarmouth, and the game that has previously been held in Liverpool. It was suggested that the game be postponed until next fall, and if not, then the Municipality's deposit be returned. It was agreed that the Clerk will have the Tourism and Community Development Officer contact the NHL Hockey Allstars Group, Mr. Steve Walton, to obtain explanations and determine what will be done.

C.S.I. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EVALUATION VISIT

The Warden scheduled an evaluation visit with the School Boards' Director of Operations, for 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, November 19, 2014. The Warden also indicated that he had been speaking to representatives of Harvest House Atlantic regarding their interest in making a proposal on the school property.

MEDICAL CLINIC VISITS

Medical Clinic visits have been scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Members are unable to attend these visits, and therefore they will be canceled. An attempt will be made to reschedule these visits in approximately mid January.

ARENA ISSUES MEETING

A meeting has been scheduled for user groups to discuss use of the Arena on Monday, November 24, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., in the Municipal Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:04 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website November 19, 2014.**