

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, November 24, 2014.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 8:35 p.m. with the following members present:

- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
- Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Jody Crook
- Councillor George El-Jakl
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

CLOSED SESSION

Personnel Matter

At 8:37 p.m. a Closed Session of Council was held to deal with a personnel matter in accordance with Section 22(2)(c) of the Municipal Government Act.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

During Closed Session the Performance Evaluation for Stacey Dixon, Arena Technician, was presented.

Resolution C141106

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that Stacey Dixon, Arena Technician, receive her annual increment, effective November 22, 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that the minutes of the last meeting of Council held October 27, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Discussion Paper “Revising Our Path Forward”

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from the Minister of Environment advising that the Provincial Government is currently working with the Resource Recovery Fund Board and Pictou County Solid Waste to study the financial impact of the Provinces’ proposals on their operation. As municipal operations vary around the Province, they have asked other municipalities to participate in a similar fiscal review. The results of the review will be considered with the hundreds of submissions they have received as part of their consultations. The information will be used to guide future decisions. It is their goal to ensure that the entire Solid Waste Management System is sustainable from an environmental and economic perspective.

Cape Sable Historical Society – Building Committee

Correspondence has been received from the Cape Sable Historical Society advising of the names of individuals serving on the Executive of the Cape Sable Historical Society, and also the names of members serving on the committee formed to look into the restoration of the Old Court House. The letter further advised that their first meeting will be held on January 16, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., in the Old Court House. Members were asked to advise the Clerk if they plan to attend the meeting as he will inform the Society.

Barrington Bay Trail

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from Sherm Embree, Woodland Multi Use Trail Association, advising that the Letter of Authority, dated February 7, 2012, has been amended to include the entire Barrington Bay Trail previously held by the Municipality of Barrington. The Woodland Multi Use Trail Association is now the operator of the entire length of trail from Lower Woods Harbour to Barrington Passage.

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you Letters

The Clerk informed members that thank you letters have been received from the following for grants to their organization:

- Katelyn Ross, Canada Good Will Tour to Cuba
- Sea Cadets
- Tri-County Pregnancy Care Centre
- Bay Side Home

REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council. During his report he informed members that the Council resolution regarding hospital parking fees was defeated by the UNSM.

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Councillor Crook reported on recommendations from Committee.

Gas Tax Agreement

Resolution C141107

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by G. El-Jakl 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 - Surpluses/Deficits

Resolution C141108

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by G. El-Jakl that policy amendments be drafted to put in place the accounting for surpluses and deficits of the various fire departments.

Motion carried unanimously.

Purchasing Procurement Policy

Resolution C141109

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by D. Messenger 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.

Camera at the Causeway

Resolution C141110

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl 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

Resolution C141111

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield 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.

Tourism and Community Development Officer Monthly Report

Resolution C141112

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl 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.

Councillor Jody Crook gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council. During his report he indicated that steps are now being taken to form a Lighthouse Committee for the maintenance and upkeep of the Baccaro Lighthouse.

Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Deputy Warden Messenger gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor George El-Jakl

Councillor El-Jakl gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Shaun Hatfield

Councillor Hatfield gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Thank You

Resolution C141113

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by D. Messenger that thank you letters be forwarded to the fire departments for going above and beyond to pump basements during recent heavy rains.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Amendments – Re: Personnel Policy - Christmas Break

At the last meeting of Council notice was given that proposed amendments to the Personnel Policy regarding Christmas Break would be considered tonight.

It is proposed that the Personnel Policy be amended to provide municipal employees scheduled to work on Christmas Eve, December 24th, with the day off with full pay and benefits.

Resolution C141114

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that Article 27A of the Personnel Policy be amended by adding the following paragraph:

“Effective 2014 and each year thereafter, Municipal Employees scheduled to work on Christmas Eve, December 24th, will be granted the day off with full pay and benefits. As required, all on-call staff will be required to work, if necessary, to respond to sewer, snow plowing and salting calls.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Request – Evergreen Cemetery

Correspondence has been received from Joan Cunningham, President of the Evergreen Cemetery Club requesting a grant of \$500.00 to assist with the cost of upkeep of the cemetery.

Resolution C141115

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that a grant be provided to the Evergreen Cemetery in the amount of \$500.00 to assist with the cost of upkeep of the cemetery.

Motion carried unanimously.

CSI Elementary School

By way of letter dated November 5, 2014, from the Tri-County Regional School Board, members were advised that the School Board has declared the CSI Elementary School surplus, and now wishes to return the land and buildings to the Municipality.

A walk-through of the facility took place on November 19, 2014. Warden Nickerson, Councillor Hatfield, Property Services Manager, Cam Whiteway, and Clerk-Treasurer, Brian Holland attended the walk-through with Steven Stoddart, Director of Operations of the Tri-County Regional School Board.

The School Board is requesting that the transfer be completed on November 28, 2014. The School Board has advised that it is their intention to have the power disconnected and to top up the furnace fuel tank on that date.

Resolution C141116

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipal Council accept the transfer of the CSI Elementary School on November 28th as requested by the Tri-County Regional School Board, with the understanding that the School Board will disconnect the power on November 28th and will top up the furnace fuel tank on that date.

Motion carried unanimously.

Wastewater Agreement

Correspondence has been received from the Town of Clark's Harbour requesting that the agreement between the Town of Clark's Harbour and the Municipality of Barrington, allowing Municipal Staff with Wastewater Operator Classification II to be appointed "direct responsible charge" for the Clark's Harbour Sewage Treatment Facility, be renewed. The previous agreement with the Town expired October 31, 2013. The correspondence from the Town further advised that it is anticipated that their staff will be certified not later than March 31, 2015.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that a similar agreement be entered into with the Town of Clark's Harbour allowing staff with Wastewater Operator Classification II to be appointed "direct responsible charge" for the Clark's Harbour Sewage Treatment Facility until Town employees obtain the required classification, on or before March 31, 2015, whichever is sooner subject to the same conditions contained in the previous agreement for the period ending October 31, 2013.

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the above motion be amended indicating that this agreement be entered into so long as municipal staff feel comfortable and competent to provide this service.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

The amended motion reads as follows:

Resolution C141117

"...that a similar agreement be entered into with the Town of Clark's Harbour allowing staff with Wastewater Operator Classification II to be appointed "direct responsible charge" for the Clark's Harbour Sewage Treatment Facility until Town employees obtain the required classification, on or before March 31, 2015, whichever is sooner, subject to the same conditions contained in the previous agreement for the period ending October 31, 2013, so long as municipal staff feel comfortable and competent to provide this service."

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

FISCAL REVIEW

It was noted that a meeting was scheduled to be held tomorrow night to discuss Fiscal Review. It has been suggested that this meeting be canceled and that Fiscal Review be placed on the Committee of the Whole Council agenda for December 1st. This suggestion was approved by members.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Warden

Clerk

Secretary for the Meeting

On website November 26, 2014.