

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

October 13, 2015

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:

- Gerald Walsh Meeting.
- Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal.

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 J. Crook that minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held September 21, 2015 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON TOWNSHIP MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

A list of expenditures that has been provided by the Museum Association has been circulated to members. The Museum Association had requested a Municipal Grant of \$250.00 which had previously been turned down. It was the sentiment of members that this Museum Association was using much of their funds to pay for transportation to and from meetings which other similar organizations did not pay. It was also the sentiment that this organization had no physical presence in the community. There was some question as to why copies should be made of documents that are available to the public at the Registry Office should they wish to view them. It was requested that a draft letter be prepared for the review of the committee in response to the Museum Association's request.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Information was circulated to all members regarding Planned Parenthood Associations in Canada and Nova Scotia. The Municipality, to date, has had no dealings with this organization.

Resolution COW151001

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that correspondence be sent to Mrs. Debbie Atkinson indicating that the Municipality to date has had no previous dealings with any Planned Parenthood organization.

Motion carried unanimously.

EASTLINK INTERNET

Information was circulated to members prior to the meeting. This information included a statement from the FCM regarding funding for broadband in rural and remote communities. It also contained an announcement by the Prime Minister regarding funding for rural internet as well as information on the Digital Canada 150 program. This is a program of the Federal Government to provide internet services to rural and remote areas in Canada. There was also limited information provided regarding O-NET which is the internet utility in Olds, Alberta, as well as a brief summary of information on a municipal data utility in Stratford, Ontario and the QNET in Coquitlam, BC. The Community Development Officer will be requested to provide further information on the provision of internet services in some of these western communities.

SIGNS FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS

Members considered the possibility of placing signs recognizing the accomplishments of local sportsmen, in particular the accomplishments of Phil Scott and Darren Hudson in logrolling.

There then followed much discussion regarding the cost of placing these signs and the need for developing a criteria for signs to be erected in the community.

It was suggested that one sign could be erected that would recognize several individuals in the community for their achievements.

It was the consensus of members that Brenda Maxwell from the Cape Sable Historical Society be invited to a meeting of the Committee of the Whole in order to further discuss this matter since she had made the request.

CENTREVILLE CEMETERY REQUEST

A request for a Municipal Grant has been received from the Centreville Cemetery. The Cemetery is requesting a grant in the amount of \$500.00 to purchase topsoil to level sunken graves and to purchase Class A gravel to fix and maintain the roadway to the various lots.

Resolution COW151002

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$500.00 be provided to the Centreville Cemetery for the maintenance of its property.

Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR BEACH COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Correspondence has been received from the Shelburne County Tourism Association and from Bird Studies Canada for the Municipality to provide a representative on the Beach Stewardship Committee for Shelburne County. In particular, they are asking that our Tourism and Community Development Officer be this representative.

Resolution COW151003

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality appoint Suzy Atwood, our Tourism and Community Development Officer, to the Beach Stewardship Committee for Shelburne County.

Motion carried unanimously.

ERMES PARENT SUPPORT GROUP REQUEST

The ERMES Parent Support Group is requesting funding from the Municipality for a *Learn, Play and Grow* space being developed in their school. This space will include structured learning zones for construction, creative cookery, professional play, artist zone, home and child care skills. The Support Group is requesting funding of \$7,500.00 from the Municipality for this project.

The request for funding does not indicate if funding is also being provided by the Parent/Teacher Support Group, or if the School Board is providing any funding for this project. It also does not indicate whether similar programs are being developed in other schools in the Municipality. There is no indication if other municipal units are contributing towards similar projects in other areas under the District School Board.

It was also indicated that the Support Group should be made aware that the Municipality currently contributes more than \$1.2 Million Dollars to the Tri-County Regional School Board each year.

Members also would like to know what funding was provided to ERMES School programs in the previous year by the Parent/Teacher Support Group, and what amount of funding was provided to each of the programs. This additional information will be requested of the ERMES Parent Support Group before further consideration of their request.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

It was the sentiment of members that municipal projects need to be better defined prior to approving and proceeding with projects in the future. It is hoped that a Development Committee would provide this further definition of projects before being approved by Council.

There was some question whether or not the public would be included on the committee, or whether it would consist only of councillors and employees.

There then followed some further discussion of the need for a committee.

At this time no further action was agreed to.

THELMA O'CONNELL REQUEST

The request of Thelma O'Connell for the purchase of a small portion of municipal land which is adjacent to her property and abuts her property at the back was circulated to members for their information and review. Ms. O'Connell is requesting that the Municipality sell a small portion of property to her because the house at the back of her property has been located over the property line. It encroaches on municipal property. The property line more or less runs directly through the middle of the house.

Before a decision could be made in this matter further information was requested on the cost of completing this transaction, including migration costs, subdivision costs, legal and survey costs. It was also requested that a realtor provide an estimated price on the property that Ms. O'Connell wishes to purchase. This information will be obtained for further consideration of Council.

GERALD WALSH MEETING

Mr. Walsh has indicated various times that he can meet with Council for the purpose of discussing the recruitment of a Chief Administrative Officer.

It was agreed by members that a meeting with Mr. Walsh will be scheduled for 6:00 p.m., on Monday, October 26, 2015, prior to the regular Council meeting.

INDOOR POOL

Information was previously circulated to members indicating that other municipal units in the area have no interest in participating in a feasibility study for an indoor pool for Shelburne County. As a result of these communications, no further action will be taken in this matter.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL

There is erosion of the shoulder of the road on Highway #330 near Civic #396, in North East Point. The gravel has recently been eroded by rainwater along the shoulder of the road in this vicinity.

Resolution COW 151004

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal be contacted to address the erosion of the shoulder of the road on Highway #330 near Civic #396.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was also indicated that there are traffic safety concerns at the intersection of Highway 330 and the Clam Point Road just past the Cape Sable Island Causeway. It is suggested that the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal consider placing a turning lane to the Clam Point Road at this location.

Resolution COW151005

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal be requested to evaluate construction of a turning lane along Route 330 at the intersection of the Clam Point Road in North East Point.

Motion carried unanimously.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

It was the consensus of members that the Nominating Committee meeting be held during the next Council meeting on October 26th.

CAUSEWAY PROJECT – WHARF

Suzy Atwood attended the discussion of this matter.

There was some question as to what direction this project was taking and what will be put at this location when this project is done.

It was suggested that this project be discussed at the next Committee of the Whole Council meeting on October 19, 2015. Our Property Services Supervisor, Cameron Whiteway, and our Community Development Officer, Suzy Atwood, will be invited to attend this meeting for the purpose of discussing this matter.

It was also indicated that a conceptual drawing should be prepared for this project, and that the Property Services Supervisor should contact Mr. Martin Crowell who is a knowledgeable contractor in the local area who may be able to provide some insights concerning the anchoring and positioning requirements of the proposed floating dock.

BARRINGTON EXHIBITION REQUEST

Members discussed the pros and cons of fulfilling the request of the Barrington Municipal Exhibition Committee. It is clear that the Barrington Municipal Exhibition requires more volunteers in order to continue its operation. At the present time they are having difficulty attracting new people to their group.

Information on potential grants to assist the Exhibition Committee has already been provided to them.

The Municipality will continue mowing the parking area prior to the exhibition and the shoulder of the road in front of the exhibition in the week prior to the Exhibition as has been done in the past.

The request to increase their grant from \$3,500.00 to \$10,000.00 will be considered during the budget deliberations next spring.

A request for volunteers will be prepared and placed on the Municipality's website in an attempt to increase the communication to the community that more volunteers are needed.

A draft letter of response to the Exhibition Committee will be prepared in which it will also be indicated that the Municipality is working on the remaining requests of the Exhibition Committee. It will also be indicated that the Exhibition Committee should communicate directly with the Recreation Department if they wish that department to participate more fully in the Exhibition.

Councillor El-Jakl vacated the meeting at 10:07 p.m.

Resolution COW151006

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it is recommended to Council that a letter be prepared indicating the Municipality's initial responses to the requests of the Barrington Exhibition Association.

Motion carried unanimously.

SEASIDE TOURIST REST STOP

Suzy Atwood attended the discussion of this matter.

There had been some discussion regarding the removal of a power pole on the Seaside Tourist Rest Stop property. It is estimated that the removal of one power pole will cost in the vicinity of \$14,000 - \$15,000, once the expenses of Harlow Construction, Nova Scotia Power and Crook's Electrical are included.

It was also indicated that the cost of removing this pole would not fall within the scope of the ACOA funding being provided for the project. It would be necessary for the Municipality to bear all of these additional costs. Since the electrical work is estimated to cost in excess of \$10,000, a tender will be prepared for public bidding.

The Tourism and Community Development Officer will discuss proceeding with this project with Greg Smith who is a property owner adjacent to the rest stop site. The boardwalk to be constructed at this site will also need to be tendered in the very near future.

Having completed their discussion of items on the agenda for this evening, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website October 15, 2015.