

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL
BUDGET MEETING**

May 26, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:15 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

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of this meeting was to begin review of the proposed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year for the Municipality.

GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS

A list of Grants to Organizations was circulated to members. The amounts approved to these organizations in the prior year was provided to them together with the amounts requested for this year.

Members reviewed each of these grant requests individually and indicated the amount to be approved for each one. The list will be updated and included in the budget for the year.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Administrative Services were reviewed and discussed by members. The need for another person in the Municipal Office was emphasized by the Clerk. It is suggested that a Director of Finance be added to the Municipal Office as the financial requirements of the Municipality are ever more demanding, especially with the addition of the accounting for the fire departments and accounting for the Arena having been relocated to the Municipal Office over the past year.

There then followed much discussion regarding the number of employees in the various departments of the Municipality.

A discussion also ensued regarding the hiring of additional personnel as opposed to contracting out work that is currently being done by municipal employees.

It was noted that the amounts provided in the budget for the Grants to Organizations and for the cost of maintaining the C.S.I. School may be adjusted prior to budget approval if necessary.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Members discussed the cost of Fire Protection Services and the cost of providing Policing Services at the local RCMP Detachment.

Costs of the Fire Services Coordinator and of By-Law Enforcement were also discussed and reviewed. The Fire Department budgets will again be brought forward for consideration of members at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Transportation Services were reviewed including the cost of street lighting as contained in the agreement with Nova Scotia Power, and the cost of maintaining the roads the Municipality owns.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed their discussion of these budget items, it was the consensus of members that the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website May 27, 2015.