

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

November 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:03 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, NS, with the following members present:

- Shaun Hatfield, Chair
- Murray Atkinson
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson

- Chris Frotten, CAO
- Debbie Mader, Administrative Assistant

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- Physicians Agreements
- CAO Evaluation Date

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Being duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the last meeting held November 12, 2019, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

SEPTIC SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS – FINANCING

The Province recently announced amendments to the MGA to allow municipalities to offer loans to homeowners for the installation or replacement of their septic systems to be repaid through their property taxes.

Discussion took place with concerns for budget implications, the financial burden it could put on the Municipality and the drastic variance from household to household. There was also discussion in regard to the merits of such a program, especially for the low-income residents of the Municipality.

Direction was given to staff to provide a draft by-law for Septic System Improvements – Financing.

DRAFTED RESOLUTION RE: ELECTRONIC VOTING RESOLUTION

A draft Electronic Voting Resolution was circulated to members prior to the meeting for their review.

Resolution COW191109

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council to accept the following resolution as presented.

WHEREAS the public needs to know that each vote in an election was made by an individual, legitimate, elector; that the secrecy of each ballot was preserved; and that each vote choice recorded was accurately counted exactly as it was cast; and

WHEREAS the integrity of every election depends on these fundamental components being preserved; and

WHEREAS the questions of how to adequately maintain the security, validity, and integrity of electronic voting methods are still unanswered; and

WHEREAS there is no evidence that electronic voting methods increase voter turnout; and

WHEREAS there are no standards for any type of electronic voting in Canada or Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS the proliferation of electronic election services has the power to alter the nature of electoral participation by causing more electors to vote alone instead of at a polling place with others; and

WHEREAS A lot of time and money must be invested to ensure that the public is aware that electronic voting is an option and that voters are able to understand and use the on-line system to cast a ballot.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

the Municipality of the District of Barrington will use the traditional paper-based voting system as the method in the 2020 municipal election.

Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM CSHS RE: CAPE LIGHT

A letter was received from the Cape Sable Historical Society advising that the Society is interested in accepting ownership of the light, subject to a number of conditions involving the Municipality.

Members discussed the matter and the need for the Municipality to be involved.

After careful consideration the following motion was passed.

Resolution COW191110

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality not become involved in the transfer of ownership of the Cape Light and the Municipality offer assistance by considering any grant request which may be forthcoming relating to this project.

Motion carried.

AFFIRMATION

Jody Crook
Murray Atkinson
George El-Jakl
Shaun Hatfield

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson

REQUEST FOR TAX EXEMPTION

A request has been received from the Clyde Area Community Centre Association requesting a property tax exemption on AAN 03788687 – PID 80065980, the former Port Clyde Fire Hall Property, now Clyde Area Community Centre. The Clyde Area Community Centre Association is a non-profit organization registered under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia.

Resolution COW191111

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that a property tax exemption be provided to the Clyde Area Community Centre Association for AAN 03788687 and steps be taken to amend By-law No. 25 “Tax Exemption By-law”.

Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FROM SHELBURNE COUNTY ATV ASSOCIATION

The Shelburne County ATV Association sent a request asking for help in maintaining the Multi-Purpose Trail in the Barrington, from the Wireless Road to the former Old School House.

Resolution COW191112

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council to provide 24 yards of gravel to the ATV Association for trail maintenance.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF MARATHON COMMITTEE MEMBERS

It was reported that applications have been received from 3 new applicants, Jennifer Larkin, Melanie d’Entremont, and Andrea Mood-Nickerson, for the Marathon Committee.

Resolution COW191113

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council to appoint Jennifer Larkin, Melanie d'Entremont and Andrea Mood-Nickerson, to the Marathon Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

PHYSICIAN AGREEMENTS

The CAO provided information regarding questions arising concerning Physician Agreements.

CAO EVALUATION DATE

A meeting is set for December 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. for the evaluation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

