

Chief Administrative Officer Activity Report
July 27th, 2020

KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

The architects are working on finalizing the design package to present to Council. We expect to receive this package within the next two weeks.

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

As noted last month, our funding application to the Municipal Asset Management Program was submitted on June 5th. We were notified on July 16th that our application to the Program is now being processed and may take up to eight weeks.

c. Renewal or Expansion of Sewer System

Nothing new to report at this time.

2. Economic Growth

a. Development of Additional Business/Commercial Property

Nothing new to report at this time.

b. Reduction of Commercial Taxation

Nothing new to report at this time.

c. Improved Access to Internet

Nothing new to report at this time.

3. Promotion and Support of the Tourism Industry

a. Amenities at Beaches

Phase 2 of the Stoney Island Beach Parking Area, which will see the installation of wooden guardrails to resemble the parking area at Sandhills, began on July 14th. The beach was very busy this past week which has slowed progress, but work continues on a consistent basis.



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Our survey asking residents and visitors to answer general questions to help guide us moving forward in the development of our beaches closed on July 16th. We received a total of 685 responses and are preparing a report that will summarize the results. Once the report is complete, it will be presented to Council and shared publicly.

We have placed the official order for our beach signage with Causeway Computers and continue to work internally on the placement and installation plan with our Property Services Department. We are also waiting for a response to our application to the Beautification and Streetscaping Program.

Finally, I have mentioned on a number of occasions the importance of planning when it comes to future development at our beaches. I am pleased to announce that WSP has been engaged to help us in this planning work. They will prepare preliminary 2D conceptual site plans and 3D visualizations as well as provide landscape and engineering reviews. These plans will help us solicit the approval and collaboration of provincial agencies and other local stakeholders and set a strategy which will guide our ongoing work.

b. Work to Attract Accommodations

Nothing new to report at this time.

4. Provision or Support of Services for Residents of the Municipality

a. Continued Work Towards Additional Medical Services (Medical Clinic, Dialysis)

Nothing new to report at this time.

b. Develop Water Access Plan (docks, wharves and marinas)

Nothing new to report at this time.

c. Improve Active Transportation (sidewalks, trails, boardwalks)

Nothing new to report at this time.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM JUNE 22ND TO JULY 26TH

TOPICS

COVID-19

As of June 1, 2020, the Municipal Administrative Centre and Construction and Demolition Landfill have been open to the public during their regular operating hours. We are following public health protocols to ensure physical distancing, have increased cleaning and have placed other protective measures for staff and visitors such as visual aids and physical barriers.

Although we are open to the public, we are still encouraging residents to limit their visits to essential or urgent needs, to avoid visiting if feeling ill or have traveled recently, to follow the physical distancing visual aids within the buildings and avoid lengthy visits or gathering.

On June 8, the ballfields, the batting cages at the arena and the large hall at the Recreation Centre were reopened for bookings during limited hours.

All other municipal offices and facilities remain closed but as restrictions continue to ease and with the steady decline and consistently low number of known COVID-19 cases in Nova Scotia,, we are making plans to reopen the remainder of our facilities.

As always, up to date information on all municipal closures, service updates and measures can be found at barringtonmunicipality.com/covid19.

Drought & Water Shortage

It seems as though we find ourselves in another dry spell which, as we've unfortunately become all too familiar with, may result in a drought situation and water shortages. This would be the third time in six years that we face this issue and although some tools and resources are now available to help our residents, no major improvements have been made as we have not yet received word from the Province regarding a request for financial assistance we made in January 2019.

At this point, we are primarily in the "Collection of Information" phase. Information and data are key as it will help us determine the most appropriate response and provide us with the necessary background information to influence any Provincial assistance. We have begun to post information through the EMO Facebook page, website, and through other media to ask residents

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to contact the Municipality if they are experiencing low water levels or are dry. So far, we have been contacted by 7 residents.

In terms of assistance, water is now available at the RV dumping station on Sherose Island and the Barrington/Port La Tour Fire Hall has put out a hose for public use as well.

We are preparing for future assistance in the event it is needed. Dwayne has been reaching out to local organizations to determine their level and capacity. We met with the Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs of all three Fire Departments and are working with the Ground Search & Rescue to see what they may be able to do. On July 15th, we had an EMO meeting to go over our plan and discuss our response over the next few weeks.

This response could include the provision of drinking water, more water fill up stations and possible delivery once a week by the Fire Departments. As for showers and washing machines, there is some hesitation to open those to the public due to COVID-19. If the need arises, we may be able to open the arena showers under strict cleaning protocols but we will address that in the next few weeks. It should be noted that due to COVID-19, all water supplies will be cleaned and disinfected when possible but we will also be posting “use at your own risk” warnings.

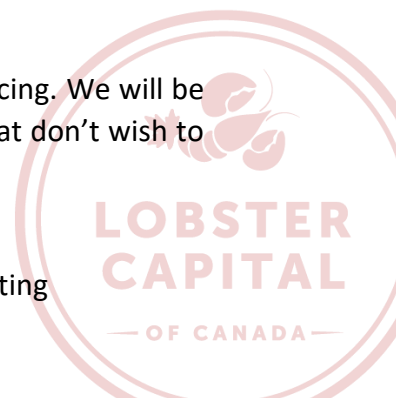
Finally, I would like to remind residents that we have a Water Supply Upgrade Lending Program which provides financing for water supply upgrades to qualifying property owners. More information on the program can be found on our municipal website or by contacting the office directly at 902-637-2015.

Tourism Initiatives

The tourism season looks a lot different this year due to COVID-19. Locally, we continue to promote our area, in partnership with the Municipality of Shelburne, to the Atlantic Provinces through our social media channels and website. We will also be working with a few social media influencers and with South Shore Tourism to help market the area.

We have had David Smith look at fixing the Lobster Sculpture that was in Baccaro, he will be doing the repairs needed and Clifton Sears will repaint it once it’s ready. We will re-install it back at the Lighthouse in Baccaro once everything is completed.

Our lobster chairs have unfortunately seen better days and are in need of replacing. We will be emailing the sponsors to see if they wish to re-sponsor a chair and for those that don’t wish to sponsor a chair again, we will be looking for new sponsors for them.



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Recreation Programming

Our summer recreation programming is well underway. It looks a little different than usual, but we are providing what we can under the current public health guidelines.

Hello Fun has started and is working very well. Each day features in person activity, a swim and online components. We are planning to open up the in-person events to more children who do not necessarily wish to commit for the whole week. We will be moving to half day in-person programming on August 4th.

The **Barrington Municipal Pool** opened on July 6th and has been busy. Swimming lessons are still very popular, and many sessions are already full. Ella Swim conducted lifeguard and instructor training and our number of certified staff is very good. She will do another in September to ensure we have enough guards locally to serve both the pool and the Nova Scotia Lifeguard Service (NSLS) given the potential to have beach supervision. Safety, and especially more so given the pandemic, is of utmost importance this summer so having a full complement of staff eases that stress.

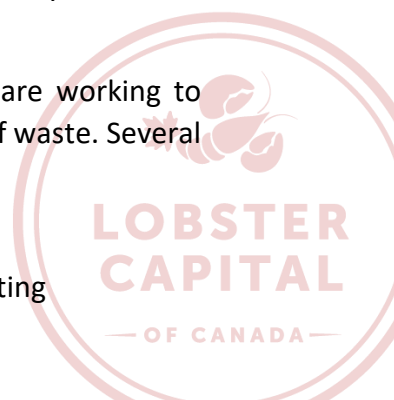
Preliminary reports from NSLS staff doing the **Beach Lifeguard Assessment** of North East Point and Stoney Island are positive. We received a grant of \$3,300 towards this project from the Province and residents have been very supportive of this work.

Joel will deliver **Kayaking Clinics** on July 27th, 28th and 29th at North East Point Beach. The kayaks that Joel will use are shared through the Yarmouth Shelburne Municipal Recreation Admission. 6 total clinics will be offered, divided into three age categories – kids aged 10-13, youth aged 14-18, and adults 19+. The kid's clinics filled up quick so we may need to offer a third clinic. The goal of these clinics is to increase people's knowledge and confidence to kayak in the municipality.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From June 14th to July 19th, 2020, 43 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$596,100. 89 building inspections were carried out along with 10 fire inspections. We received 2 new subdivisions during this period and 1 subdivision was sent to be registered. Presently we have 3 open subdivisions we are continuing to work on.

We received 4 new by-law complaints which we investigated and presently are working to resolve. These ranged from noise complaints to improper disposal and storage of waste. Several matters from the previous month were resolved and closed.



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During this period, we received no new dangerous and unsightly complaints and have just 1 open file that we continue to work on but should be resolved shortly.

Fire Services & Emergency Management

There have been no COVID-19 related staffing issues for the fire departments to date and they continue to monitor the status of their membership and communicate that information to the Fire Services Coordinator. Their functions are beginning to normalize but their facilities remain closed to the public.

Island and Barrington Passage Fire Department Truck #37 has gone to its new home. Automatic aid protocols have been adjusted to reflect there being one less pumper at the department and will be adjusted again once the quint arrives. The quint's arrival has been delayed and now is expected the end of September.

Otherwise, Dwayne continues to monitor COVID-19 updates from the province and EMONS and communicates regularly with EMONS in regard to the Provincial response by participating in all conference calls. He also completed the pump operator course with 11 of 12 students finishing the course and has performed monthly inspections of municipal properties.

This June the Fire Departments responded to 10 calls and they responded to 29 in June 2019. Here is the data for the month of June:

BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE							
EMERGENCY CALLS June 2020							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD		1			2	1	4
Island Barrington Passage FD	2						2
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD	1			1		2	4
TOTALS	3	1		1	2	3	10
B/PLT -							
IBP - 1 Wood Chip fire, 1 Propane tank fire							
WH/SH - 1 Electrical							



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CAPITAL PROJECT UPATE

Here is an update on our 2020-2021 Capital Projects:

Rank	Project	Status
2	Beach Facilities	In Progress
3	Library Roof Replacement	Not Started
4	Barrington Ballfield Fencing Replacement	Not Started
5	Cargo Trailer Replacement	Not Started
6	Brass Hill Treatment Plant Roof Replacement	Not Started
7	Manhole Cover Repairs	Not Started
8	Woods Harbour Treatment Plan Fence Replacement	Not Started
10	Fall's Point Road Lift Station Retrofit	Not Started
11	Treatment Plant Flow Meters	Not Started
13	Municipal Administrative Centre Renovations	Not Started
14	Former Knowles Property Sewer Lateral	Not Started
1	Recreation Centre	In Progress
9	Zero Turn Lawnmower	In Progress
15	Internet Improvement Project	In Progress
12	Portable Toilets	Complete