

Staff Report
January 24, 2022

KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

We are still awaiting official responses to the two funding applications we submitted back in July 2021. We hope that we will receive responses soon so that we can move forward on this project – in one way, shape or form.

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

Last month, we continued our work with Infrastructure Solutions on developing our asset management plan, implementing an asset management software, creating policy and procedure framework and training on asset management.

We will soon begin the collection of data and assessment of the condition of our facilities which will give us an idea of where we are now and will help us finalize the implementation of our software and plan.

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

Earlier this month, we were advised by Bell that a portion of the Barrington East project is now complete and ready for customer sales.

Any resident interested in signing up should call the Bell store at Wilson's at 637-2300 ext. 242 or visit <https://aliant.bell.ca/Bell-bundles>. As we've seen with other projects, since the service is brand new there could be occasions where residents/businesses that call are told the service is

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not available to them even though they are on the list of serviceable civic addresses. If you hear of any issues, please let me know and I will forward them to our contact with Bell.

For more information on these projects, visit our dedicate webpage at <https://bit.ly/3li8Zeh> or <https://internet.developns.ca/zones/shelburne-barrington/>.

We now anxiously await the completion of the remainder of the Barrington East Project and the Port La Tour project. We have been fielding inquiries relating to the Barrington East and Port La Tour internet projects as their anticipation completion dates were the end of August 2021. Our contact with Bell has been providing us with updates as we've been touching base with them regularly.

The last update we received is that completion of the Port La Tour project hinges upon a grade 1 water crossing being completed by Nova Scotia Power between Port Clyde and Port La Tour Road. Bell had anticipated, based upon updates from Nova Scotia Power, that the design would be finalized before now but there continues to be delays.

As for the remainder of the Barrington East Project, there are a few dependencies such as grade 1 engineering assessments, tree trimming and the placement of anchors and poles. The positive news on this project is that poles were delivered last week, and they hope to be able to install them in the next couple weeks.

Promotion and Support of the Tourism Industry

d. Amenities at Beaches

Work continues with Birds Canada and the Department of Lands and Forestry on our beach projects and initiatives. Suzy is working with Laura Bartlett, the Nova Scotia Program Coordinator with Birds Canada on a plan for a Beach Ambassador Program in partnership with Birds Canada for the coming year. This plan will help to increase beach stewardship at all our beaches within the municipality.

Suzy has also been in discussion with both Jim Rudderham, the Area Manager for Shelburne and Queens Counties with the Department of Lands and Forestry and Carrie Drake, a Senior Planner with the Parks & Outreach Division of the Department of Lands and Forestry in regard to accessibility at our beaches. We will be working on a plan to make at least one of our beaches accessible for this coming year and will be working on a funding application to help offset the cost of the project.

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e. Work to Attract Accommodations

Nothing new to report at this time.

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

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

In October, the construction of a medical clinic was identified as a priority of the Municipality. This decision will ensure that it is included in our budget deliberations next year and included in our new Strategic Plan. Our first Special Committee of the Whole Meeting on this project was on December 14, 2021. At this meeting, members discussed how to manage the project, how to choose a design, and how to choose a location.

The next meeting will take place in the beginning of February. This meeting will be a brainstorming session to discuss components of the design and members will also review information gathered on the design and experiences of other clinics owned or operated by municipalities similar to ours.

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

Nothing new to report at this time.

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

The **Sherose Island Trail** evaluation project is continuing with a community survey and photo contest. These were designed by our partners at Dalhousie University with our input and we will be promoting them in coming weeks. They will also follow up with focus group interviews with parents, educator, and friends of the trail.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM DECEMBER 13TH, 2021 TO JANUARY 23RD, 2022

TOPICS

Lobster Pot Christmas Tree



Thanks to the many donations of lobster traps from residents and businesses, we were able to construct this year's Lobster Trap Tree a bit bigger than in previous years. With a new design and many thanks to Warden Nickerson to his dedication in helping to construct this year's tree, we were able to add significant height to the tree with this new design. In total, we received 134 donated lobster traps this year and hope to continue to grow that

number into the future. A special thanks also to Pro Nova Marine for loaning us the use of their lift in the construction of the tree. A sign was designed and installed inside the gazebo listing the donors of traps.

Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl

This year's Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl will take place during the month of February. The celebration will look a bit different this year due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. Lucy the Lobster plans to crawl out of the ocean on February 2nd at the Cape Sable Island Causeway to kick the celebration off. Cailin O'Neil, a Nova Scotia travel media influencer will be hosting this year's event. We are also working with Suzette Belliveau to have a live broadcast following the event on CTV Morning Live. Currently the event is being organized to be a virtual event but will reassess things as the date gets closer. We are working on a Songs of the Sea music series event but will be dependant on the provincial guidelines and restrictions. Erin Smith is painting a new head in the hole sign to be used on the Sherose Island Nature Trail that will have a lobster theme to it and some events will take place in the month of February that will incorporate the use of the trail and getting outside in the winter.

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Tax Sale

Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, our annual tax sale will be by tender once again this year. There are currently 33 properties on the tax sale list. Tenders will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. AST on Monday, February 14, 2022. For complete details on the process, as well as the properties available, residents can visit <http://bit.ly/3arkg9a>.

Recreation Programming

As part of a regional project with the Yarmouth Shelburne Municipal Recreation Association, the group has received funding of \$25,000 from the Active Communities Fund through the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. The purpose of the project is to assist community groups access school facilities on weekends when the cost of custodial fees could make it too costly. We will provide a full assessment of the community needs and costs to sustain the funding program. Six schools were identified in the tri-counties to pilot the program with Barrington Municipal High School selected for our area.

Planning is underway on a few outdoor events for the **Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl**. We will be sticking to self-directed activities and will plan a scavenger/mystery hunt, light up the Love Trail, as well as a story-book trail featuring lobsters.

The Dept. is working with local community groups to put together their applications to the **Recreation Facility Development Fund** through the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. These applications are due February 14th and pay 1/3 of project costs up to \$150,000.

We are preparing to utilize **South Shore Connect** to evaluate our records and web page users. This is an update on the most viewed records in the past year on Connect of areas within the Municipality:

1. The Hawk Beach - 2349 views	6. Nova Scotia Boat Racers Association -1396 views
2. Barrington Bay Trail – 1775 views	7. Daniels Head Beach – 1368 views
3. Sherose Island Nature Trail – 1455 views	8. Barrington Municipal Library – 1298 views
4. Barrington Area Lions Club – 1421 views	9. Island & Barrington Passage Fire Dept. – 1229 views
5. Stoney Island Beach – 1416 views	10. Crow Neck Beach – 1209 views

We've secured funding to implement the **Make your Move Campaign**. This is a campaign by Healthy Tomorrow Foundation that is designed to encourage Nova Scotians to think about

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physical activity as something that is easy to do in their day to day lives. Therefore, messaging looks like "park your car further to walk more". Barrington received funding to have radio ads, social media ads, parking lot signs, and displays on google ads to promote more physical activity.

Planning has begun for the 2022-2023 application to the **Active Communities Fund**. We are looking at creating an educational video for parents about the loose parts sheds. We are also looking at creating a badge system through Hike Nova Scotia.

The **Punch Card Challenge** ended in 2021. 18 people submitted punch sheets in this challenge, compared to 66 last year. Mostly all of the feedback we received was positive, however some mentioned that there were ATVs driving too fast on the rail trails.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From December 6, 2021, to January 16, 2022, 11 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$559,500. This is a \$252,500 increase compared to the same period last year. 60 building inspections were carried out along with 4 fire inspections and 8 re-inspections. Fire inspections were paused before the holidays due to the increased number of cases of COVID-19 in our area and they will not resume until further notice.

During this period, 2 new civic numbers were issued and 1 was deleted as a mini home was sold and moved from the property. 60 households and businesses were visited during this period.

We received 1 new subdivision application along with 2 that were not reported in the last month's report. 6 subdivisions were complete and sent for registration which leaves us with 2 open subdivision files that we continue to work on.

During this period, we received 3 new complaints. Two of these investigations were completed but complaints were closed as they did not violate any by-laws. We have one outstanding complaint that was received on January 14 for illegal dumping.

One streetlight complaint was received and reported and is presently open.

Fire Services & Emergency Management

There have been some cases of COVID-19 and close contact isolations in the fire departments, but none have caused any response issues to this point. They continue to monitor the status of their membership and communicate that information to the Fire Services Coordinator.

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Otherwise, Dwayne attended several training courses, continues to monitor COVID-19 updates from the province and EMONS and performed monthly fire and life safety inspections.

Last December, the Fire Departments responded to 19 calls and they responded to 11 in December 2020. For the year, the Fire Departments responded to 188 calls compared to 190 in 2020. Here is the data for the month of December and for the entire year:

BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE							
EMERGENCY CALLS December 2021							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	1				1	1	3
Island Barrington Passage FD	4					3	7
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD	2			5		2	9
TOTALS	7			5	1	6	19
B/PLT - Chimney							
IBP - Electrical, 2 Chimney, Grass							
WH/SH- Chimney, Grass							

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CALLS FOR ALL MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS 2021															
All Departments	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	O/M	All F D's
Boat Fire										1			1		Boat Fire
Chimney Fire		4	2								1	4	11	1	Chimney Fire
Electrical Fire							2			1		1	4		Electrical Fire
Forest Fire			2	2	1	1							6		Forest Fire
Grass/Brush Fire			10	4	3	1				1		2	21	1	Grass/Brush Fire
Rekindle					1								1		Rekindle
Structure Fire			1		1	2	3		1				8		Structure Fire
Trash Fire						2			1	1			4	2	Trash Fire
Vehicle Fire					1		1				1		3		Vehicle Fire
Mutual Aid			1	2			2						5	3	Mutual Aid
Automatic Aid					2	2	6		2	2			14		Automatic Aid
Total Fire		4	16	8	9	8	14		4	6	2	7	78	7	Total Fire
Medical Calls								1	2	4	2	5	14		Medical Calls
Assist Other Agency	2												2	2	Assist Other Agency
Vehicle Collisions	4	3	5	3		1	5	1	5	3	2	1	33	1	Vehicle Collisions
NS Power		1	4				1			2	1	1	10	2	NS Power
Alarm	2		3	1	11	3	2	4	1	4	2	3	36	5	Alarm
Flood Base		1	1				1					2	5	2	Flood Base
Investigate		3	1				1			1			6		Investigate
Miss							2						2		Miss
Pump Boat											2		2		Pump Boat
Stand By															Stand By
Total Non Fire	8	8	14	4	11	4	12	6	8	14	9	12	110	12	Total Non Fire
Total	8	12	30	12	20	12	26	6	12	20	11	19	188	19	Total
Total calls to Other Municipal Units 19 (10%)															
Fire Dept	Fire	MFR	MVA	Other	Total										
WHSB	22	14	2	28	66										
IBP	33		18	29	80										
BPLT	23		13	6	42										
TOTAL	78	14	33	62	188										



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CAPITAL PROJECT UPATE

Here is an update on our 2021-2022 Capital Projects:

Rank	Project	Status
5	Beach Facilities	Not Started
10	Bulk Water Source	Not Started
1	Landfill Truck Scale	In Progress
2	Recreation Centre	In Progress
3	Brass Hill Clarifier & Screens	In Progress
4	Property Services Building	In Progress
7	Municipal Admin Office Renovations	In Progress
8	Municipal Admin Building Accessibility	In Progress
6	Internet Project	Completed
9	Arena Refrigeration Control System	Completed
11	Basil Blades Memorial Ballfield Lights	Completed
12	Lobster Pot Christmas Tree	Completed
13	Library Heat Pump	Completed

