

Chief Administrative Officer Activity Report
February 24th, 2020

KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

Discussions continue between Council, Recreation Department Staff and the architects to fine tune a design. Another working session will be scheduled in March with the group to finalize a design and bring it to the public.

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

Nothing new to report at this time.

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

On February 7th, the Province of Nova Scotia and Develop Nova Scotia announced a series of major Internet projects which have been awarded as part of the Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative. The initiative, aimed to help connect more communities, homes and businesses to Internet across the province, was the result of a \$193 million investment by the Provincial government in 2018.

For the past 18 months, The Municipality of Barrington has been working with the Western REN, the Municipalities of the Districts of Argyle, Clare, Digby and Yarmouth and various Internet service providers operating in Nova Scotia to identify the most underserved communities, and solutions that can evolve with changing technologies.

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Due to this work and a financial investment of \$200,000 by the Municipality, we are excited to announce that 950 new homes and businesses between Charlesville through to Doctor's Cove will soon have fibre-to-the-home Internet as part of this initiative.

Although this is welcomed news, the Municipality recognizes that its work is not yet over. There is ongoing work to improve Internet infrastructure on Cape Island and in Barrington Passage but there will still be areas in our Municipality, specifically the Villagedale/Port La Tour/Baccaro areas, that will remain underserved. For that reason, the Municipality is committed to improving Internet in those areas and will continue to work with its partners to actively pursue other funding opportunities.

3. Promotion and Support of the Tourism Industry

a. Amenities at Beaches

The two main objectives of the Beaches Strategy for this year are an *assessment of existing infrastructure and develop a plan for future infrastructure* and *the development of signage and directional signage for the beaches that work with our branding*. The first draft of the signage strategy is in development and will be presented to Council in March and the upcoming budget will also have funds earmarked for the infrastructure assessment. Both the signage plan and infrastructure assessment will be brought forward to Council during budget deliberations.

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)

A Barrington/Clarks Harbour Satellite Dialysis Committee meeting was scheduled for February 13th, 2020 but had to be postponed due to weather. The next meeting has been scheduled for March 3rd. 2020.

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 OCTOBER 29TH to NOVEMBER 24TH

TOPICS

Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl

Activities for this year's Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl continue. The activities held in Barrington, were all very successful and the last Songs of the Sea event will take place February 28th at Capt. Kat's. For more information on the last week of the Crawl, visit their Facebook Page or website (lobstercrawl.ca). Finally, I would like to congratulate Suzy and all of South Shore Tourism Cooperative and Lobster Crawl team for their hard work in putting together such a great event!

Summer Work in Winter

With mild temperatures, the Property Services Department has been able to complete some summer work in addition to its regular winter maintenance program. The last new welcome sign was installed in Charlesville, the clarifier at the Brass Hill Treatment Plant was cleaned and some damaged aluminium skirting was removed, two illegal dumpsites were cleaned, aerators at the Brass Hill Treatment Plant were repaired, a number of lift station pups were pulled and maintained and landscaping has started on Sherose Island to beautify the area and make additional green spaces for the community to use.

Business Meet & Greet

The Municipality of Barrington, the Western Regional Enterprise Network and the Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce invite you to a meet and greet for businesses and entrepreneurs.

This event will provide them with an opportunity to network with other local businesses and entrepreneurs and learn more about the services offered by the Western Regional Enterprise Network and other related agencies.

The Meet and Greet will take place in the Multipurpose Room at the Barrington Municipal Administrative Centre on March 12th, 2020 and will begin at 6:00 pm. Refreshments will be provided and for more information or to RSVP, please contact the Municipal Office at 902-637-2015.



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Tax Sale

Our annual tax sale was held on Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 in the Multipurpose Room at the Municipal Administrative Centre. There were 36 properties on the tax sale list. Twenty-Nine were sold and seven did not receive a bid. Out of the 29 properties sold, 1 is assessed as land and building, 22 were assessed as land only and 6 are assessed as land and dwelling (some with a building/building.)

Free Low-Income Tax Program

Beginning on February 28th, the Shelburne County Senior Services Society will begin their low-income tax program. This free service to all low-income seniors and residents of Shelburne County will see their CRA registered volunteers complete and file residents' income taxes. There will be 4 drop off locations throughout the County. The Municipality of Barrington's location is in the VIC building from March 3rd – May 1st, 2020 and will be available for walk-ins and drop offs on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The low-income threshold is \$35,000 for an individual or \$45,000 for a couple. For more information, interested residents can phone (902) 637-2625.

2020 Municipal Elections

Staff has been working on an Elections 2020 media campaign aimed at educating our residents about being involved in local government. A special webpage has been developed which provides information to both candidates and electors on the important dates and other relevant information. This webpage can be accessed by clicking on the "Municipal Election 2020" button on our homepage.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From January 18th to February 17th, 2020, 18 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$365,800. No new dangerous and unsightly complaints were received, and 1 file was resolved during this reporting period. Presently we only have 1 dangerous and unsightly file we are continuing to work on. One new by-law complaint was received regarding illegal dumping, it was investigated, and the matter was resolved.



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Fire Services

The Fire Services Coordinator worked closely with each Fire Department and the Finance Department to develop and present each of the Fire Departments’ budgets.

The Barrington Port Latour Fire Department is considering the loan of one of their fire trucks to the Eel Brook Fire department after Eel Brooks Pumper was involved in a crash. An agreement was drafted with the help of our municipal solicitor and insurance company to cover liabilities for these instances. The construction of Island and Barrington Passage Fire Department’s new ladder truck has begun.

Our Fire Services and EMO Coordinator continues to stay apprised of any WCB updates and will help the Departments and the Municipality through the transition.

We have now received well over 15 letters in support of our application to the Department of Education to allow new recruits to receive a personal development credit that join a fire department and go through the required training. This has been very positive and will be another tool to help our Fire Departments recruit new members.

Finally, according to Policy 54, Fire departments are required to hold a public meeting every year to allow residents to attend and ask questions pertaining to fire response and fire department operations.

The public meetings are scheduled as follows:

Barrington Port Latour	Tuesday March 3, 7:00 pm at the BPLT Hall
Island and Barrington Passage	Tuesday March 3, 6:30 pm at the IBPFD hall
Woods Harbour Shag Harbour	Monday March 9, 8:00 pm at the WSHS hall

Otherwise, Dwayne continues to attend conferences and meetings, host training sessions, organize practices with the help of the training committee and perform monthly inspections of municipal properties. Here is the data for the month of January:





An ocean of opportunity

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BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE							
EMERGENCY CALLS January 2020							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	1			2	2		5
Island Barrington Passage FD	4	1		1	5		11
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD	1			4			5
TOTALS	6	1		7	7		21
B/PLT - 1 chimney fire, 1 MVC with entrapment							
IBP - 3 chimney fires, 1 grass fire, 5 MVC							
WH/SH- 1 chimney fire, 4 Medical							



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CAPITAL PROJECT UPATE

Here is an update on our 2019-2020 Capital Projects:

Rank	Project	Status
2	Doctor Recruitment – Lease Imp.	Complete
3	North East Point Boardwalk	Complete
4	Barrington Ball Field Fencing	Complete
5	Ice Resurfacers	Complete
6	Beach Strategy	Complete
8	Arena Roof Repairs	Complete
9	Building Inspection Vehicle	Complete
10	Sewer Pumps	Complete
12	Paving – Red Schoolhouse Lane	Complete
13	Replace Front Entrance at Arena	Complete
14	Replace Interior Entrance at Arena	Complete
15	Replace Arena Flooring	Complete
16	Manhole Cover Repairs	Complete
17	Batting Cages	Complete
1	Recreation Centre Design Fees	In Progress
7	Brass Hill Sewer Study	In Progress
11	Lift Station Cabinet Retrofits	In Progress
18	Sewer Lateral – Former Knowles Property	In Progress