

Chief Administrative Officer Activity Report
November 23rd, 2020

KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

As mentioned in September, the architects finalized two design options: one with a walking track within the multipurpose space on the first level and another with a stand-alone walking track elevated on a mezzanine. The options were discussed at the last Committee of the Whole meeting and a recommendation was made to move forward with public engagement to get feedback.

In the next few weeks, municipal staff will prepare a public engagement process that will take into consideration the current COVID-19 public health directives. The goal will be to conduct this engagement in January and/or February.

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

We continue to await a response from FCM regarding our funding application to the Municipal Asset Management Program.

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

The latest on the Woods Harbour project is that Nova Scotia Power has completed most of the identified make ready work orders, but they do not have an exact schedule for completion of the work. Bell hopes that by the end of November, they will get confirmation of the schedule to complete the last few orders. Afterwards, Bell should be able to place and splice their planned fibre for the project.

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3. Promotion and Support of the Tourism Industry

a. Amenities at Beaches

In October, we received the 3D renderings of the concept plans developed with the help of WSP. These renderings will be shared with Staff and Council for feedback and will help us determine the next steps in our work in improving the accessibility and enhancing the amenities at our beaches.

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 OCTOBER 26TH TO NOVEMBER 22ND

TOPICS

Drought & Water Shortage

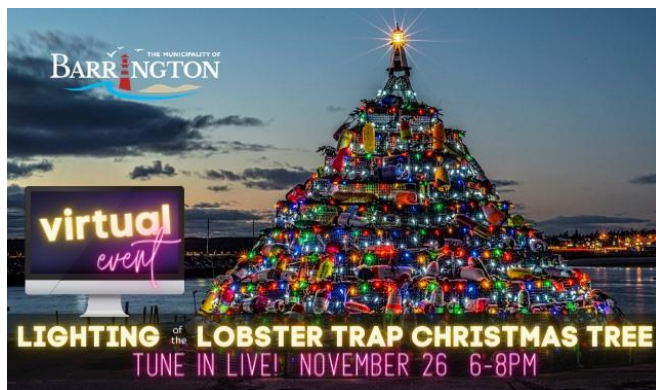
The assistance being provided has been scaled back, with only the water supply at Sherose Island left. Although there are still some experiencing low water levels, we had over 100 mm of rain in the month of October and the first week of November which seems to have relieved the demand.

As in the past two droughts, the assistance we provided was fueled by a great team effort. Our volunteer fire departments, the volunteers with the Barrington Ground Search and Rescue, Our staff in the Department of Property Services and at the arena, the Barrington Tim Hortons and Yarmouth REMO were all great partners in helping us provide the assistance we did.

Water Supply Upgrade Lending Program

A reminder that we have the Water Supply Upgrade Lending Program which provides financing for water supply upgrades to qualifying property owners. We've received multiple inquiries about this program recently and have approved 3 applications more information on the program can be found on our municipal website or by contacting the office directly at 902-637-2015.

Christmas at the Causeway – Virtual Edition



In light of COVID-19 restrictions, this year's festival will look completely different than in past years. Many of the regularly scheduled community events have been cancelled this year but the Lobster Trap Christmas tree will still be built. The celebration for the lighting of the tree will be done virtually and we are planning for this event to be as special as we can make it despite the current circumstances. Those

interested in participating in the event will be able to tune in Live on our Facebook pages on November 26th to watch our event.

For more information, visit the event page at <https://fb.me/e/4zy3qTfhv>.



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Recreation Programming

The Department is waiting approval from funding sources but have a number of signs mocked up as well as inventory for their **equipment loan program**.

Work continues on the development of their **Recreation Master Plan/Strategy** with over 50 responses to their online questionnaire being received and a number of hard copy versions sent out for completion. They have also conducted several informal sessions with youth and parents attending activities and events, most recently conducting a trail development strategy session on Sherose Island Nature Trail. All their learnings will be compiled and shared in a report to the RAC to assist in developing our five-year Recreation Master Plan.

We are working closely with **Recreation Nova Scotia** in developing a strategy to guide their work for the next several years. Our Recreation Director sits on the strategy working team to represent municipal recreation and the rural perspective. We are fortunate that our Director has a close relationship with RNS as they have been a valuable advocate for municipal recreation throughout the pandemic.

The **Recreation Centre** continues to be very busy. Some recreation activity providers have seen increases in participant numbers this year so we have opened up both halls when needed to those groups so they may easily provide distancing. We are still very interested in supporting community use of schools, but the government's announcement a couple weeks ago has not led to opening up of school gyms as yet.

Based on the popularity of the youth and family **fall activities** the Department coordinated in October, they are planning to continue to offer similar activity days every month. Family hikes, pop-up play, and large field games have seen very good participation and the feedback we receive is all positive with requests for more.

The **punch card challenge** organized by the Department was successful. There was a total of 66 people who handed in completed punch cards. All ranging from families, seniors, and youth. The feedback was very positive. People mentioned that they didn't know about all of the hidden gems in their own communities and that they would like to see similar programs in the future. For prizes, they gave 10 gift bags with MOB swag and \$5 gift card to Dans Ice Cream Shop.



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Finally, Joel has also been working on the next self-led outdoor activity - the **Nature Scavenger Hunt**. There will be scavenger hunting maps put up on the Barrington Bay Trail, which will promote people to go look around the trail to try to fill out the map as much as possible.

Municipal Awareness Week

Municipal Awareness Week 2020 was November 15-21. The week promotes the importance of municipal government in people's daily lives, and encourages participation in council meetings, public hearings and committees. It also celebrates the dedicated mayors, wardens, councillors and staff who are essential to the effective governance of municipalities.

This year, celebrations were virtual and minimal due to COVID-19. Some social media posts relating to the Municipality, including some trivia were posted on our Facebook page throughout the week last year, we had launched the Council for a Day contest but were never able to award our winners with the promised prizes since COVID came upon us at that time. We are therefore planning on how we can reward the winners and more information is to come.

Lobster Chairs

The lobster chairs that we place throughout the Municipality have reached the end of their useful life. Our Department of Property Services will build new ones over the winter and the original sponsors of the chairs have been contacted to see if they would like to sponsor the chairs again.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From October 19th to November 15th, 2020, 23 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$3,885,000. 60 building inspections were carried out along with 9 fire inspections and 3 fire re-inspections. We did not receive any new subdivisions during this period but 1 was sent to be registered. Presently we have 1 open subdivision we are continuing to work on.

We received 1 new by-law complaint regarding a derelict boat. This was investigated and the owner disposed of the boat and the matter was closed. We have 1 open by-law complaint we are continuing to work on.

During this period, we received no new dangerous and unsightly complaints and have no open files.



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No new civic numbers were issued this reporting period. 24 homes were visited this period to discuss civic numbering. On December 5, Dave will be doing civic numbering awareness and handing out literature during the STUFF an emergency vehicle food drive at Sobeys and No Frills.

Fire Services & Emergency Management

There continues to be no COVID-19 related staffing issues for the fire departments, 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 while abiding by public health directives.

The shipping container we retrofitted for live fire training is effectively complete. Preparation for its official use will begin in the spring.

The new Quint truck took arrived in the Municipality on November 6 and training took place from November 6-8. The truck returned to Rocky Mountain Phoenix in Bridgewater to install additional components and was then delivered to the fire hall on November 21.

WHSB and BPLT departments were both approved for the provincial Emergency Services Provider Fund and will be using the money to purchase SCBA and turnout gear.

Otherwise, Dwayne continues to monitor Covid-19 updates from the province and EMONS and corresponds with EMONS as needed. Thankfully, there have been no major issues in the Municipality or Town. The Firefighter 1 course that began on September 2 with 6 students is 75% complete and he has performed monthly inspections of municipal properties.

This October, the Fire Departments responded to 16 calls and they responded to 22 in October 2019. Here is the data for the month of October:



An ocean of opportunity

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BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE							
EMERGENCY CALLS October 2020							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	3	1	1		1	1	7
Island Barrington Passage FD			3		1	1	5
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD	1	1	2				4
TOTALS	4	2	6		2	2	16
B/PLT - 2 Structure est. \$350,000 loss							
IBP -							
WH/SH - 1 Structure Fire est. 150,000 loss							



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CAPITAL PROJECT UPATE

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

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