

## PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

August 15, 2013

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Cecil Swimm, Chair
- Cindy Nickerson
- Wilfred Mader
- Jody Crook
- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
  
- David Andrews, Development Officer
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

There were also present nine (9) members of the public including Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger, and Cathy Johnson, Reporter from the Coast Guard Newspaper.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by J. Crook and seconded by W. Mader that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by E. Nickerson and seconded by J. Crook that the minutes of the previous meeting held July 18, 2013 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

Members then entered into a Public Participation Meeting for the purpose of having representatives of Watts Wind Energy present their wind turbine project to the public, and for the purpose of receiving public comments and questions regarding this project, and the Development Agreement necessary to put this project in place.

Mr. Paul Pynn appeared before the meeting for the purpose of presenting the Watts Wind Energy Project. Mr. Pynn reviewed the history of the company, their local ownership and their qualifications for the COMFIT Program under the Provincial Government. Watts Wind Energy is a Community Economic Development Investment Fund, and as such qualifies for the COMFIT Program.

An Environmental Assessment has been done on this project for the Province, and has been approved by the Province. It is proposed that two wind turbine generators be installed on property in Atwoods Brook east of the Bear Point pond. These wind turbine generators will provide enough electricity to service approximately 800 residences. It is estimated that the wind turbine generators will be fully operational by the middle of 2014.

The properties on which the wind turbine generators will be constructed are owned by Mr. Corbett Blades and Ms. Ruth Auwater. The properties on which the wind turbine generators will be located are being leased from the property owners. The nearest wind turbine generator will be located approximately 1.1 kms. From Highway #3 in Atwood's Brook. The wind turbine generators will be approximately 120 meters high at the top of the blade. The two wind turbine generators will be located approximately 350 meters apart.

Upon questioning, Mr. Pynn provided further information regarding the investment in this project. Watts Wind Energy has invited local investors to take part in the project. They estimate there will be a rate of return of approximately 10%, and investors will receive a maximum 65% tax credit for their investment.

Having completed his presentation, and having answered all questions of the public, Mr. Pynn retired from the meeting at approximately 7:42 p.m.

There were no further comments or questions from the public.

The Public Participation Meeting was then adjourned by the Chair.

The Planning Advisory Committee then returned to its Open Session of its regular meeting.

It was indicated to members that Watts Wind Energy has satisfied all requirements of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Laws for this project.

**Moved** by J. Crook and seconded by C. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality proceed with the required process in order to enter into a Development Agreement with Watts Wind Energy et al for the purpose of developing two wind turbine generators in the Atwood's Brook area on forested land east of Bear Point Pond.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 8:03 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website August 19, 2013.**