

The Municipality of the District of **BARRINGTON**

Minutes of the 121st Annual Meeting of the Barrington Municipal Council was held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Wednesday, May 24, 2000.

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

- Warden Sterling Belliveau
- Deputy Warden Fred Bower
- Councillor Angus Atkinson
- Councillor Eddie Nickerson
- Councillor Wayne Smith
- Councillor Steve Stoddart
- Councillor Tina Wickens

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

The Warden gave notice that he would be declaring conflict of interest when the following agenda items are discussed later in the meeting:

7. Public Presentation Re: Hiring Policy
10. Committee and Board Reports - Hiring Committee

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by A. Atkinson that the minutes of the last meeting held May 10, 2000, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Province-Wide Communication System

Councillor Wickens reported on a meeting held with Don Bower on May 23, 2000 for the purpose of discussing the IWAN Communication System.

At that meeting it was reported that a significant factor regarding this new system is the necessity of a back-up system in case the new system should fail at any time. A Threat Risk Assessment needs to be done on the system to determine what back-up may be required. This assessment should have the input of the volunteer organizations in the Province.

It was, therefore, the recommendation of the meeting that a resolution should be brought forth to Council and taken to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Regional Meeting requesting the Province to provide for input from the municipal units, volunteer groups and volunteer fire departments throughout the Province, into this Threat Risk Assessment, which should be conducted by independent consultants.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by W. Smith and carried.

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WHEREAS the Province of Nova Scotia has entered into a contract with MTT for the provision of province-wide radio communications for the Government of Nova Scotia and this communications systems will have a significant impact on volunteers throughout Nova Scotia that rely on a Provincial Communication System;

AND WHEREAS this new system should be backed up and supported in the case of emergency and will require a Threat Risk Assessment to be completed by independent consultants;

AND WHEREAS due to the significance of the impact of this system on volunteer services throughout the Province, it is advisable for municipal units, volunteer groups, and volunteer fire departments in particular, to have an input into the Threat Risk Assessment to be completed by the independent consultants;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Municipality of the District of Barrington strongly urge the Province of Nova Scotia to provide for input from municipal units, volunteer groups and volunteer fire departments into the Threat Risk Assessment to be completed by independent consultants for the integrated mobile radio system to be used by volunteer agencies throughout Nova Scotia;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all municipal units within Nova Scotia and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities to solicit their support for this resolution.

CORRESPONDENCE

Lot Assessments, On- Site System Designs and Approvals

The Clerk reported that a copy of a letter has been received from the Municipality of Yarmouth which was addressed to the Honourable Michael Baker, Minister of the Environment. The letter expressed the Municipality of Yarmouth's concern and dissatisfaction with the recent changes with respect to lot assessments, on-site system designs and approvals, as well as the \$50.00 application fee. The letter also expressed concern with the certification of qualified persons and the capacity of some of these individuals to assess lots, design or recommend, install and inspect these systems.

Doctor Crisis

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia. The letter advised that the date, time and place of any public hearing regarding Dr. Hunter Blair has not yet been determined. The letter further advised that Dr. Blair and the public will be so informed when any date is set.

Condition of Rural Roads

It was reported that a letter has been received from the Department of Transportation and Public Works in response to our letter of April 18, 2000. The letter advised that the Minister has had an opportunity to visit a number of areas and tour many other roads across the Province and assured us that he has a good understanding of the condition of rural roads.

In closing he advised that he will continue to do his best to find the means to make some of the necessary improvements in the condition of the rural roads throughout the Province.

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INTERVIEW SERGEANT LEIGHTON - ANNUAL REPORT

Sergeant Leighton appeared before the meeting and provided each member of Council with a copy of the "On Parade" magazine, R.C.M.P. Fact Sheet and the Annual Police Report.

Sergeant Leighton encouraged members to read the information at their leisure and briefly discussed certain areas of the report.

The information provided contained a survey and members were encouraged to complete the survey and return.

A discussion then took place regarding the Family Violence Program and the Police Patrol Vessel.

Sergeant Leighton was then thanked for appearing before the meeting and making his presentation.

CONTINUATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

EMO Grant

It was reported that a letter has been received from the Province indicating that the annual grant of \$250.00 for volunteer Municipal Emergency Measures Coordinators has been canceled. It was agreed that the Emergency Measures Coordinator's Honorarium be considered during the budget process.

Backyard Composting and Blue Bag Recycling Program

It was reported that a letter has been received from the Department of Environment thanking Waste Check, participating municipal units and their residents, for having implemented curbside and backyard composting, along with the blue bag recycling program, and its cooperation in helping to ensure the Province becomes the first in the country to achieve fifty (50) percent

diversion as adopted by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment.

Marshall Decision

The Clerk reported that a letter has been received from Tim Surette, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, in response to our letter dated May 3, 2000.

Mr. Surette advised that he will ensure that our letter is brought to the attention of the Minister's office and that it is his understanding that the Minister is very much interested in visiting the Shelburne area at a future date.

INTERVIEW - OWEN WHEELLOCK

Mr. Owen Wheelock appeared before the meeting and provided each member of Council with a copy of a letter dated May 24, 2000.

Mr. Wheelock expressed concern regarding Council meetings being public or private. He indicated that he has attended a number of Council meetings and advised that there are times when spectators are unable to hear the discussions that take place.

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Mr. Wheelock was thanked for appearing before Council, and presenting his concerns, and he was advised that steps will be taken to ensure that Council members speak directly into the microphones.

CONTINUATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

Curling Club Grant

The Clerk reported that a grant has been received from the Sport and Recreation Commission in the amount of \$24,000.00 to assist with the construction of the curling club. The grant is to be paid in two (2) installments of \$12,000.00 each over the next two (2) years.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by S. Stoddart that the Barrington Regional Curling Club be informed of the grant, in the amount of \$24,000.00, approved by the Province to assist with the construction of the curling club.

Motion carried.

Trail Development

The Clerk reported that a letter has been received from the Sport and Recreation Commission which advised that a grant of \$5,000.00 has been approved to assist with the development of the Barrington Trail.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by W. Smith that the Waterfront Development Committee

be informed of the \$5,000.00 grant approved by the Province to assist with the development of the Barrington Trail.

Motion carried.

Transfer Payment for Health Care

A copy of a letter has been received from the Municipality of Annapolis County which was addressed to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Minister of Health requesting the Federal Government to substantially increase the transfer payment for health care. A resolution was also provided by the Municipality of Annapolis County which was read by the Clerk.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by F. Bower that the Municipal Council support the resolution regarding transfer payments for health care as provided by the Municipality of Annapolis County.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION RE: HIRING POLICY

Conflict of Interest

Warden Sterling Belliveau declared conflict of interest, vacated his seat and proceeded to the spectator area. The chair was then assumed by Deputy Warden, Fred Bower.

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Mrs. Jane Swaine and Mrs. Sharon Besozzi appeared before the meeting. They expressed concern over the Warden's daughter, Suzanne Belliveau, recently being chosen for the Special Events Coordinator position and indicated that this has the appearance of being a biased appointment. It was stated by Mrs. Swaine and Mrs. Besozzi that there were other applicants who were very qualified for this position and some even worked in the Recreation Department last year. Reference was made to one applicant who was actually studying kinesiology who was not even granted an interview.

Many questions were asked regarding the interview process and whether consideration had been given to resumes, background, experience, sports knowledge, etc.

The point system used by the Hiring Committee, as well as hiring technique was also questioned by Mrs. Swaine and Mrs. Besozzi.

Mrs. Swaine requested Council to correct the situation and also to prevent it from occurring again.

Mrs. Besozzi requested that the position be re-offered to a qualified applicant who would not be in the position of a conflict of interest.

During the presentation, question was raised by Mrs. Besozzi as to whether the criteria for the Provincial Grant for the position of Special Events Coordinator prohibited Miss Belliveau from being awarded the job since she is the Warden's daughter.

It was the feeling of councillors that there are some problems with the Hiring Policy but that all applicants interviewed for the Recreation Summer Staff positions were treated equally.

Mrs. Swaine and Mrs. Besozzi were then thanked for appearing before Council and making their concerns known.

The Chair was then turned back to the Warden.

INTERVIEW - ROLAND ROTH RE: SALMON FARM

Roland and Edith Roth of Shag Harbour appeared before the meeting. They expressed concern regarding the recently established salmon farm located in the vicinity of Twinkie's Corner in Shag Harbour. Mr. Roth questioned the acidic levels in the area of the salmon farm and expressed concern regarding potential damage to the lobster ground in that area. Mr. & Mrs. Roth also advised Council that it was their understanding that there may possibly be other salmon farms located in the area. They are requesting Council to put forth a letter requesting that no other salmon farms be located in this area and that the government be requested to carry out a study to determine the effects on the lobster grounds as a result of the establishment of the current salmon farm.

Much discussion took place regarding this matter including RADAC meetings and transfer of ownership of the current farm.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by E. Nickerson that a letter be written to the Provincial Department of Fisheries requesting to know the process used during the change of lease ownership, whether any further leases are being considered for that area, the process used to consult the public, and permitted limits of acidity.

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Motion carried.

It was agreed that any response to the letter to the Department of Fisheries be forwarded to Mr. & Mrs. Roth.

REPORT OF WARDEN

Waste Check

The Warden reported that he attended a meeting of Waste Check on May 15, 2000. The amount of surplus to be held by Waste Check was considered and a motion was passed that the yearly budget of Waste Check contain a surplus of approximately \$100,000.00.

The Transportation Equalization Formula was also considered and a motion was passed that the formula for the Municipality of Barrington be increased from 55 kilometers to 85 kilometers.

The ownership of green carts was also discussed at this meeting and it was the decision of the Waste Check Committee that green carts be the property of the municipal unit purchasing them.

South West Shore Development Authority

The Warden reported that he attended a South West Shore Development Authority meeting on May 17, 2000. During that meeting it was agreed that the Authority would work towards having a Fisheries Centre located within the Municipality of Barrington. The Deputy Mayor of Clark's Harbour, Marlene Atkinson and the Mayor of Lockeport, Sarah Huskilson will serve on the Fisheries Centre Committee.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by W. Smith that the Warden and Deputy Warden be appointed to serve on the Fisheries Centre Committee, if permitted to do so.

Motion carried.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that the Chairman and the CEO of the South West Shore Development Authority be invited to attend an upcoming meeting of Council to explain the Fisheries Centre Committee structure and mandate.

Motion carried.

Court Closure

The Warden reported that on May 18, 2000 he and the Clerk, Brian Holland, met with the Honourable Michael Baker to make a presentation from Council relating to the closure of the Barrington Court Facility. The Warden reported that he felt that it was a very good meeting and the Honourable Michael Baker is willing to come to the area to view the facility.

The Warden suggested that we may want to invite Sergeant Leighton to attend this meeting in order that security issues can be addressed.

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Tim Horton's Camp Day

The Warden reported that earlier today he had been served coffee at Tim Horton's in support of the program "Send a Kid to Camp".

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

Hiring Committee

Conflict of Interest

The Warden declared conflict of interest, vacated his seat and proceeded to the spectator area. The Chair was then assumed by the Deputy Warden.

Recreation Staff

WHEREAS members wish to hire a Special Events Coordinator and a Program Coordinator for the Recreation Department for the coming summer season;

THEREFORE it was moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by W. Smith that Katherine Marden be hired as Program Coordinator.

Motion carried.

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by E. Nickerson that Suzanne Belliveau be hired as Special Events Coordinator.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that the above motion be tabled until grant criteria is determined.

Motion carried.

The Warden then returned to the Chair.

Finance Committee

Samuel Wood Historical Society Request

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that By-law #29, By-law Respecting Tax Exemption of Historical Societies, be amended to add the assessment account and property of Samuel Wood Historical Society in Wood's Harbour to the list of properties exempt from taxation.

Motion carried.

In advance to the meeting each member of Council was provided with a revised copy of By-law #29. Proposed changes included the addition of the Samuel Wood Historical Society and changes providing further clarification of the by-law.

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Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by S. Stoddart that first reading, by title only, be given to By-law #29, By-law Respecting Tax Exemption of Historical Societies.

Motion carried.

Provincial Employment Program

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that the Municipality apply to HRDC for a grant for the Visitor Information Centre Supervisor.

Motion carried.

Physician Recruitment

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that the Municipality respond to the Town's letter by addressing the misunderstanding that the Town was not expected to fund the incentive program provided by the Municipality and request that a meeting of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Warden and Deputy Warden, along with the Town Clerk and the Municipal Clerk, be arranged to discuss the Municipal unit's approach to physician recruitment.

Motion carried.

Painting of Seal Island Lighthouse Museum

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that the Municipality include an extra \$1,000.00 in its budget as part of a grant to the Cape Sable Historical Society to be earmarked for painting of the building because the Lighthouse Conference will be held in early June.

Motion carried.

Grand Opening of West Pubnico Golf & Country Club

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that a letter of congratulations be sent to the West Pubnico Golf & Country Club.

Motion carried.

Signage at Goose Lake Road

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that the Municipality install a sign near the Goose Lake end of its road indicating "Caution Children Playing".

Motion carried.

Upon the request of two (2) councillors the division was recorded.

FOR AGAINST

A. Atkinson	S. Belliveau
E. Nickerson	F. Bower
W. Smith	S. Stoddart
T. Wickens	

Building Inspector Interviews

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by F. Bower that all seven (7) applicants be written and informed that no application has been received that adequately meets the desired qualifications as advertised for the position of Building Inspector, and that the position be re-advertised through the Nova Scotia Building Officers Association.

Motion defeated.

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by W. Smith that interviews be arranged in accordance with the short listing criteria provided to the Clerk on May 19, 2000.

Motion carried.

Interviews will be held on June 5, 2000 as previously agreed.

Municipal Property Evaluation

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that the Clerk contact a local Real Estate Agent to get an estimate of the market value of a municipal property and that the Municipal Solicitor be consulted regarding the placement of a Restrictive Covenant on this property before its sale.

Motion carried.

Hiring Committee

Recreation Staff

Conflict of Interest

The Warden once again declared conflict of interest, vacated his seat and proceeded to the spectator area.

The Chair was assumed by the Deputy Warden.

The Recreation and Facilities Manager appeared before the meeting to provide information on the grant criteria. It was reported that in order to be eligible for employment under Provincial Grant Programs, the applicant must not be an immediate family member of the employer.

It was also reported that the grant was received by the Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties Recreation Association and not the Municipality of Barrington. A brief discussion then took place regarding this matter.

The motion tabled earlier was then brought forward which is as follows:

"Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by E. Nickerson that Suzanne Belliveau be hired as Special Events Coordinator."

Motion defeated.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by E. Nickerson that a letter of apology be forwarded to Suzanne Belliveau explaining that she is not eligible for the position under the Provincial Grant Criteria.

Motion carried.

The Warden then resumed the Chair.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by F. Bower that in the future any grant criteria be brought to the attention of the Hiring Committee and that every applicant be screened to determine if they are eligible under the grant criteria.

Motion carried.

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by W. Smith that Becky Nickerson be designated alternate for the positions of Program Coordinator and Special Events Coordinator.

Motion carried.

NATURAL GAS

It was reported that since the distribution of natural gas has been awarded to Sempra Gas that we once again attempt to have natural gas made available to residents of the Municipality of Barrington.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by W. Smith that a letter be written to the South West Shore Development Authority asking them to contact Sempra Gas in an attempt to have natural gas made available to residents of the Municipality of Barrington.

Motion carried.

CAUSEWAY TURN

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that a letter be written to Mr. Greg Newell of the Department of Transportation and Communications requesting him to investigate the Causeway turn located in Barrington Passage and address concerns of traffic congestion in that area.

Motion carried.

SUMMARY OF BUILDING AND SUBDIVISION PERMITS

A copy of Summaries of Building and Subdivision Permits issued for 1999/2000 was circulated to all members of Council.

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In 1999/2000 two hundred fourteen (214) building permits were issued. This compares to two hundred forty-three (243) permits for the previous year. The value of permits for the year 1999/2000 was \$9,989,830.00 as compared to \$6,244,150.00 for the previous year. These totals include the permits issued for the P3 School in Barrington in the amount of \$3.5 million dollars. These figures also include a permit issued for the new store at Barrington Passage in the amount of \$1,400,000.00. Subdivision permits for the year totaled thirty-five (35).

Moved by S. Stoddart and seconded by T. Wickens that a letter be written to the Department of Housing and Municipal Affairs indicating that the Municipality should be permitted to tax P3 schools and that this decision of Council be forwarded to the UNSM for their attention. If P3 schools are to continue to be assessed as non-taxable property then this assessment should not be part of the uniform assessment.

Motion carried.

SUMMARY OF 1999/2000 WASTE COLLECTION CONTRACT

In advance to the meeting, each member of Council was provided with information on waste collection for the previous year. Fourteen hundred (1,400) metric tons of waste was collected, ninety-eight thousand (98,000) blue bags were collected and twenty-six thousand six hundred seventy (26,670) kilograms of organics were collected after one month of organic collection.

The average amount of waste collected per day is five thousand six hundred three (5,603) kilograms.

SHAG HARBOUR/BEAR POINT FIRE DEPARTMENT - \$40,000.00

It was reported by the Clerk that a borrowing resolution in the amount of \$40,000.00 is necessary to provide for the area rate granted to the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Fire Department for the purchase of a vehicle.

Moved by T. Wickens and seconded by F. Bower and carried:

WHEREAS the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department is registered with the Municipality of the District of Barrington;

AND WHEREAS the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department has determined to borrow the aggregate principal amount of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing a fire truck;

AND WHEREAS the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department has requested the

municipality to guarantee the said borrowing;

AND WHEREAS Section 88(3) of the Municipal Government Act, provides that no guarantee of a borrowing by a municipality shall have effect unless the Minister has approved of the proposed borrowing or debenture and of the proposed guarantee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

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THAT the Municipality of the District of Barrington does hereby approve the borrowing by the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for a period of Seven (7) years from the date of approval of the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs of this resolution for the purpose set out above;

THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs of the guarantee, the Municipality unconditionally guarantee repayment of the principal and interest, at a rate agreed to by the lender, of the borrowing so made;

THAT upon the issue of debentures, the Warden and Clerk of the Municipality do sign the guarantee attached to each of the debentures and affix thereto the corporate seal of the Municipality.

LINE OF CREDIT - BAY SIDE HOME

It was agreed that this matter be tabled until the next meeting of Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn at 10:43 p.m.