

The Municipality of the District of
BARRINGTON

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Wednesday, March 14, 2001.

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

- Warden Sterling Belliveau
 - Deputy Warden Eddie Nickerson (7:03 p.m.)
 - Councillor Angus Atkinson
 - Councillor Fred Bower
 - Councillor Louise Halliday
 - Councillor Dwayne Hunt
 - Councillor Wayne Smith
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by F. Bower that the minutes of the last meeting held February 28, 2001 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

FISH FARMING - SALMON

The Deputy Clerk reported that two letters have been received from Brian G. Crowell of Wood's Harbour. One letter was addressed to the Warden and the other was addressed to the Municipal Clerk. In these letters Mr. Crowell expressed his concern regarding Fin Fish Farming, and in particular, sites located in Shag Harbour and Wood's Harbour. Mr. Crowell was concerned about the effect the chemicals, feces

from the salmon, and uneaten food, will have on the lobster fishery in the area. He suggested that the salmon are polluting the harbours and is requesting Council to address the matter.

Mr. Jeff Nickerson, of Wood's Harbour Farms Limited, then appeared before the meeting. He provided a brief background on the company. He advised that they do not use chemicals in their operation and that the condition of the water environment is just as important to his company as it is to anyone, as it allows them to grow healthy fish in an efficient manner. He informed Council that they treat the environment with the utmost respect, as a clean environment is necessary in order to ensure the growth of their company.

In advance to the meeting, Mr. Nickerson provided each council member with a copy of the operational guidelines. He advised that they use a video feeding system to ensure that all the feed given to the fish is being eaten. They carry out monthly weight samples to ensure feed conversions are what they should be. Environmental monitoring is carried out semi-annually.

Mr. Nickerson informed councillors to feel free to distribute the information packages and extended an invitation to anyone wishing to come and view the operation.

In closing, Mr. Nickerson suggested that a committee be set up to oversee the environmental monitoring process. He felt that an ideal committee would include a representative from his company, local fishermen, local lobster companies, councillors, a representative of the Acadia Bird Observatory at Outer Island, and members of the community at large.

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Mr. Nickerson stated that this would enable people with concerns to be directly involved and obtain first hand knowledge of what is happening in and around their sites. Mr. Nickerson advised that he would be placing an advertisement in The Coast Guard Newspaper encouraging individuals to serve on this committee.

After a question and answer period was held, Mr. Nickerson was thanked for appearing before Council and making his presentation.

INTERVIEW JOHN NICKERSON RE: BARRINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FINANCES

Mr. John Nickerson of the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department appeared before the meeting. Mr. Nickerson advised that he would like to clarify an item contained in the financial statements for the fire department year ending December 31, 2000. Under assets there is an item entitled "Aliant Stock". It should be noted that this amount is in trust.

Mr. Nickerson was thanked for appearing before Council and providing clarification on this matter.

POLL OF ELECTORS

A Poll of Electors was held on March 13, 2001 by the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department. The Poll of Electors was held to deal with a proposal of the Fire Department to impose an area rate amounting to \$196,070.00 for the purpose of purchasing a new fire truck. This would result in an area rate of 8.6 cents per \$100 of assessment.

The Deputy Clerk reported that all requirements contained in Policy No. 18 had been met, and a Declaration of Compliance had been signed by John Nickerson, Fire Chief.

The results of the poll were 29 in favour, 28 opposed and 2 spoiled ballots. Some concern was expressed regarding the small margin between the votes in favor and the votes opposed.

Moved by D. Hunt and seconded by W. Smith that the result of the Poll of Electors in the Fire District for the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department be accepted by Council

and that commencing in 2001 and for a ten (10) year period there be a further 8.6 cent area rate for fire levied on all assessed properties in Municipal District 7E which shall be in addition to the existing area rate bringing the total to approximately 11.5 cents per \$100 of assessment.

The Warden then turned the Chair over to the Deputy Warden in order that he could speak on the motion.

The Warden informed councillors that the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department had approached us with this proposal. They followed the process in place and have received the majority of votes in favor of their proposal. The Warden stated that he feels that by defeating the above motion it would affect the morale in the fire department.

The Chair was then turned back to the Warden.

Concern was expressed as to whether a majority vote is a majority of the total number of ballots cast, including spoiled ballots, or is the majority, the majority of the valid ballots.

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Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by W. Smith that the above motion be tabled until the next meeting of Council, to be held on March 28, 2001, in order that clarification may be obtained from the Municipal Solicitor as to whether the majority is a majority of valid votes or a majority of votes cast, including the two spoiled ballots.

Motion carried.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Family Violence Program

The Deputy Clerk reported that a letter has been received from MLA Cecil O'Donnell. The letter is addressed to the Honourable Peter Christie, Minister of Community Services, which advises that he has gone on record as being in favor of the continuation of the Family Violence Program and looks forward to receiving a positive response that government funding will be provided for the year 2001.

Fisheries Loan Board Policy

It was reported that a letter has been received from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. The letter advised that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans is currently conducting an Atlantic Fisheries Policy Review. It appears that a change regarding licence policy for loans will not occur separately from this process.

The letter advised that in addition to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries efforts, it is very important for industry to advise the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, directly, of the need of policies to facilitate the use of licences and quotas for loan security.

The Public Consultation Process is currently underway, which will provide an opportunity to express views on the issue of using licences and quotas for loan security. The Public Consultation Session will be held in Yarmouth on Thursday, March 15, 2001.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that Warden Sterling Belliveau be authorized to attend the Atlantic Fisheries Policy Review Public Consultation Meeting scheduled for March 15, 2001 and state council's position.

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Emergency Measures Act

It was reported that a letter has been received from Nova Scotia Emergency Measures Organization which advised that the Municipality's rating of emergency preparedness

is assessed at fair. The EMO Zone Controller will be in contact with Municipal Staff in the near future to discuss this rating.

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Doctor Crisis

It was reported that a copy of a letter has been received from Dr. W. Hunter Blair which was addressed to Dr. Jamie Muir, Minister of Health. This letter expressed Dr. Blair's displeasure with the Department of Health addressing the doctor crisis in the area.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that a letter be written to the College of Physicians and Surgeons expressing Council's concern regarding the doctor crisis in the area and bringing the letter from Dr. Blair, and its contents, to their attention. A copy of this letter is to be forwarded to the Minister of Health and the MLA.

Motion carried.

Offshore Oil and Gas Resources - Campaign for Fairness

It was reported that information has been received from the Premier's office regarding the Campaign for Fairness.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by A. Atkinson that this matter be referred to the Finance Committee for discussion.

Motion carried.

Native Fisheries

In advance to the meeting each member of Council was provided with a memo received from Ken Moses, Municipality of Yarmouth, regarding the Shubenacadie Indian Band court case, and municipal intervention. The memo advised that on February 14, 2001 a meeting was held in Halifax with Jim Thurber, AFIA representatives and lawyers. AFIA lawyers indicated at that time that they felt it would be much more effective for municipal units to obtain separate intervener status as they felt this would carry more weight and have a greater impact on the case. They would be willing to pursue this on behalf of municipal units with the understanding that the AFIA was their primary client.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that the Municipality of Barrington support the strategy outlined in the memo from Ken Moses, dated February 26, 2001.

Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS

National Kids Day

The Warden reported that information has been received requesting the Municipality celebrate the 4th Annual National Kids Day in support of the Kids Help Phone, on Saturday, June 9, 2001, by issuing a Proclamation.

There being no objections to the Proclamation, the Warden declared June 9, 2001 as National Kids Day.

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2001 Volunteer Week Proclamation

The Warden reported that the Municipality is being requested to declare the week April 22 - 28, 2001 as Volunteer Week.

There being no objections received, the Warden declared the week of April 22 - 28, 2001 as Volunteer Week.

MUNICIPAL/PROVINCIAL EXCHANGE

The proposed Municipal/Provincial Service Exchange was briefly discussed.

Moved by D. Hunt and seconded by W. Smith that the proposed Municipal/Provincial Service Exchange be deferred to the March 21, 2001 Finance Meeting.

Motion carried.

It was reported that an invitation has been received from the Mayor of Halifax to attend a meeting on Friday, March 16, 2001 to review the new Equalization Plan announced by the Province of Nova Scotia.

Moved by A. Atkinson and seconded by L. Halliday that Warden Sterling Belliveau and Councillor Fred Bower be authorized to attend the meeting, on March 16, 2001, on behalf of the Municipal Council.

Motion carried.

REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden provided a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

International Year of Volunteers

Councillor Halliday informed members that Elizabeth Rhuland, Coordinator, Shelburne County Volunteer Services and Programming is requesting municipal units

in Shelburne County to participate in some way to raise the profile of volunteering beyond what is normally done. The committee has identified a possible way in which the municipal units could participate. They are suggesting that each municipal unit plant a commemorative volunteer tree.

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by W. Smith that the request received from the Shelburne County Volunteer Services and Programming be referred to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

Motion carried.

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Bay Side Home Corporation

Councillor Halliday informed members that it is now being suggested that Bay Side Home will reopen on June 28, 2001.

Waterfront Development Committee

Councillor Smith provided a brief report on the Waterfront Development Committee Meeting held on March 5, 2001. At that time the Phase II tender was dealt with. Only one tender was received

It was the decision of the Committee to accept the tender received from Hurlburt Construction Ltd., in the amount of \$18,971.00, to level, grade and gravel the CNR Railway bed with 4" Class "A" gravel, 10 feet wide by 8500 feet long, and stone barrier at the western end of the job.

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Halliday that the tender received from Hurlburt Construction Ltd., in the amount of \$18,971.00, be accepted for Phase II of the Barrington Walking Trail.

Motion carried.

Waste Check

Councillor Bower advised that there was a Waste Check Meeting held earlier today. At that meeting it was announced that \$2,000.00 has been placed in the budget to provide for a Derelict Vehicle Program. The budget also provides for a 20% diversion credit for the Municipality of Barrington and the Town of Clark's Harbour.

Deputy Warden Eddie Nickerson also reported on the Waste Check Meeting held earlier today. He advised that he has been in conversation with Mr. Mark Dedrick, Annapolis County Environmental Protection Association, regarding waste collection and disposal. Deputy Warden Nickerson suggested that we invite Mr. Dedrick to attend a future meeting in order that we may discuss the collection and disposal of waste.

Recreation

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Halliday that Mrs. Christina Crowell be approved as Volunteer of the Year for the Municipality of Barrington for the year 2001.

Motion carried.

Sea Star Ice Dogs Request

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Halliday that the Municipality place a full page ad, at a cost of \$100.00, in the Sea Star Ice Dog's brochure for the Junior "C" Hockey Provincials to be held the end of March.

Motion carried.

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Shelburne County Arena Request

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Halliday that the Municipality's Recreation and Facilities Manager, Mr. Ray Green, represent the Municipality on the

Board of the Shelburne County Arena Association.

Motion carried.

Fundraising Committee Request

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Hunt that the Municipality donate an amount equivalent to one hour ice time to the Arena Fundraising Committee to assist with their Casino Night.

Motion carried.

Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy

It was reported that notice was given at the last meeting of Council that it is being proposed that the "Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy", Policy #41, be amended to delete the reference that the exemption only apply to the portion of the property for which the applicant is assessed.

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by D. Hunt that Policy #41, "Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy" be amended to delete Subsection B: "apply the exemption only to the portion of the property for which the applicant is assessed".

Motion carried.

CAMP JORDAN REQUEST

Councillor Smith requested that this matter be referred to the next meeting of Council.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

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