

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

March 7, 2005

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

- Sterling Belliveau
 - Fred Bower
 - Louise Halliday
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Eddie Nickerson
 - Larry Stewart
 - Sean Strang
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Recreation Director's Report
- UNSM Workshop
- Accounts Payable Queries
- Advertising

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by F. Bower that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that the minutes of the last previous meeting held February 21, 2005 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INTERVIEW

Mr. Greg Newell, Supervising Engineer from the Department of Transportation Office, in Yarmouth, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing municipal sewer connections.

During the past year the Department of Transportation has issued Breaking Soil of Highways Permits to individual property owners wishing to connect to the Municipal sewer. This procedure is contrary to the Department of Transportation's procedures that are in place throughout the province. The Department of Transportation requires the Municipality to apply for these permits and to be responsible for maintaining the sewer connections within the highway right of way. The Municipality must therefore apply for the permits in future and be responsible for the sewer connections within the highway right of way. This has implications for the Municipality when applications are made to make sewer connections on side roads that are also public roads. The Department of Transportation during the past year provided permits for a sewer to be constructed up Butler's Road and for a private sewer connection to be constructed up Petticoat Lane. In future, these connections will not be approved by the Department of Transportation unless the Municipality makes application for the permit and accepts the responsibility for the maintenance of these connections.

While Mr. Newell was in attendance, Council took the time to discuss several other matters regarding the Department of Transportation and local roads.

Mr. Newell indicated that at the present time there are no plans to pave the section of highway on Route 3 through Barrington Passage to the Cape Sable Island Causeway. Mr. Newell also indicated that the RIM Program includes some pavement patching on the Villagedale Road, some pavement patching on the Centreville/South Side Road, and some pavement patching on the Orion Wharf Road. Mr. Newell informed members that in order for a road to become a "J" Class Road so that it could qualify for funding under the Departments cost-sharing program it would be necessary for the Municipality to write the Department of Transportation requesting that this change be made by the Department.

Resolution COW050301

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by Councillor Strang that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff determine the requirements necessary to have the West Bear Point Road classified as a "J" Class Road by the Department of Transportation.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed his discussion with the committee, Mr. Newell then retired from the meeting.

INTERVIEW RE: PROPRIETOR'S LAND

Mr. Bill Powley appeared before the Committee for the purpose of discussing proprietor's land. Mr. Powley provided a written presentation to the Committee. He indicated that he is in opposition to the Department of Natural Resources taking over proprietor's land, and also indicated that the Municipality had a committee for the administration of the proprietor's lands during the mid 1970's. Mr. Powley suggested to the Committee that the Municipality should maintain control of these lands, if possible.

Resolution COW050302

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by D. Messenger that the presentation presented by Mr. Bill Powley to the Committee this evening be forwarded to Council and read into the minutes of Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

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SERVICE NOVA SCOTIA MAPPING PROJECT

Service Nova Scotia is presently undergoing a mapping project in South Western Nova Scotia. The Department is flying over the area and photographing for maps at a scale of 1:2000. These maps will be produced in digital format so that they can be put on a computer and the municipalities who purchase them will be able to reproduce them in much more detail than ever before. Municipal Planners and mappers will also be able to add construction of future buildings to these maps by plotting them with a GPS.

Resolution COW050303

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality include \$15,000 in its 2005/2006 fiscal budget for the purchase of maps through Service Nova Scotia.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Fred Bower

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

INTERVIEW RE: CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP - JASON HOLLETT

Jason Hollett appeared before the Committee for the purpose of inviting them to a Climate Change Workshop being hosted by the South West Energy Office, in Yarmouth, on April 15, 2005. Experts in the area of climate change effects on the environment will be in attendance to discuss various matters with councillors and with the public.

Resolution COW050304

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the expenses of councillors attending the Climate Change Workshop, in Yarmouth, on April 15, 2005.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed his presentation Mr. Hollett then retired from the meeting.

FOREST RIDGE ACADEMY REQUEST

Our Recreation Director, Mr. Ray Green, joined the Committee meeting at this time.

The students from the grade six classes at Forest Ridge Academy had previously appeared at

Council to make requests regarding recreation facilities. These requests have been referred to this committee for further discussion and evaluation.

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Resolution COW050305

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff evaluate the requests made by the Forest Ridge Academy students and present a recommendation to the Committee of the Whole regarding these requests, including the estimated costs.

Motion carried unanimously.

LOBSTER FESTIVAL OPENING

It was noted by members that the Lobster Festival Opening will be held in the Municipality on June 2, 2005. The Warden indicated that he would be able to attend the opening since he will not be leaving for the FCM Conference in St. John's Newfoundland until the next morning. The Warden did indicate however that it would be necessary for him to stay overnight in a hotel in Halifax since the flight to Newfoundland would be leaving at 7:00 a.m.

Resolution COW050306

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the expenses of the Warden to stay overnight at a hotel in Halifax prior to leaving for the FCM Conference on June 3, 2005.

Motion carried unanimously.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Nomination forms have been received and circulated to all members for this year's Volunteer of the Year. At this time members read through the applications, reviewed them, and then voted for the Volunteer of the Year, with the following results:

- Krista Shand	14
- Cathy Stoddard	7
- Mark & Stepanie Smith	5

Other applicants received less votes than this amount. As a result of the voting of members, Krista Shand was the volunteer who received the most votes.

Resolution COW050307

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that Krista Shand be chosen as Volunteer of the Year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed the matters for which he had been requested to appear, Ray Green retired from the meeting at this time.

EXTRICATION LEARNING SYMPOSIUM

The estimated cost of the Extrication Learning Symposium is in the vicinity of \$8,000.00. The volunteer fire departments are requesting a grant from the Municipality to help in defraying these costs.

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Resolution COW050308

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that a grant in the amount of \$5,000 be provided to the volunteer fire departments to defray the costs of hosting the Extrication Learning Symposium from June 10 -12, 2005, and that these grants be taken from the Community Grants Funds in the amounts of \$1,000 from each of districts 1, 2, 3, 6 & 7.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW050309

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the remaining balance in the District 1 Community Grants Fund be placed in reserve to defray the cost of completing the landscaping at the UFO Site.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Fred Bower

Motion carried.

BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL EXHIBITION REQUEST

The Barrington Federation of Agriculture is requesting financial assistance in defraying the cost of making electrical improvements at the Barrington Municipal Exhibition site. It is necessary for these improvements to be done in order to meet the electrical code requirements and to ensure that the electrical system is safe for operation.

Resolution COW050310

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the request of the Barrington Municipal Exhibition be deferred for consideration to the budget process, and correspondence be forwarded to the Federation of Agriculture informing them of this decision.

Motion carried unanimously.

SHELBURNE COUNTY GROUND SEARCH & RESCUE REQUEST

The Shelburne County Ground Search & Rescue organization is requesting funding for the 2005/2006 fiscal year. The amount of funding being requested is approximately \$8,400, which is based on a per capita distribution of their costs across all of Shelburne County.

Resolution COW050311

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded S. Strang that the members of the Shelburne County Ground Search & Rescue Team be requested to meet with the Committee at the next available Committee of the Whole meeting in order to discuss their request, and in order to discuss the use of the building in which the group is now situated.

Motion carried unanimously.

SHELBURNE COUNTY MINOR HOCKEY REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from the Shelburne County Minor Hockey Association requesting support for one of its teams to attend provincial play downs.

Resolution COW050312

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that the request of Shelburne County Minor Hockey for financial support of one their teams to attend provincial championship tournaments be denied, and that a letter of explanation providing the reasons for this denial be provided to them.

AFFIRMATIVE

Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Fred Bower

Motion carried.

REQUEST FROM WAYNE LEBLANC

Wayne LeBlanc represents a group of fishermen who rent the ice at the Barrington Municipal Arena on Sunday evenings. During this season this group has missed two Sunday evenings without providing the 48 hours notice to the Arena indicating that they would not be playing hockey during previously arranged times. As a result the group owes for these two (2) times that they did not use because they did not provide adequate notice of cancellation.

Mr. LeBlanc is requesting, on behalf of the group, that they not be required to pay for this ice time even though they did not provide adequate notice of cancellation.

Resolution COW050313

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that Wayne LeBlanc be informed that under the Cancellation Policy of the Arena his group is required to pay for the ice times that were not used since they did not provide adequate notice of cancellation.

Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FROM NEWELLTON COMMUNITY HALL

Correspondence has been received from the Newellton Community Hall requesting assistance to defray the cost of painting and other repairs to the hall. It is estimated that the cost of these repairs will be in the vicinity of \$1,500.00.

Resolution COW050314

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality provide a Community Grant in the amount of \$1,100.00, from the District 6 Community Grants Fund, for the Newellton Community Hall for the purpose of defraying the cost of painting and other repairs to the hall.

Motion carried unanimously.

MRI CAMPAIGN

This matter was referred to Committee by Council.

The Yarmouth Hospital Foundation is currently beginning its campaign to raise funds for an MRI for the hospital. The Foundation wishes to raise \$150,000 from the municipalities in the District. The amount to be raised from each municipality is based on the number of hospital admissions over the past three years. Based on this the Municipality of Barrington's financial contribution is \$20,550.00. The Hospital Foundation has indicated that it would be possible for this contribution to be spread out over a two year period.

Resolution COW050315

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality include a contribution to the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation MRI Campaign in the amount of \$20,550.00 over the next two (2) fiscal years.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Louise Halliday
Donna Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Fred Bower

Motion carried.

LAPTOP COMPUTERS

Members discussed the use of laptop computers and the resulting anticipated benefits in providing more timely information to councillors with a reduction in the amount of paper required to be used both in the Municipal Office and provided to councillors.

Resolution COW050316

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality purchase seven (7) computers from Radio Shack as their price for adequate computers for use of councillors is the lowest available price currently advertised locally.

AFFIRMATIVE

Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Sean Strang

Motion carried.

PHOTOCOPIER

Members were informed that the Municipal Office now needs to purchase a new photocopier to replace the analog machine that is currently in use. The copier that is now being used at the Barrington Municipal Arena is no longer functioning. The company that ordinarily repairs it has indicated they will no longer repair it as parts are no longer available. \$7,000.00 has been included in the Municipal Budget for the current year for the purpose of purchasing a copier. Quotes were obtained from two (2) different companies; Cassa Business Equipment and Office Interiors. The Office Interiors total price is \$8,750.00, plus H.S.T. This is considerably cheaper than Cassa Business Equipment. These are the two companies we have dealt with in the past in regards to the purchase of copiers. Office Interiors is the current provider of the copier in the office and has provided excellent service over the past five years for this equipment.

Resolution COW050317

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality purchase a new digital copier for the Municipal Office from Office Interiors Ltd. at a cost of \$8,750.00, plus H.S.T.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMPUTER SERVICE AND ACCESSORIES

At the present time Blair's Computer Service provides the computer service and accessories to the Municipality. This service has been provided on a timely basis and Municipal Staff is satisfied with the service provided by Blair Mitchell.

Resolution COW050318

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that the purchase of computers and of computer accessories and setup service and training for the use of computers be funded through transfers from reserves as required.

AFFIRMATIVE

Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Sean Strang

Motion carried.

Resolution COW050319

Moved by E. Nickerson and L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that Blair's Computer Service provide the necessary equipment, training and service required to hook up internet connections for councillors and the Municipal Office so that all councillors be connected by computer to the Municipal Office.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart

NEGATIVE

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

PROPERTY SERVICE SUPERVISOR

Members were informed that no applications have been received as a result of the internal posting of the vacancy for the Property Services Supervisor position. Since no internal applications have been received, this position will now be advertised externally.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

A Schedule of Fees for the previous two weeks was circulated to members for their information and perusal.

UNSM WORKSHOP

Members were informed that a UNSM Workshop is being held on April 4th and 5th at the Westin Hotel in Halifax. This workshop will cover Council/Staff relations and it is recommended that councillors attend.

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Resolution COW050320

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay expenses of councillors to attend the UNSM Workshop being conducted at the Westin Hotel in Halifax on the 4th and 5th of April, on the subject of Council/Staff relations.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

There were several questions regarding the Accounts Payable Summary that had been circulated to members. These were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk.

ADJOURNMENT

Having reached the hour of 11:00 p.m., the meeting was adjourned by mutual consent.

Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

Copied for Councillors on March 8, 2005 by Sharon Brannen.