

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

February 20, 2006

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 THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Swearing In Ceremony.
- Awards Ceremony.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Halliday that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that the minutes of the last previous meeting held February 6, 2006 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION RE: SALE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

Mr. Frank Anderson appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing with members the sale of a portion of municipal property.

Having completed their discussion of the matter, members agreed to give direction to the Municipal Clerk to determine how a certain portion of municipal property can be sold to the South West Shore Development Authority.

Having completed his discussion of this matter, Mr. Anderson retired from the meeting.

CED CENTRE/LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

Mark MacIsaac appeared before the meeting and provided a written update on the CED Centre/Library Project. Mr. MacIsaac will further evaluate the color of the baseboard and will proceed as he deems necessary. He has estimated the completion date of the project will now be June 15, 2006. This will allow time for the site work to be completed and paving to be completed.

It was the general consensus of members that window treatments for the various offices in the facility would be the responsibility of the tenants. This means that the window treatments in the Library will be the responsibility of the Municipality as the Municipality is the tenant in this portion of the building.

Having completed his discussion of this project, Mr. MacIsaac retired from the meeting.

SPRING 2006 DEBENTURE FUNDING

Correspondence has been received from the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation requesting municipalities to make a written commitment to their office by March 27, 2006 if they wish to participate in the Spring 2006 Debenture Funding.

The CED Centre/Library Project will be completed this spring. This project will be close enough to completion in the spring in order for the Municipality to participate in the Spring 2006 Debenture Funding. It is determined that the costs, less the contributions from the Municipality and from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency towards this project, will result in a need for debenture funding of \$600,000.00.

It is recommended to the committee that the Municipality participate in the Spring 2006 Debenture Funding by obtaining funding for the CED Centre/Library Project in the amount of \$600,000.00 over a period of fifteen (15) years.

Resolution COW060208

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality approve the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance Subject to Interest Rate, and participate in the Spring 2006 Debenture Funding through the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation in the amount of \$600,000.00 over a term of fifteen (15) years.

Motion carried unanimously.

THREE YEAR SALARY AND WAGE REVIEW

Conflict of Interest

Warden Belliveau declared conflict of interest in this matter as his spouse is an employee of the Municipality whose wage will be affected by these changes.

Deputy Warden Bower assumed the chair for the discussion of this matter.

Information had previously been circulated to members for the three year salary and wage review as required by Municipal Policy.

The recommendations in this wage review include:

1. All wages should be increased by the Consumer Price Index in April to keep them in the range with other municipalities and private business in the area, including the stipends paid to municipal councillors.
2. The wage scale of the Municipal Office Secretary will be increased to the same level as the Tax Clerk.
3. A new wage scale will be set for a Recreation Director to be hired during the year to replace our current Recreation Director who will be retiring.
4. The minimum wage scale for the Municipality will be raised to \$7.15 per hour, consistent with the raise in the minimum wage, effective April 1, 2006, and the Arena Canteen Attendants wage scale will be raised to the range of \$7.15 per hour to \$10.15 per hour in five (5) equal increments.
5. To be consistent, all increments will be over a five (5) year period. The increments of the Property Services Labourer and the Assistant Sewage Treatment Plant Operators will be changed from a seven (7) year period to a five (5) year period to be consistent with other wage scales.

Resolution COW060209

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that the proposed changes as a result of the three year wage review be recommended to Council for approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, Warden Belliveau returned to chair the meeting.

Resolution COW060210

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that the Deputy Clerk be required to provide further information on the remuneration of CAOs and Municipal Clerks in the region to the committee so that they may consider the level of remuneration of the Clerk-Treasurer.

Motion carried unanimously.

GOVERNANCE STUDY

A copy of the Governance Study for Team Shelburne was previously circulated to members for their information and review.

There then followed much discussion regarding this study. It was the general consensus of members that the following considerations should be included in this study:

- Municipal units in the County should be represented on a proportional basis in the governance of any economic development body for the County, and the proportion in which members vote should be on a per capita basis.

- Member agreed by consensus that they would generally prefer to see a new body put in place rather than trying to adapt a previously existing organization.
- It was suggested that alternates for directors on the new body would be appointed by the various municipal councils in the County rather than by the directors themselves.
- There was some concern expressed regarding the liability of the municipal units in connection to this economic development body.

It was agreed by members that the Clerk would provide a summary of the concerns of Council regarding the Governance Study for Team Shelburne, and determine any other information that may be pertinent to its consideration.

S.W.S.D.A. STRATEGIC PLAN

A copy of the Strategic Plan for the South West Shore Development Authority was previously circulated to members for their information and review. This Strategic Plan will be put in place by the S.W.S.D.A. for the years 2006 - 2011.

Resolution COW060211

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that the Clerk provide an evaluation of the Strategic Plan and summarize the concerns presented in this plan for the review and consideration of members at the next committee meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD B.M.H.S. PROPERTY

This matter was referred to the committee by Council. Correspondence received from the Tri-County Regional School Board indicated that the School Board will transfer the former Barrington Municipal High School property to the Municipality, effective May 1, 2006; however, the use of the soccer field would be retained until the soccer field at the new Barrington Municipal High School is up to standard, and the property located between Dan's Ice Cream boundary line and the power line that runs between the old Shelburne County's Board Office and Junior High School for the Boards Operations Department would be retained by the School Board. The School Board also requested permission from the Municipality to demolish the former Shelburne County Board Office.

After much discussion it was the consensus of members that the School Board be requested to identify more precisely the property they wish to retain around the former Shelburne County Board Office, and the time when they will be returning the soccer field to the Municipality.

Municipal Staff will communicate with the School Board to obtain this information and provide it to the committee.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

The proposed by-law for regulating commercial activity on municipal property was further discussed by members. This matter had been referred to the committee by Council.

It was agreed by consensus of members that paragraph 4(2) will be redrafted in part in order to accommodate concerns of the committee regarding the sale of “other merchandise”.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

A memo from the Recreation Director was circulated to members regarding the fireworks displays put on by the Town of Clark’s Harbour and the Municipality of Barrington during the previous year.

It was the general opinion of the Recreation Directors of both the Town and the Municipality that both events should still take place, and that each municipal unit should endeavor to improve on their own event.

It was the consensus of members that this approach would be satisfactory.

FCM CONFERENCE

This year the FCM Conference will take place from June 2nd to 5th, in Montreal.

Warden Belliveau, Deputy Warden Bower and Councillor Messenger have indicated they will be attending the conference. The remaining councillors have indicated they will not be attending.

PERSONAL POLICY AMENDMENT

Members were informed that a memo has been received from the Municipal Office Secretary, Sharon Brannen, requesting that Article 4.05 of the Personnel Policy be amended to include parents who are not living in the same household as the employee. The purpose of this amendment would be to allow municipal employees to provide, where no persons other than the employee can provide, for the needs during illness of a parent who is not living in the same household, and shall qualify to use a maximum of five (5) days accumulated sick leave per annum for this purpose. It is often the case that employee’s parents have no other individual to provide for them even though they do not live in the same household as the employee.

Resolution COW060212

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by D. Messenger that notice of amendment to the Personnel Policy be given to Council indicating the proposed amendment for Article 4.05 of the Personnel Policy to include parents not living in the same household, as requested.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees for the previous month was circulated to members for their information.

ON-SITE SEPTIC REGULATION AMENDMENTS

A copy of On-Site Septic Regulation Amendments was circulated to members for their information and review. The letter providing the executive summary of the detailed amendments to the regulations is available in the Municipal Office and will be copied to members if they so wish.

Councillor Nickerson requested a copy which will be provided.

D.O.T. COST-SHARED PAVING

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Transportation regarding the current years Cost Shared Paving of Local and Subdivision Streets Program. It is indicated in the correspondence that the new cost shared program entitled, *Paving of Local Streets "Non J Class Roads"*, has been instituted for the current year.

At the present time there were no roads put forward under this project for the current year.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAW NO. 13 "TRADE AND LICENSING"

Members were provided with a summary of fees charged under Trade and Licensing By-laws in other municipal units in our area, including the Municipality of Shelburne, Town of Yarmouth, Town of Shelburne, Town of Digby and the Municipality of Shelburne.

Resolution COW060213

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the proposed amendments to By-Law No. 13 "Trade and Licensing" be approved in first reading, with the amendment that the fee for automobile sales be \$100.00 per day.

Motion carried unanimously.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

An invitation has been received by the Warden to attend the Swearing In Ceremony of the members of the Executive Council for the Province of Nova Scotia. This ceremony will take place at 11:00 a.m., on February 24, 2006, in Halifax.

AWARDS CEREMONY

The Barrington Sewer System Upgrade has been submitted for a Lieutenant Governor's Award through the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia. Although the project did not receive the main award, it did receive an Honorable Mention. As a result the Warden and Clerk have been invited to attend a ceremony in Halifax on Friday, March 3, 2006 at which time Horner Associates, the engineers on the project, will receive recognition for this project.

Resolution COW060214

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that the Warden and Clerk be authorized to attend the Awards Ceremony in Halifax on March 3, 2006.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:30 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

On Website February 21, 2006.

