

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

March 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 AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Court Room.
- Nova Scotia Community College Invitation.
- Tri-County Science Fair.
- Ecology Action Centre Request.
- Tri County Housing Authority.
- Written Proposals.
- Photo Gallery.
- Team Shelburne.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by F. Bower that the minutes of the last previous meeting held March 6, 2006 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

LEROY QUINLAN INTERVIEW RE: MINK FARMS

Mr. Leroy Quinlan, together with his son Aaron, appeared before the Committee for the purpose of discussing the establishment of mink farms in Shelburne County.

Aaron Quinlan provided a brief letter to the Committee concerning mink ranches in Shelburne County and the items he wished to discuss in regards to mink ranching. This information was circulated to all members. It was stated that aleutian disease is a very significant disease unique to mink animals which could be brought to Shelburne County through the establishment of additional mink ranches in the area. Mr. Quinlan stated that the individuals who were proposing to establish the model mink farm in Shelburne County had already established a mink ranch in the Truro area in which aleutian disease had become apparent.

Leroy Quinlan suggested the Municipality appoint three people to a committee that would spend the funds provided for mink ranching from other levels of government, and that these funds be spent locally, and not in Yarmouth.

Mr. Quinlan stated that he does not want Frank Anderson to control any funds being spent and he also indicated that Frank Anderson was asked to help Aaron Quinlan in the establishment of a mink ranch in Shelburne County and did not do so.

Aaron Quinlan indicated that the aleutian disease could be spread from one mink ranch to another by gulls or other birds.

Both gentlemen agreed that the potential for mink ranching in Shelburne County is great and could produce a significant number of jobs. They also indicated that the danger to the industry from aleutian disease is also great. They indicated that they had talked to Frank Anderson at the South West Shore Development Authority last April and May regarding the establishment of a mink ranch in Shelburne County. They also discussed the subject of a feed kitchen being established in Shelburne County. It was indicated that a certain volume of animals was required in order to make a feed kitchen economical. It was stated that approximately four employees would be required for a feed kitchen. It was also indicated that a pelting plant in Shelburne County should also be economical once an adequate number of farms were established.

Mr. Quinlan reiterated that he is concerned about the increased risk of aleutian disease to his mink farm if other mink farms are brought into the area. The main concern expressed by the Quinlans was that although it is good to bring this industry into the area, it must be done properly in order to be a positive force for the community.

Having completed their discussion of the matter, these gentlemen retired from the meeting at approximately 7:55 p.m.

B.M.H.S. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

A draft request for proposal had previously been circulated to members. This request for proposal is for the development and disposal of the Barrington Municipal High School property which is being returned to the Municipality by the School Board.

Members were also informed that a letter had been received from David Atwood, President of the Barrington Area Soccer Association, expressing concern for the future of the soccer field at the Barrington Municipal High School.

Some question arose whether it would be necessary to have two soccer fields, the one at the former Barrington Municipal High School and the one at the new Barrington Municipal High School.

Resolution COW060318

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that Mr. Atwood be requested to provide the opinion of the Barrington Area Soccer Association regarding the need for more than one soccer field in the area.

Motion carried unanimously.

A draft evaluation form was also circulated to members for their review. This is a form that would be used for the evaluation of the Request for Proposals that may be received for the development of the former B.M.H.S. and the adjacent property.

It was suggested that the Request for Proposal be published, and developers be requested to submit proposals within sixty (60) days. The Municipality would then reserve thirty (30) days for the evaluation of such proposals and to choose a satisfactory proposal for development of the property.

Resolution COW060319

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality publish a Request for Proposals for the disposition and use of the former Barrington Municipal High School property in Barrington Passage, Nova Scotia.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Fred Bower

Louise Halliday

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

Sean Strang

NEGATIVE

Larry Stewart

Motion carried.

SOUTH WEST SHORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 2006/2007 BUDGET AND BUSINESS PLAN

Copies of the S.W.S.D.A. Business Plan for 2006/2007 had previously been circulated to members for their information.

The Municipal contribution required in the S.W.S.D.A. Operating Budget for 2006/2007 is \$25,500.00.

Resolution COW060320

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality's portion of the core funding for the South West Shore Development Authority be confirmed for the 2006/2007 fiscal year in the amount of \$25,500.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL POLICY ARTICLES 10 & 11

Notice had been given at the previous Council meeting of the proposed amendments to Articles 10 and 11 of the Personnel Policy. These proposed amendments had been referred to the Committee of the Whole for further discussion.

Some discussion then followed regarding the accumulation of overtime and the payment of overtime. No further alterations were proposed to the amendments and they will be forwarded to Council for consideration at the next subsequent Council meeting.

RELAY FOR LIFE REQUEST

A request for a donation has been received from the local Relay for Life organization. This matter has been referred to the Committee by Council.

Resolution COW060321

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the postage for the mail-outs to cancer survivors within the Municipality of the District of Barrington on behalf of Relay for Life.

Motion carried unanimously.

DONATION OF TREE

This matter was also referred to Committee by Council. Correspondence has been received from Mr. Gerald Keddy, MP, indicating he is willing to donate a 4-6 foot tree for planting by the Municipality of Barrington in commemoration of the Year of the Veteran.

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality accept a tree from Gerald Keddy, MP, and plant the tree at the Library to commemorate the Year of the Veteran.

After much discussion this motion was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

There then followed much discussion regarding the planting of the tree, or more than one tree.

It was the consensus of members that information be obtained indicating how much it would cost to plant a tree at North East Point prior to further discussion of this matter.

REVIEW OF MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES

A memo had previously been circulated to members regarding the review of municipal boundaries that is required by the Municipal Government Act. This review must be done during the year 2006. The resulting electoral district boundaries must be confirmed by the Public Utility Review Board.

It is suggested that the Municipality follow the following process:

1. Advertise in the local newspaper for public input and comment and the number of districts and boundaries presently in place. This ad will include a description of the boundaries, the number of councillors, and the electoral statistics from the last election in 2004. It will also indicate that the current system includes the election of a Warden by the councillors. Input will be received from the public by email, letters, fax or telephone.
2. Results of the comments and input received will be reported to a Council meeting at which a public hearing will be held to review the comments and to hear any presentations made by the public.
3. Council will then decide the number and boundaries of polling districts to be confirmed by the Utility and Review Board and then submit their proposal to the Board for approval.

Resolution COW060322

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality follow the process for Review of Municipal Boundaries listed above as outlined in the memo of March 8, 2006 to councillors.

Motion carried unanimously.

WOOD CHIPPER

Members were given information regarding the purchase of a wood chipper. The approximate cost, including H.S.T., for the purchase of a wood chipper by the Municipality, is \$3,000.00.

It was suggested that a wood chipper could be rented for at least a one year period instead of purchasing one to determine its usefulness prior to outright purchase.

Resolution COW060323

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by F. Bower that Municipal Staff rent a wood chipper for the purpose of chipping brush along the nature trails and the CNR Right of Way maintained by the Municipality, and evaluate it for the current year prior to determining whether or not a machine should be purchased.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

CLOSED SESSION

Committee then entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the appraisal of a municipal property which is proposed to be sold, and for the purpose of discussing the potential sale of a second municipal property.

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Having completed their discussion, Council then returned to Open Session.

TEAM SHELBURNE

The Warden informed members that a lengthy discussion had taken place at the last Team Shelburne meeting regarding the proposed governance of Team Shelburne in future.

There then followed much discussion of the Municipality's requirements for participation in a county-wide economic development body.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the Warden received adequate direction to enter into further discussion with Team Shelburne regarding governance matters.

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE INVITATION

An invitation was received from the Nova Scotia Community College to attend an event at the Shelburne Campus on Monday, March 27, 2006. At this event the Nova Scotia Community College officials will be presenting their program for the coming year.

Resolution COW060323

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Stewart that the Municipality pay the expenses of any councillor who wishes to attend the Community College presentation on Monday, March 27, 2006.

Motion carried unanimously.

TRI-COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SCIENCE FAIR

The Tri-County District School Board is requesting a donation be made for the purpose of defraying the cost of its science fair.

Resolution COW060324

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that a contribution of \$100.00 be made by the Municipality to the Tri-County District School Board Science Fair.

Motion carried unanimously.

TRI COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Members were informed that no applications have yet been received for membership on the Tri County Housing Authority. The Municipality appoints a member to serve for a period of three (3) years. Advertising has been completed for this vacancy, with no responses from the public.

This matter will be deferred to a later meeting of the committee in order to give members an opportunity to determine whether or not there are public citizens wishing to serve in this position.

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COURT ROOM

Members were informed that a copy of correspondence from our MLA, to the Minister of Justice, has been received. Our MLA is asking the Minister of Justice to come view the court room prior to considering a renewal of the lease by the Department of Justice.

ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE

Correspondence has been received by email from the Ecology Action Centre. In this correspondence the Coordinator of the Ecology Action Centre Standing Tall Campaign is requesting permission to come to the Committee of the Whole to present information on this campaign. Arrangements will be made by Municipal Staff for this purpose.

WRITTEN PROPOSALS

Under present Municipal Policy written proposals are required by any group or individual wishing to make presentations to Council. Written proposals are not required when making presentations to committee.

It was the general consensus of members that written proposals should also be required when making presentations to committee. The purpose of having written presentations is to provide committee members with an opportunity to review the issue being presented, and to be informed about the issue being presented at the time the presentation is made.

Resolution COW060325

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that Municipal Staff amend the by-law to include a requirement for written proposals to be made to committees as well as to Council.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

Sterling Belliveau

Motion carried.

PHOTO GALLERY

Members were informed that the Municipality of Argyle has a section in their photo gallery that includes the volunteers of the year for the current year. It was suggested that information and pictures on the volunteers of the year could also be included in our Municipality's photo gallery.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:55 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary for the Meeting

On website March 22, 2006.

