

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, March 13, 2006.

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

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported that all councillors representing all districts of the Municipality were present:

- Warden Sterling Belliveau
- Deputy Warden Fred Bower
- Councillor Louise Halliday
- Councillor Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Eddie Nickerson
- Councillor Larry Stewart
- Councillor Sean Strang

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

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by L. Halliday that the minutes of the last meeting held February 27, 2006 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

The Warden informed members that it is necessary to add the following item under correspondence:

- Tri Counties Relay for Life.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation - Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation

Bernard Nickerson, Kim Ott and Donna Atkinson appeared before the meeting and made a presentation for the Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation.

The Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation is proposing that the rehabilitation services be expanded at Roseway Hospital. It is proposed that the expansion will cost approximately \$150,000.00. It is hoped that a 80%/20% funding arrangement can be arrived at; 80% to be funded by government, and 20% to be funded locally. It is hoped that the local portion can be funded from the five (5) municipal units in the County, totaling \$30,000.00. It is hoped that the

Municipality of Barrington will contribute \$15,000.00 towards this project.

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Resolution C060301

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Halliday that the request from the Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation for funding in the amount of \$15,000.00 to be applied towards the project to expand rehabilitation services at Roseway Hospital be referred to the budgetary process.

Motion carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

School Board Insurance

The Clerk informed members that the Town of Shelburne and the Municipality of Argyle have both forwarded letters to the School Board and the Province in support of the School Board providing insurance for community groups wishing to use local schools.

Cape Sable Island Causeway

The Clerk informed members that a letter has been received from Mr. Neil Belfontaine, Regional Director General, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which advised that he has forwarded correspondence outlining Council's concerns regarding the possible environmental affect of the Cape Sable Island Causeway, to the Honourable Ronald Russell.

An email has also been received from Mr. Randy Milton, Manager, Department of Natural Resources, advising that he is forwarding our concerns to the Manager for the Environmental Services Group of Transportation and Public Works.

The Clerk informed members that Ian MacCallum of the Department of Transportation Environmental Services met with him earlier today. Mr. MacCallum advised that he will be inspecting the area, and will be providing a report to his supervisor.

Donation of Tree - Festival of Lights

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from MP Gerald Keddy advising that the cost to transplant an 18 to 20 foot tree would be several thousands of dollars. He further advised that he would be very happy to personally send a 4 - 6 foot tree from his tree farm which will grow over time.

During discussion of this matter it was noted that it was originally suggested that a tree be planted at McGray Avenue. Due to the size of the tree, it is now being suggested that the tree be planted at the new CED Centre/Library.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Strang that Mr. Keddy be thanked for his willingness to provide a tree, and that the tree be planted at the CED Centre/Library, and that Mr. Keddy be asked to take part in the planting of the tree. The tree will be planted in recognition of the Year of Veteran 2005, and it will be lit with white lights on November 11th and lit every night throughout the Christmas season.

Resolution C060302

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by L. Halliday that the above motion be tabled and deferred to the Committee of the Whole Meeting for further discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was suggested that information be provided on the cost to transplant the 18 - 20 foot tree at McGray Avenue.

CORRESPONDENCE

Youth Science Foundation of Canada

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received indicating that the Tri-County Regional School Board will be holding their fourth annual local Science Fair in March, and is soliciting the support of the local industries and those who may be able to assist with financial backing, awards and help.

Resolution C060303

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that additional information be obtained to determine specifically what they are requesting from the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

Native Council of Nova Scotia

The Clerk informed members that a letter has been received from the Native Council of Nova Scotia advising that a Mi'kmag Cultural Gathering will be held in Shelburne County on Saturday, June 24, 2006, at the Shelburne Community Centre. The Native Council is requesting a letter supporting this event.

Resolution C060304

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that a letter of support be forwarded to the Native Council of Nova Scotia supporting their Mi'kmag Cultural Gathering to be held June 24, 2006.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mink Farms

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from Lianne Perry expressing her opposition to fur farming.

Arena Fundraising Committee

Correspondence has been received from the Arena Fundraising Committee requesting that Brian O'Connor, Property Services Supervisor, attend future meetings of the Committee.

Resolution C060305

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that Brian O'Connor be requested to attend meetings of the Barrington Arena Fundraising Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Child Care Awareness Days

Correspondence has been received from Child Care Connections Nova Scotia requesting that Child Care Awareness Days be recognized during the month of June 2006.

There being no opposition received from councillors, the Warden declared the month of June 2006 as Child Care Awareness Days in the Municipality of Barrington.

Tri-Counties Relay for Life

It was reported that correspondence has been received from the Tri-Counties Relay for Life requesting a donation to help fight cancer.

Resolution C060306

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that the request from the Tri Counties Relay for Life be referred to the Committee of the Whole for further discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole Council

Shelburne County Lobster Festival Request

Resolution C060307

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that a grant of \$250.00 be provided to the Shelburne County Lobster Festival.

Motion carried unanimously.

Community Grants Request

Resolution C060308

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that a grant of \$1,400.00 be provided to the Old Kirk Cemetery, and a grant of \$1,400.00 be provided to the Stoney Island Cemetery from the District 5 Community Grants Fund, in order to provide for upkeep and maintenance projects at both cemeteries.

Motion carried unanimously.

At this time the Warden turned the Chair over to the Deputy Warden.

Resolution C060309

Moved by S. Belliveau and seconded by S. Strang that the remaining funds in District 1 be granted to the Wood's Harbour Days.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Warden then resumed his Chair.

Arena Thefts

Resolution C060310

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that Municipal Staff place warning signs in the parking lot at the Barrington Municipal Arena and the Barrington Regional Curling Club to assist in the prevention of any further break-ins to vehicles and theft of valuables from vehicles.

Motion carried unanimously.

D.O.T. Annual Count Program

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by E. Nickerson that the Provincial Department of Transportation be requested to do traffic volume counts in the following locations:

1. Both ends of the Stoney Island Road.
2. South Side Road at the Centreville end.
3. Newellton Road along Route 330.

Resolution C060311

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that the above motion be amended by adding the Bear Point Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

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The amended motion was then put to a vote and carried unanimously.

Resolution C060312

The amended motion reads as follows:

“...that the Provincial Department of Transportation be requested to do traffic volume counts in the following locations:

1. Both ends of the Stoney Island Road.
2. South Side Road at the Centreville end.
3. Newellton Road along Route 330.
4. Bear Point Road.”

Resolution C060313

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation be required to do a traffic volume count on the Villagedale Road at a location beyond the Old Post Road in Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer’s Salary

Resolution C060314

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that the Clerk-Treasurer’s salary range be increased to \$57,000 to \$65,000 per year effective April 1, 2006.

Motion carried unanimously.

South West Shore Development Authority’s Strategic Plan

Resolution C060315

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that the South West Shore Development Authority be requested to explain:

1. What is meant in its Strategic Plan by municipal amalgamation in Shelburne County?
2. Why is its approach to job creation concentrated on courting a major industry? Would it not be better to court many smaller businesses in order to provide more jobs in the Municipality?
3. What is meant by establishing a county-wide industrial commission, and why is this a priority of the South West Shore Development Authority?

Motion carried unanimously.

Volunteer Nominations

Resolution C060316

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that Leona Mae Devine be celebrated as Volunteer of the Year for 2006 for the Municipality of the District of Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

C & D Landfill Schedule

Resolution C060317

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Halliday that effective April 1, 2006 the hours of operation of the C & D Landfill be changed to Monday to Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, closed on Sunday.

Motion carried unanimously.

Fair and Equitable Funding

Resolution C060318

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that:

WHEREAS in October 2004, the UNSM Board commissioned a study by consultants Dr. Paul Hobson, Dr. Wade Locke and Dr. David Cameron, to establish principles against which the current state of municipal finance in Nova Scotia can be assessed for fairness and equality; and

WHEREAS in May 2005, the Report, "A Question of Balance-An Assessment of the State of Local Government in Nova Scotia", was submitted to the UNSM by the consultants; and

WHEREAS the Report commends three guiding principles:

- 1) Each level of Government should fund expenditures in its respective jurisdictions from its own revenues;
- 2) The Province should ensure that municipalities have access to the broad property tax powers and revenues sufficient to finance their spending responsibilities;
- 3) Municipal equalization should adhere to the principle that municipalities across the Province have the fiscal capacity to provide reasonably comparable levels of municipal services for a reasonably comparable tax burden. To ensure this, Nova Scotia's municipal equalization program should be fully funded and paid for out of the Province's general revenues.

That were accepted by the UNSM Board on July 12, 2005; and

WHEREAS at the 2005 Annual Conference the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities' membership endorsed the Report, "A Question of Balance-An Assessment of the State of Local Government in Nova Scotia", accepting its Guiding Principles and Recommendations and mandated the Board of Directors to seek implementation by the Province; and

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WHEREAS an Implementation Strategy, which is based on a five-year phase-in of the recommendations, has been approved by the UNSM Board and the three Caucuses;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the District of Barrington joins the UNSM Board in calling upon the Provincial Government to accept the three Guiding Principles and beginning with the 2006/07 Provincial Budget, begin implementation of the Report's Recommendations.

Motion carried unanimously.

Janitorial Services

Resolution C060319

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by S. Strang that arrangements be made by Municipal Staff for the provision of janitorial services at the new CED Centre/Library building as well as the former library building.

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Policy Amendments

It is proposed that amendments be made to Articles 10 and 11 of the Municipal Personnel Policy. Notice is given tonight and the proposed amendments will be further discussed by Council at their next meeting.

It was agreed that the proposed amendments be further discussed by the Committee of the Whole Council before the next Council meeting.

Clam Flats Closure

Resolution C060320

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by E. Nickerson that the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans be asked why certain areas are closed to the harvesting of clams during winter months, and why they are closed during summer months, and why can't residents harvest clams in the areas that are normally opened during the winter months.

Motion carried unanimously.

Fisheries Program - Shelburne Campus

The Nova Scotia Community College Shelburne Campus will be offering a new fisheries program. This announcement was made last week and there were approximately 130 people in attendance. The function was attended by Councillor Larry Stewart.

EMO Training

Councillor Stewart informed members that Vernon Fraser, EMO Zone Controller, provided training to councillors of the Municipality of Barrington as well as councillors from the Municipality of Shelburne and the Town of Clark's Harbour. The training session was attended by 13 - 14 people.

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Arena Fundraising Committee

Councillor Nickerson informed members that he is a liaison between the Municipality of Barrington and the Arena Fundraising Committee. The Committee has four (4) events planned and it was suggested that these events be included in the quarterly news release placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper.

It was agreed that contact be made with Michelle Goreham to get further information on these events.

C.S.I. Causeway

Councillor Strang informed members that he and Councillors Nickerson and Stewart met with Mr. Gerald Keddy, MP for the South Shore, on March 8, 2006, and discussed possible environmental issues caused by the Cape Sable Island Causeway.

During the meeting with Mr. Keddy, the C.S.I. Sewer Project was also discussed.

CONTINUATION OF NEW BUSINESS

Results of the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department Public Meeting

A Poll of Residents and Taxpayers was held by the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department on March 1, 2006 to deal with a proposal to impose an area rate of \$95,000 for the purpose of purchasing a fire truck, which would result in an additional area rate of 4.1 cents per \$100 of assessment.

The results of the poll were:

- 20 in favour
- 0 opposed
- 0 spoiled ballots

Resolution C060321

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that the results of the Poll of Residents and Taxpayers in the fire district for the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department be accepted by Council, and that commencing April 1, 2006, and for a ten (10) year period, there be a further 4.1 cents area rate for the fire levied on all taxable properties in the fire district which shall be in addition to the existing area rate, bringing the total area fire rates to approximately 12.2 cents per \$100.00 of assessment.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Resolution C060322

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that:

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 Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$95,000) for the purpose of the purchasing of a new tanker;

AND WHEREAS the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department has requested a municipality to guarantee the said borrowing;

AND WHEREAS Section 294(6) of the Municipal Government Act provides that a municipality may grant or lend money to, or guarantee a loan for, a registered fire department for operating or capital purposes;

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 of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations has approved of the proposed borrowing or debenture and of the proposed guarantee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT the Municipality of the District of Barrington does hereby approve the borrowing by the Shag Harbour/Bear Point Volunteer Fire Department of Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (95,000) for the purpose set out above;

THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations of the guarantee, the Municipality unconditionally guarantee repayment of the principal and interest of the borrowing so made;

THAT upon the issue of the 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.

Motion carried unanimously.

GUARD TRAINING SESSION

The Clerk informed members that a Guard Training Session was carried out by Sergeant Kevin Surette of the Barrington R.C.M.P. Detachment. Training was held on February 18, 2006 and was provided to the following keepers of our Lock-up:

- Shenton Allen
- Thomas Hennigar
- Dianne O'Connell
- Douglas Swaine
- Thomas Stephens
- Dale Eshelby

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Consideration of Amendments to Personnel Policy

At the last meeting of Council notice of consideration of proposed amendments to the Personnel Policy was given. It is proposed that Article 4.05 of the Personnel Policy be amended to include parents not living in the same household as the employee. If approved, the new Article 4.05 will read as follows:

“Where no persons other than the employee can provide for the needs during illness of a spouse, child, or parent living in the same household, an employee shall be entitled, after notifying his supervisor, to use a maximum of five (5) days accumulated sick leave per annum for this purpose. Where no persons other than the employee can provide for the needs during illness of a dependent child or parent not living in the same household an employee shall also qualify for the same entitlement.”

Resolution C060323

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by L. Stewart that the above amendment to Article 4.05 of the Personnel Policy be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Stewardship Agreement

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with information on the Cape Sable Coastal Habitat Conservation Project and the Cape Sable Coastal Habitat Stewardship Project.

Resolution C060324

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that the conservation project and the stewardship project be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee for further review.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

At this time a Closed Session of Council was held to deal with a personnel matter.

The Regular Council Meeting was called back to order.

EMO Applications

The Clerk informed members that on May 30th to June 1st, 2006, Basic Emergency Management Training will be held in Yarmouth. Each member was provided with a copy of the course application form and anyone wishing to attend was asked to return the application as soon as possible.

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ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Warden

Clerk

Secretary for the Meeting

On website March 14, 2006.

