

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

September 4, 2007

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 7:08 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Louise Halliday, Chairperson
- George El-Jakl
- Eddie Nickerson (7:12 p.m.)
- Wilford Smith
- Larry Stewart
- Sean Strang
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
  
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Department of Transportation
- Schneider Power
- Legion Rally
- MADD Request
- Building Inspector Request
- Closed Session Re: Legal Matter

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by S. Strang and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was indicated by Donna LeBlanc-Messenger that she had voted in opposition to providing grants up to a maximum of \$2,000.00 for community groups in the August 20<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole Meeting. This revision will be made to the minutes.

**Moved** by W. Smith and seconded by S. Strang that the minutes of the previous meeting held August 20<sup>th</sup> be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

LEGION RALLY

E-mail correspondence has been received informing members that a Rally for members of the military originating from Shelburne County will be held at Legion Branch #63 on November 10, 2007. The Municipal units in the county are being asked to have a representative at that Rally to show support to Canadian Troops serving in Afghanistan.

Municipal units are also being asked to erect signs at the borders of the municipalities with the Yellow Ribbon indicating that the Municipality supports our Troops.

Karen Mattatall and Richard Clark appeared before the meeting for the purpose of making this request.

Resolution COW070901

**Moved** by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. LeBlanc-Messenger that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff erect two signs at the borders of our municipality indicating that municipal residents support our troops.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW070902

**Moved** by S. Strang and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that expenses of the Warden and Councillors to attend the Rally of Legion #63 on November 10<sup>th</sup>, in support of Canadian Troops serving in Afghanistan be paid by the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED MUNICIPAL GRANT POLICY

A draft of a proposed Municipal Grant Policy was circulated to members for their information and review. There followed much discussion regarding the implications of this policy and the process being used to approve grants.

**Moved** by W. Smith that this matter be deferred to the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

After asking three times for a seconder for this motion and receiving none, the Chairperson declared the motion lost.

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Members then agreed to review the individual paragraphs of the proposed policy.

Paragraph 1 was accepted as proposed.

Paragraph 2 - It was suggested that the words “and capital” be inserted after “operating” so that the phrase would be operating and capital grants.

Paragraph 3 - It was suggested that the word “specifically” be removed.

There then followed much discussion regarding the grant policies.

**Moved** by L. Stewart and seconded by D. LeBlanc-Messenger that the existing Municipal Grant Policy remain in place adding only that the applicants must provide the financial information.

Members discussed this motion in detail, after which it was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

Resolution COW070903

**Moved** by L. Stewart and seconded D. LeBlanc-Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the current “Grants to Organizations” and “Community Grants Policy” be amended to indicate that financial information must be provided when application is made.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW070904

**Moved** by L. Stewart and seconded by W. Smith that municipal staff be requested to draft an “Activities Funds Policy” for the next Committee of the Whole.

<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Larry Stewart	Sean Strang
Donna. LeBlanc-Messenger	Eddie Nickerson
George El-Jakl	Louise Halliday
Wilford Smith	

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Members were asked if they wish to proceed with the expansion of the Community Health Centre. If so, a motion to do so is required.

Resolution COW070905

**Moved** by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality proceed with the expansion of the Community Health Centre by getting an estimate from engineers for the proposal drafted by our Development Officer.

**For**

Larry Stewart

Donna. LeBlanc-Messenger

George El-Jakl

Wilford Smith

Eddie Nickerson

Louise Halliday

**Against**

Sean Strang

Motion carried.

LOBSTER SCULPTURE

Members were informed as yet no information has been received from John Smith regarding this matter. It is anticipated that municipal staff can construct this lobster sculpture over the course of the winter.

ARENA DISCIPLINE

A memo from the Property Services Supervisor was read to members regarding the Arena Discipline Policy as it relates to the incident which occurred at the closing of the B League the previous season. As a result, the Discipline Policy will require that the two hockey teams who breached policy after the last game of the Playoffs at the end of the previous season, be fined \$100.00.

The Property Services Supervisor recommends in his memo that Step 1 in the Arena Discipline Policy be changed so that a fine between \$100.00 and \$500.00 be allowed at the discretion of the Supervisor based on the severity of any incident that may occur.

Resolution COW070906

**Moved** by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. LeBlanc-Messenger that Municipal Staff draft an amended Arena Discipline Policy for review of members.

Motion carried unanimously.

MAXXAM ANALYTICS INC

As a result of recent negotiations the cost of having sewer water samples analyzed by Maxxam Analytics Inc. has been reduced significantly in all three sewer systems.

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Members were informed that the two By-law Enforcement Officers being used to enforce animal and dog by-laws, dangerous and unsightly premises, etc. are not available often enough to provide for adequate enforcement of the by-laws. As a result, it is suggested that the Municipality also hire John Leonard Smith who also applied for this position the last time it was advertised.

Resolution COW070907

**Moved** by W. Smith and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality hire John Leonard Smith to be appointed as By-law Enforcement Officer and Special Constable to deal with By-law No. 8 “Collection, Storage and Disposal of Waste”, By-law No. 11 “Animals”, By-law No. 12 “Dogs” and the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Provisions of the Municipal Government Act, if he is still available for employment.

Motion carried unanimously

WOODS HARBOUR MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL

E-mail correspondence has been received from Grant Brennan, Manager, Canada-Nova Scotia Infrastructure Secretariat. Mr. Brennan suggests in his e-mail that the Municipality wait until all phases have been tendered and that each phase be scrutinized as closely as possible for cost savings to ensure that the whole project can be completed as planned.

Members were also e-mailed the minutes of the public meeting held in Woods Harbour last Thursday. The majority of the residents who live adjacent to the proposed sidewalk location wish to have the sidewalk constructed and have no concerns with it. The people who do have concerns, who appeared at the meeting, had their concerns aired at that time and these are contained in the minutes.

It was the consensus of members that the Municipality should continue as intended and tender the multi-purpose trail portion of this project. After the deadline, the tenders for the trail, along with tenders received for the sidewalk will be reviewed. If the total tender costs are within the amount of the funds available the project will continue.

A Special Council Meeting will be held on September 17, 2007, to open the tenders for the Multi-Purpose Trail and to deal with both tenders.

#### TAX CONSIDERATION FOR SENIORS

Mrs. Doris Ashby called the Municipal Office requesting that there be some tax consideration given to seniors. She requested that Council consider reducing property taxes for seniors because they are seniors.

The Municipal Government Act does not provide the authority to Municipalities to allow for such a reduction. The only reduction allowed by the Municipal Government Act is for low income earners. The Province of Nova Scotia offers a Property Tax Rebate for Seniors which is already in effect.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Members raised several issues regarding the Department of Transportation. Municipal Staff will communicate these to the Department of Transportation requesting their action.

The following items were brought to light:

1. The ditches at the Post Office Road in Woods Harbour need to be cleaned.
2. Grass needs to be mowed along the shoulder of the road in all areas of the Municipality.
3. Members wish to know when the paving will be done in the Barrington Passage area.
4. The ditch needs to be cleaned at Civic No. 364 Centreville/South Side Road on both sides of the driveway.

#### Resolution COW070908

**Moved** by G. El-Jakl and seconded by L. Stewart that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation communicating these concerns.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHNEIDER POWER

Correspondence has been received by all members from Schnider Power indicating that they have a wind power project scheduled for construction on Goodwin's Island near Woods Harbour.

MADD REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from the Yarmouth Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving indicating that there will be an event on September 8<sup>th</sup>, in Yarmouth.

Members have already committed to visiting the Cape Light on September 8<sup>th</sup> and therefore will not be able to attend.

Resolution COW070909

**Moved** by S. Strang and seconded W. Smith that Councillor's regrets be forwarded to the MADD Association in Yarmouth indicating that they will be unable to attend their function due to previous commitment.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION RE: LEGAL MATTER AND PERSONNEL MATTER

Having completed their discussion in Closed Session members then returned to open session.

LETTER FROM BUILDING INSPECTOR

There was a consensus of members that the Building Inspector be advised that if he has a grievance regarding his wages that he follow the Personnel Policy and file the proper grievance as required.

STREET LIGHTS

It was indicated by members that there are still some street lights that have not been repaired in various areas of the Municipality.

SHELBURNE LONGBOAT RACES

E-mail correspondence was received by one of the members indicating that there will be some

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type of Shelburne Longboat Races being held in the near future.

Members expressed no interest in this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by D. LeBlanc-Messenger that the meeting adjourn at 10:35 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website September 7, 2007.**