

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

May 20, 2008

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 7:00 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
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Eddie Nickerson
 - Wilford Smith
 - Larry Stewart
 - Sean Strang
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- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Department of Transportation.
- Achievement Award.
- Lieutenant Governor Awards.
- Ted Atwood Request.
- Ridge Road Recycling Request.
- Digby Ferry.
- Discover Shelburne County.
- Warden's Office.
- Low Income Property Tax Exemption Forms.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by W. Smith that the minutes of the last previous meeting held May 5, 2008 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

B.M.H.S. TRAFFIC CONCERNS

Mr. David Buckland, Principal of Barrington Municipal High School; Mrs. Helen Goreham, SAC Chairperson; Cpl Doug Brannen, Barrington R.C.M.P.; Ron & Tanya Ryer and Mrs. Eugene Ryer appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing traffic and related concerns at Barrington Municipal High School.

There is much concern by the local residents who are represented by the Ryers concerning loitering and vandalism in the area near and around the High School. The School Board does not seem to be able to address these issues off the school properties. Mr. Buckland indicated that the school will increase the amount of garbage pickup that is done in the area. The school has gate policy which means that the gate is locked to the student parking lot. There is no gate locked at the teacher's parking lot. The S.S.T. that was in place at the time the school was built wanted the "locked gate" policy. There are approximately 40 students who drive cars who do not park in the locked gate parking lot. Half of the students who drive cars do park in the parking lot, the other half do not. There is a "closed campus" policy for the Junior High School. There is no closed campus policy for seniors, that is grades 10, 11 and 12. The problems that are occurring are the results of the actions of students. The residents of the area suggested that the students be made to park in the parking lot and that there possibly be a closed campus for all students. It was also suggested that the School Board make an additional parking area.

After much discussion it was suggested that letters be written to the School Advisory Committee, from Council, from the Ryers who are residents of the area, and from the R.C.M.P., explaining the problem and indicating any possible solutions.

Resolution COW080507

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the School Advisory Committee for B.M.H.S. explaining the concerns of local residents in regards to parking along the side of the road in Oak Park and the loitering and vandalism problems that are arising as a result, and that possible suggestions be made to the S.A.C. for resolving these problems and the letter be copied to the Tri-County Regional School Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, members of the public and the school representatives retired from the meeting.

R.C.M.P. APRIL REPORT

Cpl Brannen provided a written report showing the R.C.M.P.'s monthly statistics for April 2008 compared to the same month of the previous year. For the month of April calls were down from 151 last year to 144 this year.

There then followed a brief discussion of R.C.M.P. operations for the month, and at the end of this discussion Cpl Brannen retired from the meeting.

PLAQUES FOR THE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE AND CURLING CLUB

Information was circulated to members indicating the plaques that could be erected in the Visitor Information Centre and Curling Club recognizing councils of the day who had these municipal facilities constructed.

Resolution COW080508

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality purchase plaques for the Visitor Information Centre and Barrington Regional Curling Club to be installed on the premises.

Motion carried unanimously.

GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS

A list of the applications received for Grants to Organizations was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The total amount requested by organizations is \$23,750.00. The total amount requested for Community Grants is \$26,425.00. It is suggested that for the purposes of budgeting, the amount of \$65,000.00 be included in the budget for total Grants to Organizations and Community Grants.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

Members were informed that correspondence has been received from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal indicating that they wish to dispose of a surplus property. This surplus property is located at Pleasant Point Road in Pleasant Point, Shelburne County, which is not in the Municipality of Barrington.

Members were provided with this information, however, no action is required as the property indicated is in the Municipality of Shelburne.

REQUEST FOR PASTURE LAND

A request from Mr. Robert Jackson, Sr. to use Christies Point as pasture land was referred to Committee by Council. Mr. Jackson has indicated that he wishes to pasture two oxen on this property and that he will maintain the fence in an adequate manner to restrict the movement of the oxen appropriately.

Resolution COW080509

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality lease Municipal land at Christie's Point for the purpose of pasturing two oxen owned by Mr. Robert Jackson Sr., at a cost of \$100.00 per year, for a 5 year term.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECREATION POLICY AMENDMENTS

Amendments are proposed to the Recreation Department Policy, No. 12. These amendments are in regards to the use and rental of the Sherose Island Community Centre. The main amendments being made are to bring the policy up to date by inserting the Recreation Director's position where Recreation and Facilities Manager had previously been indicated. Also, in paragraph 5(a), the activities and events which will be included by rental will include anniversaries, baby and wedding showers, and similar non alcoholic events, at a cost of \$25.00. These amendments are being proposed in order to bring the policy up to date and to cover additional events for which rentals have been requested. The rental agreement will also be amended accordingly.

Resolution COW080510

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Strang that notice be provided at the next subsequent Council meeting of proposed amendments to Recreation Department Policy No. 12.

Motion carried unanimously.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

Members were informed that during the Spring Clean-up this year 133 tons of waste was collected.

ANNAPOLIS ROAD MEETING

A meeting is scheduled at the Shelburne Municipal Administration Building for Friday, May 23, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. This meeting is to consider the possible reconstruction of the Annapolis Road from Shelburne to Annapolis.

Members were reminded that correspondence has been received by the Tobaetic Wilderness Committee indicating that: "reopening this track would essentially mean building an entirely new road where none exists. If the new road is to be as Shelburne proposes, wide enough to accommodate emergency vehicles and ATV traffic, it would require major effort and taxpayer funding better spent on more essential projects. It would effectively open the entire wilderness to vehicular traffic and destroy the very nature of this pristine and very special place". The Tobaetic Wilderness Committee is definitely opposed to this project.

Resolution COW080511

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality of Shelburne be informed that Barrington Municipal Council is not interested in this project at this time.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees was circulated to members for their information and review.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Resolution COW080512

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by S. Strang that it be recommended to Council that the Department of Transportation be asked to grade the Lighthouse Road at Baccaro Point and place 2 or 3 loads of gravel on the road where necessary.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

A member informed the Committee that a gentlemen in Baccaro had recently won the Canadian Five Pin Bowling Championship. The member will obtain further information and return it to Council for further action.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AWARD

Correspondence has been received from the Nova Scotia Department of Education indicating that Lieutenant Governor's Medals for winners from the Tri-County Regional School Board will be awarded at Lockeport Regional High School, on Wednesday, June 4, 2008, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Resolution COW080513

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by W. Smith that the expenses of the Warden to attend the Lieutenant Governor's Award Ceremony be paid by the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

The winners of the Lieutenant Governor's Award from Barrington Municipal High School are Brittany Wile and Brock Zinc.

WARDEN'S INVITATIONS

The Warden has received invitations to the following events:

- Lobster Festival Opening
- Nova Scotia Community College Graduation
- Roseway Hospital Rehab Centre Official Opening
- Discover Shelburne County Tourism Association Meeting June 5, 2008 at the Municipality of Shelburne

Resolution COW080514

Moved by W. Smith and seconded by L. Stewart that the expenses of the Warden to attend the above listed events be paid by the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

TED ATWOOD REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from Celia Melanson who is the Solicitor for Mr. Ted Atwood. Mr. Atwood owns a piece of property next to his house at 601 Oak Park Road. This property was conveyed to Eugene Crowell from the Municipality of Barrington on the 14th of April 1942. Subsequent to that time the property was later conveyed to Mr. Atwood from Eugene and Muriel Crowell in 1973. Because the 1942 deed was not registered, Mr. Atwood's lawyer is asking the Municipality to sign a Confirmatory Deed to Ted Atwood. This information has been provided to the Municipal Solicitor. The Municipal Solicitor advises that Mr. Atwood's lawyer should provide the old deed and any other documents in support of their position and then draft a new deed. The Municipality would then sign the Quit Claim Deed provided by the lawyer.

Resolution COW080515

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality provide a Quit Claim Deed to Mr. Ted Atwood, at his expense, as requested for property owned by him adjacent to his house on the Oak Park Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

RIDGE ROAD RECYCLING DEPOT

Correspondence has been received from Mr. Shannon Newell who owns the Ridge Road Recycling Depot. Mr. Newell indicates that the cost of fuel for his truck used in the Municipal waste collection has risen considerably. At the time his contract was undertaken the price of fuel was under \$1.00 per liter. This week the price of fuel at the Shell Station in Barrington is \$1.52.6 per liter. Mr. Newell indicates that his vehicle consumes approximately 200 liters per day. He is requesting the Municipality consider negotiating an adjustment to his contract to help cover the unpredictable and unreasonable cost increase in fuel.

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay Ridge Road Recycling \$50.00 per day, or 50% of the extra cost of fuel, whichever is less, to the end of the current contract.

The Warden then requested the Deputy Warden to chair the meeting while she addressed the matter.

Having completed her address of the matter, the Warden then resumed the Chair.

Resolution COW800516

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by W. Smith that consideration of this motion be deferred.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Warden then asked the Deputy Warden to assume the Chair while she addressed the motion again.

The Warden then resumed the Chair.

Resolution COW080517

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by W. Smith that the motion be deferred until the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

DIGBY FERRY

Correspondence has been received regarding the Digby to Saint John ferry service. The Warden suggested this correspondence be forwarded to Mr. Nathan Blades who has expressed concern regarding the ferry service.

Resolution COW080518

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that information on the Digby to Saint John ferry service be forwarded to Nathan Blades to provide him the information on the progress in this situation to date.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCOVER SHELBURNE COUNTY TOURISM ASSOCIATION MEETING

A meeting of Discover Shelburne County Tourism Association was held in the Conference Room, at the Barrington Municipal Administration Building, at 10:00 a.m., on May 20, 2008. This meeting was very frustrating to those in attendance as it demonstrated a lack of commitment from the municipal units in the County. Committee members were of the consensus that the Municipality should maintain its present position in that it is willing to fund this position up to \$15,000.00 per year for the next five years.

WARDEN'S OFFICE

The Warden requested use of an office in the Municipal Building. There is an office that has been designated for the Warden in the Municipal Building although it has not been used in recent years by the Warden. The Warden will use this office in future whenever necessary.

LOW INCOME PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

It is necessary for the Low Income Property Tax Exemption forms to be signed by a councillor. At times this presents some difficulty, especially when applicants are not currently present in the Municipality. This is a matter that must be addressed by the applicants themselves.

CLOSED SESSION

Members then entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the acquisition and sale of land.

During the Closed Session direction was given to the Municipal Clerk regarding the acquisition of certain properties by the Municipality.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, the Committee then resumed their Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Chairperson	Secretary for the Meeting
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On website May 23, 2008.