

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

December 7, 2009

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, at 7:20 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Louise Halliday, Chair
 - Murray Atkinson
 - George El-Jakl
 - Shaun Hatfield
 - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
 - Cecil O'Donnell
 - Cathy Stoddard
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no items added to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINTUES

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the minutes of the last previous meeting held November 30, 2009 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

R.C.M.P. MONTHLY REPORT

Sgt. Forbes appeared before the meeting for the purpose of providing the monthly report for the month of November. Sgt. Forbes provided written statistics for the months of November 2009 and the month of November 2008.

Sgt. Forbes indicated that the managerial review of the detachment by the R.C.M.P. has been completed and that they may be seeking additional staff as a result.

Sgt. Forbes indicated that having junior officers in the Detachment did not create a problem as these officers provided much initiative in delivering services to the community.

Sgt. Forbes also indicated that one member is currently on administrative duties.

Road checks have been scheduled for the month of December in the local area and will require participation of the local R.C.M.P. officers.

Having completed his report, Sgt. Forbes then retired from the meeting.

PRESENTATION - TIMOTHY GILLESPIE RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Gillespie appeared before the meeting for the purpose of making a presentation regarding future economic development in Shelburne County.

Mr. Gillespie indicated his presentation was initiated as a result of a letter circulated by the South West Shore Development Authority requesting a commitment from municipal units to the Authority by December 11th.

Mr. Gillespie then briefly reviewed some of the history of the South West Shore Development Authority in Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties. He indicated that there are now many challenges and opportunities connected to economic development in Shelburne County. Two of the challenges that are faced by the community are that of the geographic spread of the area covered by the South West Shore Development Authority, and also that Yarmouth County, because it is the larger county, receives more of the attention of the Authority. He also indicated that there is currently \$489,000.00 of core funding allocated for the South West Shore Development Authority from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

Mr. Gillespie raised the question as to whether or not Shelburne County is being fairly served by the current Development Authority. He also indicated that governance and oversight is an issue with the current Development Authority, and he anticipates this will be addressed in the very near future through the Provincial Ombudsman's Report.

Another issue with the current Authority is that its financial viability is uncertain, however, this may be addressed as a result of the meeting with the Deputy Minister in the very near future.

Mr. Gillespie also indicated that the cost of the current lawsuits the South West Shore Development Authority is involved in is enormous, and it is not apparent where these costs are being dealt with in the accounts of the Authority. The Base property which has been sold in Shelburne County currently has a mortgage on it. Mr. Gillespie believes that the municipal units are responsible for this mortgage and questions whether or not the current Regional Development Authority has the ability to sell the property.

Mr. Gillespie referred to Queens' success having its own Economic Development Officers as was stated by Mayor John Leefe following his presentation on amalgamation. Mr. Gillespie indicated his own bias towards a Regional Development Authority for Shelburne County only, and indicated that if membership was to be maintained in the current Development Authority then there needs to be changes in the membership on the Board of Directors.

In any case, Mr. Gillespie felt that members should consider that the governance and transparency issues with the current Development Authority need to be addressed.

Having completed his presentation to members, Mr. Gillespie retired from the meeting at approximately 7:50 p.m.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Department reports for the Building Inspection Department, Barrington Municipal Arena, Property Services Department and Recreation Department were circulated to members for their information and review. As a result of review of the Arena Report, members expressed some concern regarding security issues at the Arena.

Resolution COW091201

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff obtain estimates of the cost of security guards being required for junior and senior hockey games at the Arena.

AFFIRMATIVE

Murray Atkinson
Louise Halliday
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Cecil O'Donnell
Cathy Stoddard

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

Resolution COW091202

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff contact other arenas and the R.C.M.P. regarding their policies and practices for the security at hockey games at their arenas.

AFFIRMATIVE

Murray Atkinson
Louise Halliday
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Cecil O'Donnell

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

Resolution COW091203

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality obtain legal advice regarding the requirements of security at all functions.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Arena Manager also requested an amendment be made to the Municipal Policy regarding the provision of credit at the Arena canteen to the Junior C Hockey Team.

Resolution COW091204

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Staff draft amendments to the Arena Policy providing that credit be extended to the Junior C Hockey Team at the Arena Canteen for individual events providing that the accumulated credit is paid for by the end of the event for that particular day.

AFFIRMATIVE

Murray Atkinson
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Cecil O'Donnell

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Louise Halliday

Motion carried.

Municipal Staff will also determine from the Municipal Solicitor if the provision of this credit is legally permitted under the Municipal Government Act.

WASTE PROCESSING AND DISPOSAL CONTRACTS

The Municipality has two, five year contracts for the disposal and processing of recyclable and organic waste with the Region of Queens. These contracts expire March 31, 2010. The contracts may be renewed by the Municipality by giving written notice to the Region of Queens in January of 2010.

Resolution COW091205

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality renew its recyclables processing and disposal contract and its organic processing and disposal contract with the Region of Queens for another five years, beginning April 1, 2010, and continuing to March 31, 2015, and that this renewal be completed during the month of January 2010 as required by contract.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SORTING STATION

The Municipality had previously tendered for the construction of a public sorting station at the C & D Landfill Site on two separate occasions. On both occasions the tenders that were received, combined with other costs required to be incurred by the Municipality for this project, were well in excess of the amount budgeted. It is now proposed that the Municipality retender this project. The RFB have been asked to provide additional funds for this project and will respond in the very near future. In addition, the Municipality will be required to provide additional funding to the project from the Special Reserve Fund Operating Account. The public sorting station is an integral part of obtaining adequate separation at the C & D Landfill Site. It is anticipated that some time in the near future the provincial government will require that C & D Landfills divert 75% of the waste they receive at these sites. In order to be able to achieve this type of diversion, more sorting will be required by the public at the site and before bringing materials to the site.

Resolution COW091206

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that the public sorting station at the Landfill be retendered providing the following conditions are met:

1. Additional funding is obtained from the RFB for the project.
2. Additional funds are provided from the Special Reserve Fund Operating to complete the project.
3. Retendering the project is legally acceptable on the advice of the Municipal Solicitor.

Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL TEAM WORKSHOP

The Municipality of Shelburne is proposing to host a Council Team Workshop in the local area providing enough councillors are willing to attend this workshop. The Municipality of Shelburne is asking how many of the councillors from Barrington might wish to attend such a workshop.

It was indicated by members that as many as six councillors may wish to attend such a workshop if it is held locally. This information will be communicated to the Municipality of Shelburne.

WOOD'S HARBOUR SIDEWALK

A new estimate of completing the construction of the Wood's Harbour sidewalk has been obtained from Horner Associates Limited. A new estimate for construction is \$547,000.00, plus 10% engineering fees. This yields a total of \$601,700.00, not including H.S.T.

At the present time the Municipality is waiting to hear from Service Nova Scotia to determine under which fund an application may be made for the completion of the sidewalk. Once this information is obtained, Municipal Staff will make the application and indicate in the application Council's commitment to provide \$167,000.00 of municipal funding for this project.

PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT

Correspondence has been received from Dr. Blair indicating that it is even more important now to make strong recommendations to the South West Nova District Health Authority and the Provincial Government to fill the void required since Dr. O'Connor is not present at the Community Health Centre.

Resolution COW091207

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter of thanks be sent to Dr. Blair for his information and concern in recruiting physicians, and that permission be obtained from him to send a copy of this letter to the South West Nova District Health Authority emphasizing the need for continued recruitment efforts on behalf of residents of the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS OCCUPANCY TAXES

The following companies and individuals have outstanding Business Occupancy Tax balances which are deemed to be uncollectible:

Roon Holdings Limited

Resolution COW091208

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the outstanding Business Occupancy Taxes on Roon Holdings Limited, in the amount of approximately \$1,250.00, be written off as uncollectible.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Makhail Medicine

Resolution COW091209

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the outstanding Business Occupancy Taxes on the account of Dr. Makhail Medicine, in the amount of approximately \$255.00, be written off as uncollectible.

Motion carried unanimously.

Galeco Trading Company Limited

Resolution COW091210

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that outstanding Business Occupancy Taxes, in the amount of approximately \$5,720.00, in the name of Galeco Trading Company Limited be written off as uncollectible.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

CLOSED SESSION RE: PERSONNEL MATTER AND SALE OF TAX SALE PROPERTIES

Members were brought up to date regarding the illness of an employee and also the current situation regarding two tax sale properties.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the business of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website December 9, 2009.