

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, August 9, 2010.

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

### DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

### APPROVAL OF MINTUES

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the minutes of the last meeting held July 26, 2010 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### PRESENTATION - MINNIE ATKINSON/KIM LEBLANC RE: CAT SITUATION

Minnie Atkinson and Kim LeBlanc appeared before the meeting and expressed concern regarding the current cat situation in the Municipality of Barrington. They indicated that the number of stray and abandoned cats in the Municipality of Barrington is becoming a real problem, especially now since the SPCA and PET Projects are no longer taking cats. They stated that they help as many cats as possible by way of finding homes and assisting with the cost of spay and neutering. When asked for suggestions to address the problem they indicated that the Municipality needs a spay and neuter program. This will not eliminate the problem but will assist. They also suggested that it would be beneficial to have more signs located at wharfs in the Municipality stating "that abandoning animals is a criminal offence and anyone doing so will be prosecuted".

It was agreed that other municipal units be contacted to determine how they deal with stray and abandoned cats. Once the information is received it will be forwarded to the Committee of the Whole for further consideration. Also the request for more signs at wharfs will also be considered by the Committee of the Whole.

It was agreed that Mrs. Atkinson and Mrs. LeBlanc be advised of the date this matter will be further considered by the committee.

Mrs. Atkinson and Mrs. LeBlanc were both thanked for appearing before Council and expressing their concerns.

SECOND READING RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAW NO. 21

The Clerk reported that Second Reading of proposed amendments to By-Law No. 21, "Municipal Sewers" has been duly advertised in the Coast Guard Newspaper. The proposed amendment is to increase the sewer service charge from \$266.00 per unit to \$285.00 per unit for the Barrington/Barrington Passage sewer system.

Resolution C100801

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by M. Atkinson that the proposed amendments to By-Law No. 21, "Municipal Sewers", to increase the Sewer Service Charge from \$266.00 per unit to \$285.00 per unit for the Barrington/Barrington Passage Sewer System, be approved in second and final reading.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson  
George El-Jakl  
Shaun Hatfield  
Cecil O'Donnell  
Cathy Stoddard

**NEGATIVE**

Louise Halliday  
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Motion carried.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cape Sable Historical Society Request

It was reported that the Cape Sable Historical Society has forwarded a Community Grant request for funding to repair the walkway at the Seal Island Light Museum and to build a stairway which would permit easy access. The total estimated cost of the project is \$1,500.00.

Resolution C100802

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the Cape Sable Historical Society be provided with a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the District 3 Community Grants Fund to assist with the cost of building a stairway and repairs to the walkway at the Seal Island Light Museum.

Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Public School Review Process for C.S.I. Elementary School

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from the Minister of Education, Marilyn More, in response to our letter of June 23, 2010 in which we raised concern regarding the Public School Review Process for the Cape Sable Island Elementary School. The letter provided information on the formal School Review Process to consider schools for closure. In closing, the Minister advised that although the staff recommendations in the Impact Assessment Report favors Clark's Harbour Elementary School as the site for an alteration/addition, the Study Committee is required to prepare a written response to the Impact Assessment Report which will include recommendations. The letter further advised that there will also be an opportunity for public input prior to the Board rendering a decision.

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that a letter be sent to the Minister of Education and to the Tri-County Regional School Board expressing concern that the decision of which school is to be closed on Cape Sable Island appears to have become a "Political Issue" and Council also wishes to express concern that overtures and discussions with the Town of Clark's Harbour amounts to political interference in the decision.

Resolution C100803

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the above motion be deferred to the Committee of the Whole to give members an opportunity to read the Impact Assessment Study.

Motion carried unanimously.

Old Ferry Wharf in North East Point

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal regarding the removal of the old ferry wharf in North East Point. The letter advised that the Department of Natural Resources is responsible for crown land and therefore this request should be brought to their attention. The Clerk informed members that correspondence has already been forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources.

Resignation RE: DSCTA Director

The Clerk informed members that Diane Smith, V.I.C. Manager, has tendered her resignation as a Director for the Discover Shelburne County Tourism Association, effective August 1, 2010.

Cape Sable Lighthouse

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter from the Town of Clark's Harbour, addressed to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, expressing concern that the Federal Government will no longer be maintaining the Cape Sable Lighthouse.

Resolution C100804

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans supporting the position taken by the Town of Clark's Harbour regarding the Cape Sable Lighthouse.

Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Request - Aaron Nickerson

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a request received from Aaron Nickerson advising that he will be participating in the 2010 Canadian Men's Mid Amateur Golf Championships in Ottawa, Ontario, August 16 - 20, 2010. Mr. Nickerson is seeking financial assistance to help with expenses.

Resolution C100805

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. Stoddard that Mr. Aaron Nickerson be advised that the Municipal Government Act prevents the Municipality from giving funds to individuals, but the Municipality is willing to provide lapel pins, brochures, and a Lobster Capital of Canada windbreaker.

Motion carried unanimously.

Notice to UNSM

Members were provided with a copy of a letter from the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations which provided the one year notice required under the Municipal Government Act which gives advance notice of provincial regulations that may financially impact municipalities. The letter made reference to the following:

- The Department of Natural Resources - grant in lieu, crown land
- The Department of Environment - petroleum storage tank fees
- All Provincial Departments - the expenditure management initiative

The Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities has advised that they will be meeting with senior officials of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations to discuss these matters in more detail and to determine the projected financial impacts on municipalities.

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Councillor Cecil O'Donnell

Councillor O'Donnell gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Committee of the Whole

North East Point Beach Signs

Resolution C100806

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that the local Department of Natural Resources Office be informed that recently there was an incident on the beach which resulted in a near drowning, and that the Department of Natural Resources be requested to place signs at both North East Point Beach and Sand Hills Beach indicating that there are no lifeguards on the beaches and that there may be a significant drop-off at the end of the sand bar.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ducks

Resolution C100807

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipality contact the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation regarding the duck population in Barrington Passage and request that "ducks crossing" signs be posted in the area, and that a photo of ducks crossing Highway #3 accompany this request, and that Municipal Employees investigate further deterrents to having so many ducks frequent the pond in Barrington Passage.

Motion carried unanimously.

Capital Investment Plan

Resolution C100808

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Municipality add the paving of the lower portion of McGray Avenue to the Municipality's Capital Investment Plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

Nova Scotia Boat Racers Association

Resolution C100809

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the Municipality grant permission for the Fun Day event to be held on the Labour Day weekend at the municipal parking lot at North East Point, with the condition that the organization provide a waiver to the Municipality saving the Municipality harmless from all liability, and that the Municipality of Barrington will not be responsible for any activities that do not take place on Municipal property and recommending to the organization that they have their own insurance coverage for the event.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson

Louise Halliday

Shaun Hatfield

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Cecil O'Donnell

Cathy Stoddard

**NEGATIVE**

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

Review of By-Law No. 9, "Peace, Order, Mischief Nuisances"

Resolution C100810

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that the Municipality update By-Law No. 9, to revise the language, terms, and equipment referred to so that it can be more easily understood by members and the general public.

Motion carried unanimously.

Purchase of Land for a Sewage Treatment Plant

Resolution C100811

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the Municipality purchase land in Stoney Island from Mr. Bob Frelick and others at a cost of \$120,000.00 pending approval from the Municipal Engineering Consultant for the construction of a sewage treatment plant on the site.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson  
George El-Jakl  
Louise Halliday  
Shaun Hatfield  
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger  
Cathy Stoddard

**NEGATIVE**

Cecil O'Donnell

Motion carried.

Lighthouse Road

Resolution C100812

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that a letter be sent to the Nova Scotia Minister of Transportation, Mr. Estabrooks, requesting that due to the extreme poverty of the Department of Transportation in Shelburne County, he be asked to find funds in his Department's budget for the purpose of paying for the graveling of Lighthouse Road at Baccaro Point.

Motion carried unanimously.

Crow's Neck Beach

Resolution C100813

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that a letter be sent to Minister Belliveau reminding him of the request by local residents of the Province to provide access to Crow's Neck Beach.

Motion carried unanimously.

Signs

Resolution C100814

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that Municipal employees investigate the cost of posting additional signs on Highway 103 indicating white sandy beaches at the exits to the Municipality of Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C100815

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that correspondence be sent to the Department of Natural Resources indicating that they should remove and cut the bushes next to the Sand Hills Beach Park sign in Villagedale.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Shaun Hatfield

Councillor Hatfield gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Cathy Stoddard

Councillor Stoddard gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Murray Atkinson

Councillor Atkinson gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Deputy Warden Messenger gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Louise Halliday

Councillor Halliday gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER

The Clerk-Treasurer gave a report on his activities during the month of July 2010.

NEW BUSINESS

Climate Data Project

The Clerk informed members that further correspondence has been received from the Shelburne County Business Development Centre regarding the Climate Data Project. The purpose of this project is to create a micro-climate map of the region over a three year period which would be used to identify specific areas that would be suitable for various agricultural developments such as highbush blueberries and cranberries. Project funding required from the Municipality is \$775.00 per year for the next three years.

Resolution C100816

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the request from the Shelburne County Business Development Centre for funding in the amount of \$775.00 per year for the next three years for the Climate Data Project be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Policy No. 22, "Use of Municipal Vehicles"

It was reported that notice was given at a previous meeting of Council that amendments to Policy No. 22, "Use of Municipal Vehicles", will take place this evening.

Resolution C100817

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by C. O'Donnell that proposed amendments to Policy No. 22, "Use of Municipal Vehicles" to address idling of municipal vehicles be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

V.I.C. Stats Report

The Clerk informed members that statistics from the Barrington Visitor Information Centre has been provided by the V.I.C. Manager. From May 21<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 a total of 1,494 visitors were received at the V.I.C. as compared to 1,670 visitors for the same period last year, which represents a decrease of 7%.

ADJOURNMENT

**Moved** by D. Messenger that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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\_\_\_\_\_ Warden

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Clerk

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\_\_\_\_\_ Secretary for the Meeting

**On website August 12, 2010.**