

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, February 22, 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 Louise Halliday
- Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Murray Atkinson
- Councillor George El-Jakl
- 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 MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the minutes of the last meeting held February 8, 2010 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING YOUTH FOCUS TEAM

Bernadette MacDonald, Chair of SHYFT appeared before the meeting. Ms. MacDonald informed members that the Team is dealing with homeless youth in Yarmouth and surrounding communities. She informed members that 6 Trinity Place, in Yarmouth, will be purchased with federal funding and converted into a youth home. The home will provide for the following:

- a structured and flexible home
- shared meal preparation and chores
- curfews to support safe lifestyle
- maximum of 7 residents
- 24 hour per day staffing
- residents 14 - 21 years old

The team is currently working on the operating budget. The business plan has been completed and forwarded to the Department of Community Services. All towns and municipal units will be approached for financial support. Community fundraising efforts will also be carried out. The team is requesting combined financial support from all councils in the Tri-County area of \$15,000.00. This results in a contribution of approximately \$0.25 per person. The Municipality of Barrington is requested to provide a \$2,000.00 financial donation for the year 2010/2011. For the next four years municipal units will be requested to contribute \$20,000.00 yearly towards the operating expense of the facility.

Resolution C100245

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the request received from the Supportive Housing Youth Focus Team for a financial contribution towards operating expenses of 6 Trinity Place be referred to the budget process for consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. MacDonald was thanked for appearing before Council and making her presentation.

PRESENTATION RE: SHANNON NEWELL, WOOD'S HARBOUR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

At this time Shannon Newell and Troy Stoddard of the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department appeared before the meeting.

Members were advised that the Wood's Harbour Volunteer Fire Department is proposing to renew their operating levy. The present operating levy is set at \$0.07/\$100.00 of assessment. The Fire Department is requesting that the rate of \$0.07/\$100.00 of assessment be extended for the next five (5) years.

A public meeting will be held at the Wood's Harbour Fire Hall on Wednesday, March 17, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., for the purpose of explaining, in detail, the proposed operating levy. At the end of the public meeting a Poll of Electors will be held. The results of the poll will be presented to Council.

PROCLAMATION RE: YEAR OF THE PLANTERS

At this time Lillian Perry and Phyllis Cunningham of the Cape Sable Historical Society appeared before the meeting, in period costume, to provide information on the New England Planters. The New England Planters came to the western end of the County starting in 1760. They settled in other parts of the province as well. Celebrations of their arrival are being held through 2010/2011 in towns such as Liverpool, Yarmouth, Annapolis, Cornwallis, Horton, Minas Basin, and in this area. Events are being planned by the Cape Sable Historical Society and the Shelburne County Genealogical Society, and it is hoped that other groups in the area will hold events as well recognizing the 250th anniversary of the New England Planters.

Resolution C100246

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Municipality use the theme “Year of the New England Planters” should a float be entered in the July 1st parade.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C100247

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that the Municipality purchase a banner recognizing the 250th anniversary of the Planters.

Motion carried unanimously.

At the conclusion of their presentation the following proclamation was read:

WHEREAS in 1759 Governor Lawrence in preparation for settlers in southern Nova Scotia established the township of Barrington, a grant covering 100,000 acres;

AND WHEREAS Cape Cod, Nantucket and Chatham were places of departure for the Barrington settlers;

AND WHEREAS in 1760 there were at least 2 families and by 1761 there were 20 families and 180 individuals in the new Barrington Township;

AND WHEREAS many of us are descendants of the Planters;

AND WHEREAS the year 2010 is designated as the celebration of the arrival of New England Planters to Nova Scotia 250 years ago;

AND WHEREAS the Cape Sable Historical Society is planning events to mark the anniversary and encourage other groups to do so as well;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that I, Louise Halliday, Warden for the Municipality of the District of Barrington do hereby proclaim 2010 as the Year of the Planters in the Municipality of Barrington and urge our citizens to participate in the activities planned.

Ms. Perry and Ms. Cunningham were both thanked for appearing before Council and making their presentation.

PRESENTATIONS RE: C.S.I. SEWER

Juanita Penney

Ms. Juanita Penney appeared before the meeting and expressed concern regarding the termination of the proposed C.S.I. Sewer Project. She requested Council to take the survey results into account which resulted in two majority votes and to continue with the project.

Ms. Penney was then thanked for appearing before Council and making her presentation.

Eddie Nickerson

Mr. Eddie Nickerson of South Side then appeared before the meeting. He stated that the sewer on Cape Sable Island is needed to address the pollution problem and requested Council to take into account the results of the two sewer surveys carried out and the public meeting before dealing with the tabled motion to terminate the project.

Point of Order

Having reached the allotted time allowed for Mr. Nickerson's presentation, the Warden asked councillors how they wanted to proceed.

Resolution C100248

Moved by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. Stoddard that Mr. Nickerson be permitted to continue with his presentation.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nickerson continued with his presentation. He stated that this was an opportunity for Council to start important infrastructure on Cape Sable Island and that this project would only become more difficult in future. He asked Council to vote to allow the C.S.I. Sewer Project to continue and have staff work with consultants to have the project completed.

Mr. Nickerson was then thanked for appearing before Council and making his presentation.

Douglas Blades

At this time Mr. Douglas Blades appeared before the meeting.

Mr. Blades stated that he was not against the C.S.I. Sewer Project but was concerned that it be done right. Problem areas have never been identified resulting in the question as to where the sewer is most needed. Mr. Blades indicated that although there were two surveys carried out on Cape Sable Island which resulted in majority votes in favour of the project, in 2009 seven (7%) percent more people voted on the issue and the majority dropped 14%. Mr. Blades also expressed concern that some of the older homes would not be able to handle the electrical requirements for the public sewer system. He expressed concern that some low income households may have a hard time affording all the different costs associated with a public sewer system.

Mr. Blades was thanked for appearing before Council and making his presentation.

Wanda Atkinson

Ms. Wanda Atkinson then appeared before Council.

Ms. Atkinson stated that proper planning has not been done regarding the Cape Sable Island Sewer. The problem has never been defined. Many options have been discussed; grinder pumps, connecting to the Barrington Sewer System, conventional system, etc. Ms. Atkinson questioned how Council could make a decision to proceed without having total cost calculations completed. During her presentation she also indicated that the highest costs would most likely be encountered by people who cannot afford it; people with older homes and electrical problems, etc. Ms. Atkinson requested Council to consider all risks before proceeding, and asked Council to put in place a well thought out plan.

Ms. Atkinson was then thanked for appearing before Council and making her presentation.

At this time councillors were given an opportunity to comment.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Tabled Motion Re: C.S.I. Sewer Project

At this time the motion tabled at the February 8, 2010 Council Meeting was brought forward:

“WHEREAS no sanitary sewer survey has ever been completed to determine the location, extent or concentration of any sewer services problems on Cape Sable Island making it impossible to determine the appropriate solution to an undefined problem;

AND WHEREAS no community driven initiative for this project has been apparent in the past, and in the most recent public survey of the residents of Cape Sable Island only a relatively small majority supported the construction of a sewer system;

AND WHEREAS there has recently been a downturn in the local fishery and the local economy, and the construction of a sewer system on Cape Sable Island will add significant debt and increase taxes throughout the Municipality for a lengthy period into the future causing additional economic hardship to all residents of the Municipality, and in particular to the residents of Cape Sable Island;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Barrington terminate the current Cape Sable Island Sewer Project.”

Resolution C100249

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O’Donnell that the above motion be tabled once again until Council has had an opportunity to explore options for the C.S.I. Sewer Project.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. Stoddard that anyone interested in serving on the C.S.I. Sewer Committee be asked to submit their name to the Municipal Office, and that an advertisement be placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper inviting expressions of interest in serving on this committee and that three (3) members be selected to serve.

Resolution C100250

Moved by C. Stoddard and seconded by M. Atkinson that the above motion be tabled and the matter be referred to the Committee of the Whole for further discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Point of Order

Resolution C100251

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. Stoddard that after having past the hour of 10:00 p.m. Council continue the meeting until all items have been dealt with.

Motion carried unanimously.

Civic Numbers on Mailboxes

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from Canada Post in response to our letter concerning civic numbers being posted on mailboxes. The letter advised that the current and newly drafted addressing instructions for rural mailboxes does not mention the Emergency Services number plates. The letter advised that they are aware of the need to have the 911 civic number plates at the physical premises as opposed to the rural mailboxes.

Highway 103 Signage for Barrington

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal in response to our letter concerning highway signage indicating which exits can be used to access the village of Barrington. The letter advised that the Department feels the existing signage on Barrington by-pass adequately identifies which exits access which communities.

During discussion of this matter question was raised regarding signage at Exit 31. At present signage directs traffic to take Exit 31 at Pubnico to reach Clark's Harbour. It was suggested by Council members that maybe this should be identified as the scenic route. Another concern expressed was that there is currently no reference on highway signage from Yarmouth to Barrington indicating the number of kilometers to Barrington.

Resolution C100252

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that a letter be forwarded to the Department of Transportation expressing Council's concern regarding Exit 31 and signage approaching Barrington indicating number of kilometers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Doctor/patient ratio

The Clerk informed members that correspondence has been received from Shirley Watson-Poole advising that there is no formal number established for a physician/patient ratio. Unofficially, a number of approximately 1200 to 1500 has been used as a reasonable practice, but this is not a requirement.

Satellite Blood Collection Service

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Health in response to our letter regarding blood collection services. The letter advised that the Provincial Manager does not support the request for the Department of Health to provide additional funding to the South West Nova District Health Authority to provide free satellite blood collection services. Districts are providing an additional service to their districts' patients and charge a cost recovery fee to do so.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Deputy Warden Messenger gave a brief report on her 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 Cecil O'Donnell

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

Councillor Shaun Hatfield

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

Councillor George El-Jakl

Planning Advisory Committee

ICSP Final Report

Resolution C100253

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. Stoddard that the final Integrated Communities Sustainability Plan be accepted and incorporated into the Municipal Planning Strategy once the Municipal Planning Strategy Review is complete.

Motion carried unanimously.

Shelburne County Lobster Festival

Resolution C100254

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the Municipality include a grant of \$250.00 to the 2010 Shelburne County Lobster Festival in the 2010-2011 municipal budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

Tax Write-Off

Resolution C100255

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that the balance of the business occupancy taxes on the tax account in the name of ESD Fisheries, Assessment Account #06365566, in the amount of approximately \$654.00, be written off as uncollectible.

Motion carried unanimously.

Low Income Property Tax Exemption

It is recommended that the Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy be amended to change the deadline date to March 31st from May 31st, with the exception that this year late applications will be received until May 31st.

Notice is given tonight that consideration of this amendment will take place at the next meeting of Council.

REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER

It was agreed that the Clerk-Treasurer would give his report at the next meeting of Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration Re: Policy 52 Amendment - Profanity

The Clerk informed members that amendments to Policy No. 52, "Council Meetings and Proceedings Policy", Section 7(13), have been drafted to address the uses of profanity and/or obscene language. In advance to the meeting each member was provided with proposed amendments to this section.

Resolution C100256

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that proposed amendments to Policy No. 52, "Council Meetings and Proceedings Policy", Section 7(13), regarding profanity and/or obscene language be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration Re: Policy 59 Amendment - Profanity

The Clerk informed members that amendments to Policy No. 59, "Policy on Committees of Council", Section 12(3)(6), have been drafted to address the uses of profanity and/or obscene language. In advance to the meeting each member was provided with proposed amendments to this section.

Resolution C100257

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by G. El-Jakl that proposed amendments to Policy No. 59, "Policy on Committees of Council", Section 12(3)(6), regarding profanity and/or obscene language be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Expressions of Interest Re: PAC Non-Council Members

The Clerk informed members that an advertisement was placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper inviting expressions of interest from individuals wishing to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee. Current appointments will expire March 31, 2010.

The Clerk informed members that only one (1) expression of interest was received and that was from Cecil Swimm who is currently serving on the Committee.

Resolution C100258

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that an advertisement once again be placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper inviting expressions of interest from individuals wishing to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee, and that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Robbie Newell for serving on the Committee for the term to expire March 31, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C100259

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that Mr. Cecil Swimm once again be appointed to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee for a two year term commencing April 1, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Request

The Clerk informed members that an application for a Community Grant was received from the Newellton Community Hall. The organization is requesting funding to assist with the cost of the supply and installation of cedar shingles and repairs to the corner boards of the hall.

Resolution C100260

Moved by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. O'Donnell that the Newellton Community Hall be provided with a grant in the amount of \$682.45 from the District 6 Community Grant Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

By-Law Enforcement Officer

The Clerk informed members that an advertisement was placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper inviting applications for the position of By-Law Enforcement Officer. No applications were received prior to the deadline of Friday, February 19, 2010, at 12:00 Noon. On Monday, February 22, 2010, an application was received from Stacey N. Chetwynd.

Resolution C100261

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that Stacey N. Chetwynd of Centreville be appointed By-Law Enforcement Officer for the Municipality of Barrington for By-Law No. 8, “Collection, Storage and Disposal of Waste”, By-Law No. 11, “Animals”, By-Law No. 12, “Dogs”, and the Dangerous and Unightly Premises Provisions of the Municipal Government Act.

Motion carried unanimously.

Request for Sign

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with correspondence received from Mrs. Minnie Atkinson (Animals in Need). Mrs. Atkinson is requesting Council to erect two (2) signs; one at the head of the Orion Wharf Road, and the other sign near the wharf area prohibiting people from dropping off unwanted cats.

Resolution C100262

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that a letter be forwarded to the Department of Transportation requesting permission for the Municipality to post two signs on the Orion Wharf Road prohibiting people from dropping off unwanted cats in this area, and that Council prepare two signs to be posted.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

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

The Regular Council Meeting was then called back to order.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by G. El-Jakl that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Warden

Clerk

Secretary for the Meeting

On website February 25, 2010.