

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

May 2, 2011

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

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

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Clean-up.
- Baccaro Lighthouse Road.
- MLA Meeting.
- Sgt. Forbes Retirement.
- CFIB Correspondence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by M. Atkinson that the minutes of the last previous meeting held April 18, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT RE: AREA FIRE RATE

Chief John Nickerson and Deputy Chief Paul Thomas appeared before the meeting for the purpose of informing members that the Barrington Volunteer Fire Department wishes to put in place an Area Operating Rate of \$.05/\$100.00 of assessment over the next five (5) years. The purpose of this rate is to provide operating funds for the Fire Department.

The old community hall near the Fire Department is in poor condition and is not usable for fundraising events. Insurance on the ball field which is owned by the Fire Department is recouped from the teams using the ball field by charging them a usage fee. The Fire Chief indicated that their Fire Department would be agreeable to having the Municipality hire a full-time Fire Services Coordinator. The Fire Department proposed to hold the public meeting sometime during the month of May in order to present the proposed Area Fire Rate to the public. The Fire Department provided a proposed budget for the 2011/2012 fiscal year which showed that they are estimating a shortfall of \$17,020.00. It is estimated that a proposed Fire Rate of \$.05/\$100.00 of assessment would provide \$35,000.00 for operating funds for the Fire Department each year.

Having completed their presentation, the Fire Department representatives then retired from the meeting.

PROPOSED POLICY 52 AMENDMENTS

It is proposed that Policy 52 be amended to add a paragraph 6(1)(ea) to provide for a procedure after closed sessions which would allow for an explanation of the purpose of the closed session and invite any motions related to the closed session business.

Having reviewed this matter and found it satisfactory, it was the consensus of members that this information be brought forward to Council to amend the policy accordingly.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Clerk-Treasurer made a power point presentation regarding a proposed Economic Development Agency for the area. This proposal is the result of discussions with the CAOs and Clerk-Treasurers of the municipal units in the area, and has been subsequently developed by a consultant hired by ACOA and the Provincial Department of Economic Development.

The proposed Regional Economic Development Agency document was reviewed. A copy of the documents has been sent to all councillors by email so that they may print them out and review them at their leisure. It is proposed that a general meeting of all councillors in the area will be held at which time the document will be further discussed and explained. After that meeting it is proposed that each individual council decide whether or not it wishes to enter into such an agency. Once this is done a new agency will be formed, hopefully in the very near future.

PLAYGROUND GRANTS

Policy No. 58 of the Municipality provides for playground funding in the Municipality's annual budget. Members are informed this evening that three (3) applications for playground grants have been received.

The first application reviewed was from a group of people wishing to place a playground at the Barrington ball field. The second is from the District 5 Playground Association and the third is from the ERMES School Playground Committee.

The first two groups are seeking \$5,000.00 for the purchase and placement of equipment and the ERMES Playground Group is seeking \$10,000.00.

These groups will be informed that their requests will be considered during Council's budget deliberations.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

It was suggested that members determine an amount to be included in the draft budget for the Community Grants.

It was the consensus of members to include \$3,500.00 per district as was done the previous year. This amount will be reviewed during budget deliberations to determine whether it is appropriate.

ACTIVITIES FUNDS

The Municipality has an Activities Funds Policy, No 61, by which funding up to \$2,000.00 may be provided in the Municipality's budget.

It was the consensus of members that this amount be included in the budget for the coming year and that the amount be reviewed during the budget considerations for appropriateness.

2011/2012 CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN

Members had previously completed a Capital Projects Evaluation Form and returned it to the Municipal Office. As a result of the evaluations done by councillors, there appeared to be three different levels of capital investment priorities. The first four projects which received the highest number of points in the evaluation included a new Community Health Centre, completion of a section of the Barrington Passage sidewalk, paving the Sherose Island Road into the Municipal Recreation Complex, and completing a North East Point Look-off. The second group included two projects which were a landfill storage building and paving the lower portion of McGray Avenue. All of the other projects received a lesser number of points from the evaluations.

There then followed some discussion regarding the paving of the lower portion of McGray Avenue. It was suggested that this should have a higher priority than the North East Point Look-off since the public would need to travel across this portion of McGray Avenue in order to get to this look-off. Other concerns with this project would be the contribution required or expected from residents of the area.

It was also suggested that the paving of the Sherose Island Road should receive a higher priority. This is suggested because the Sherose Island Road leading into the Barrington Municipal Recreation Complex is one that is traveled by many of the residents of the Municipality. It is frequently used by residents to get to the ball field, the Arena, the curling club, the Recreation Centre and the nature trail.

It was also suggested that the Seal Island Light which received a low number of points and was a low priority investment project may need to be reconsidered. This is a local asset that is owned by the Municipality and will need to be addressed in the very near future.

Members agreed by consensus to further review the results of the Capital Project Evaluation during budget deliberations and determine how to approach each of them.

FIRE SERVICES COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Prior to the meeting the draft Terms of Reference provided by the Municipal Solicitor for the Barrington Fire Services Committee was circulated to members for their information and review.

This document was then reviewed in detail by the Clerk-Treasurer with members, with several suggested changes being made. The suggested changes will be made and included in a revised document which will again be reviewed by members.

FOREST RIDGE ACADEMY MINI LOG FUNDRAISER

Forest Ridge Academy is again asking to host a mini log run at the Barrington River. The proposed date for the log run will be Saturday, June 4th, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Correspondence has been received with this request and also includes a Certificate of Insurance for the event from the School Insurance Program.

Resolution COW10501

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. O'Donnell that it be recommended to Council that Forest Ridge Academy be given permission to host its mini log run fundraiser on Saturday, June 4, 2011, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., on municipal property, adjacent to the Barrington River.

Motion carried unanimously.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AWARDS

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Education informing that the Lieutenant Governor's Medals will be awarded to Grade 11 students who have been selected by the Principal and staff of each school in the Tri-County Regional School Board on Wednesday, May 8, 2011. The ceremony will take place from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Drumlin Heights Consolidated School. The Warden is invited to attend.

Resolution COW110502

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that the expenses of the Warden to attend the Lieutenant Governor's medal presentations at Drumlin Heights be paid by the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members were informed that Emily Rose and Justin Cottreau will be the recipients of the Lieutenant Governor's medals this year.

Resolution COW10503

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter of congratulations be sent to Emily Rose and Justin Cottreau who will be receiving the Lieutenant Governor's medals for Grade 11 students at Barrington Municipal High School this year.

Motion carried unanimously.

DESTINATION SOUTHWEST NOVA ASSOCIATION

Correspondence has been received from this group indicating that their Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011, at the Digby Pines Golf Resort. The Municipality is invited to send a member if they so wish. Unfortunately, May 17th is not a good date as other meetings have already been scheduled for that time. Regrets will be forwarded to this association informing them that councillors are unable to attend at this time.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

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

CLEAN-UP

It was suggested that the area between the Barrington Bay Trail where it meets Highway 330 between the Superstore and the former flower shop at the upper Causeway Mall is in need of cleaning. The area near NAPA Auto Parts next to Route 330 at the Causeway has garbage cans placed there which need to be cleaned.

Both of these matters will be addressed by Property Services personnel as soon as possible.

It was also noted that one of the residents of Clark's Harbour literally cleans sections of the roadway in the Municipality by picking up litter on a regular basis.

Resolution COW110504

Moved by C. Stoddard and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that a letter of thanks be sent to Michelle (Chris) Swim of Clark's Harbour for her continued diligence in cleaning litter from the roadways in the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

MLA MEETING

It was suggested that our MLA again be invited to attend a meeting of Council in order to discuss economic conditions in the area.

Resolution COW110505

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that an invitation be sent to our MLA to attend a Council meeting to discuss job opportunities in the area.

Motion carried unanimously.

SGT. FORBES RETIREMENT

Sgt. Bob Forbes is the Commanding Officer of the Barrington Detachment of the RCMP. Correspondence has been received, today, from Sgt. Forbes indicating that he will be retiring in the very near future and that his last day of work will be June 30, 2011.

A certificate of appreciation will be prepared for Sgt. Forbes and will be presented to him at a later date, at a Council meeting, thanking him for his years of service to the Municipality.

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS

Correspondence has been copied to the Municipality from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business. This is a letter to the Minister of Economic and Rural Development from the CFIB concerning the payment of outstanding debts of the South West Shore Development Authority to its general creditors.

BACCARO LIGHTHOUSE ROAD

Concern was expressed regarding the condition of the Lighthouse Road in Baccaro.

Resolution COW110506

Moved by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to Mr. Benny Acker, the local Supervisor for the Department of Transportation, reminding him of the numerous times he has promised to have work done on this road and that as yet nothing has been done.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:40 p.m.

_____Chair

_____Secretary for the Meeting

On website May 3, 2011