

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

October 3, 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
- Murray Atkinson
- Louise Halliday
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Cecil O'Donnell
- Cathy Stoddard

Member Shaun Hatfield was absent due to vacation.

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

### CLOSED SESSION

Members entered into Closed Session in order to discuss the lease of municipal property. This discussion was completed at approximately 7:00 p.m., at which time members entered into Open Session.

### REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Members discussed the possible lease of municipal property for the purpose of locating a dentist within the Municipality. Further information will be required before a determination will be made on a future lease agreement.

### ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following matters were added to the agenda:

- Dangerous & Unsightly Premises.
- Lighthouse Road - Baccaro.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the minutes of the last previous meeting held September 19, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BAY SIDE HOME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As a result of an advertisement made by the Municipality, three (3) individuals have applied for the position of Director at Bay Side Home Corporation.

Resolution COW111001

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that the resumes received be circulated to members of Council, together with a scoring system based on the criteria for Bay Side Home Board of Directors provided by the Bay Side Home Corporation, and that these be returned at the next Council meeting for a decision of Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES COORDINATOR

As a result of a previous motion of Council a list of benchmarks was drawn up for the Fire Services Coordinator, together with a time schedule for completion of these benchmarks. The benchmarks and schedule drawn up were based on the job description that had previously been approved by Council. The time frame in this schedule will be adjusted accordingly depending on when a Fire Services Coordinator is actually hired by the Municipality.

Resolution COW111002

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the list of benchmarks and associated time schedule for the Fire Services Coordinator be approved, and that the position of Fire Services Coordinator be advertised as soon as possible.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW110103

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the wage scale range for the Fire Services Coordinator position be established at \$45,000 to \$55,000 per annum.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson  
George El-Jakl  
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger  
Cathy Stoddard

**NEGATIVE**

Louise Halliday  
Cecil O'Donnell

Motion carried.

VEHICLE TENDERS

The Municipality has previously advertised for the purchase of a new 2011, 3/4 ton, truck for the Property Services Department. Four (4) sealed tenders were received by the Municipality. These tenders were opened by the Warden. The tender results were as follows, all prices including H.S.T.:

- Tusket Ford Sales, \$36,325.05
- Smith & Watt, \$31,083.35
- Murray Motors, \$37,599.85
- Huskilson's Chrysler, \$31,598.55

It was noted that only Murray Motors quoted on a 2011 vehicle. The other suppliers all quoted on 2012 vehicles.

Resolution COW111004

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the municipal employees review the tenders and consult the Municipal Solicitor and provide a recommendation to Council as soon as possible.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 31, 2011

Members were advised that the October 31<sup>st</sup> Committee of the Whole Council meeting would be scheduled on Halloween, and that this would also be the fifth Monday of the month which would add a third Committee of the Whole Meeting for the month of October.

Resolution COW111005

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the October 31<sup>st</sup> Committee of the Whole Council meeting be cancelled subject to an immediate urgency arising in the interim.

Motion carried unanimously.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Each year Council convenes a Nominating Committee meeting in order to determine which members will serve on which committees during the subsequent year. It is proposed that the meeting this year be held after the regular Council meeting scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Resolution COW111006

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. O'Donnell that a Nominating Committee meeting be held after the regular Council meeting held on Monday, November 14, 2011.

Motion carried unanimously.

DOG LEASH BY-LAW

Members were provided with information regarding the Municipality's current Dog By-Law and the Town of Yarmouth's Dog By-Law. The Municipality's current by-law does not require dogs to be on a leash as long as they are under the effective control of an individual. The Dog By-Law for the Town of Yarmouth does require dogs to be on a leash that is held by an individual who is capable of controlling the dog at any time that a dog is not on the owner's property.

There then followed some discussion regarding the requirements for dogs to be on leashes in various parts of the Municipality and on various municipal properties.

Resolution COW111007

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality's Dog By-Law be amended to require dogs to be on a leash on any municipal walking trail and sidewalk and that signs be posted appropriately.

Motion carried unanimously.

ICE RENTAL REQUEST

A request for a rental of ice time at the Barrington Municipal Arena has been received from Mr. Tyler Nickerson. This request is outside the normal policies of the Arena and therefore is referred to Council where it was directed by Mr. Nickerson.

There then followed some discussion of rental of the request and of rental of the ice during non prime time hours.

Resolution COW111008

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that Mr. Nickerson be advised that Council cannot accept his request, give the various reasons why this request cannot be accepted, and encourage Mr. Nickerson to rent the Arena at the already established rates.

Motion carried unanimously.

ROSEWAY HOSPITAL HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

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This matter was referred to the Committee of the Whole by Council for further consideration.

Resolution COW111009

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. Stoddard that Municipal Staff investigate further who a grant for this purpose would be paid to and the legalities of this proposal.

Motion carried unanimously.

REQUESTED FIRE DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Pursuant to Policy No. 54 of the Municipality, each fire department is required to provide certain information to the Municipality on an annual basis, including an application form to be registered by the Municipality as a Fire Emergency Services Provider, a list of firefighters together with their completed training, at the Semi-Annual Meeting with the Council with the fire department representatives, on or before February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the date of its annual meeting to be held each year, a copy of their financial statements and a budget for the ensuing year. To date, the Post Clyde Fire Department has not provided a budget for the year and the Port LaTour Fire Department has not provided a budget, the yearly registration form, the list of firefighters and their training or the date of their annual meeting.

It was the consensus of members that this matter be discussed at the ensuing Semi-Annual Meeting which will be held on October 12, 2011 with representatives of the fire departments.

Resolution COW111010

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to both fire departments informing them that if the information has not been received, then their payments from the Municipality will be withheld until the required information has been provided to the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

ROSEWAY HOSPITAL HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM CONTINUED

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Members were informed that the Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation has been requested to hold funds in trust for the purpose of a student sponsorship program.

ANIMALS IN NEED REQUESTS

A Community Grant request has been received from the *Animals in Need* group. The group is requesting funding for the cost of medications and spaying of feral cats.

This request was then discussed by members.

Resolution COW111011

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the Provincial Government requesting emergency funding for the purpose of addressing the stray cat problem identified by the *Animals in Need* group.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW111012

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the *Animals in Need* group in response to their Community Grant request, communicating to them Council's action and requesting funding from the Province for their purposes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members were also informed that previous correspondence received from the *Animals in Need* group regarding the provision of medications to the group by the Municipality was referred to the Municipal Solicitor and to the Municipality's insurers for their comments. Both the Municipal Solicitor and the Municipality's insurers provided guarded responses to these requests. The Municipal Solicitor indicated that his research indicated that the authority under the Municipal Government Act would not extend to most of the matters set out in the letter provided by the *Animals in Need* group. The Municipality's insurer indicated in email correspondence that the provision of such services would open the Municipality up to a given amount of liability, especially in regards to the dispensing of medications, and the potential liability for improper use of these medications, as well as the possibility of triggering claims in regards to injury to cats and the continuing care of cats.

Resolution COW111013

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that a letter be forwarded to the *Animals in Need* group indicating what will be done by the Municipality as a result of their requests.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW111014

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to the local Harbour Authorities requesting funding from their groups for the *Animals in Need* organization in order for them to take care of cats in the areas provided by the Harbour Authorities, and to site the example provided from the Municipality of Clare to them.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW111015

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that a letter be sent to Veronica Smith-Hopkins on behalf of the *Animals in Need* organization explaining to them that the Municipality is not able to provide medications as requested due to the advice received from the Municipality's insurers and the Municipal Solicitor.

Motion carried unanimously.

TAX INVOICE INSERT

The document that is to be inserted with tax invoices when they are sent out during October was circulated to members for their information and review. The insert shows how municipal taxes were spent during the previous year and how they are proposed to be spent in the current years municipal budget. This insert will be included with all tax bills being sent out in October.

SEAL ISLAND LIGHT

Members were informed that information has been received from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency indicating that they will not be able to provide funding for the restoration of the dome at the Seal Island Light in Barrington.

Resolution COW111016

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality send correspondence to the Cape Sable Historical Society indicating the results they have received from application to the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and requesting them to provide any further suggestions for funding of this project.

Motion carried unanimously.

A response has yet to be received from the Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism to the application for funding which was also made to them for this project.

#### GOVERNANCE SURVEY

Information was circulated to members regarding the Governance Study which was recently completed in the Municipality. Members were informed that in total 3525 survey were distributed. In addition a facebook page was set up by the Municipality which received 312 impressions.

In response to the survey question concerning the reduction of councillors there were 416 survey responses received as well as 79 facebook votes received. The number of votes for reduction of councillors was 397, the number of votes of not reducing council was 98. There were 127 survey responses received and 23 facebook votes concerning the question of electing a mayor or warden. Of these, 249 were in favour of a mayor and 201 were in favour of a warden.

Members then discussed the survey and the results of the survey. Comments received from Mr. Eddie Nickerson on the facebook page was copied and circulated to members for their information. In his comments Mr. Nickerson expressed concern regarding the number of responses received to the survey.

It was suggested by a member that the Municipality “get rid” of committees and have a CAO system in place.

It was also suggested that Council should stick to policy matters.

It was also questioned whether the motivation for the survey for the reduction in numbers of councillors is financial.

There was then some discussion regarding the difference between the office of mayor and warden and the election of a mayor and warden.

Members agreed by consensus to have this matter further discussed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting as it had previously been indicated by Council that the matter would also be on that meeting’s agenda.

#### DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PREMISES PROPERTY

##### Resolution COW111017

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that the By-Law Enforcement Officer further investigate the Leroy Martin property in Brass Hill.

Motion carried unanimously.



LIGHTHOUSE ROAD - BACCARO

No update has been received from the Department of Transportation regarding the work being conducted on this road.

Resolution COW111018

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that it be recommended to Council that municipal employees determine whether or not the wall being constructed along the Lighthouse Road in Baccaro will be done this fall or not.

Motion carried unanimously.

WALK TO SCHOOL

A Walk to School has been scheduled for the graduating class at Barrington Municipal High School for Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Members were informed that if inclement weather occurs on that date the alternative date for the Walk to School will be Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:58 p.m.

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Chair

Secretary for the Meeting