

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 8, 2011. 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 with the exception of Councillor Donna LeBlanc-Messenger who is away on vacation:

- Warden George El-Jakl
- 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 MINUTES

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that the minutes of the last meeting held July 25, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### CONTINUING CARE MONTH

It was reported that correspondence has been received from the Health Association of Nova Scotia requesting Council to declare the month of September 2011 as Continuing Care Month.

Having received no objections to the request, the Warden proclaimed September 2011 as Continuing Care Month in the Municipality of Barrington.

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

Senior's Tea Party

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter from the Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Clark's Harbour inviting councillors to attend the Senior's Tea Party to be held on August 10, 2011, in Clark's Harbour.

Destination Southwest Nova Association

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from the Executive Director of Destination Southwest Nova Association. The letter thanked Council for their investment in tourism. The financial investment from municipal units has assisted in making the Fundy Shore and Annapolis Valley, Yarmouth and Acadian shores, and South Shore regions, the second highest tourism revenue generator in the province, and a strong competitor in the world's fastest growing economic sector.

REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council. During his report he indicated that he attended the function held by the Nature Trust recognizing the permanent protection of the Crow Neck conservation lands. He advised that members of Nova Scotia Nature Trust indicated a willingness to appear before Council to make a presentation regarding the endangered piping plovers, if Council so wished.

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Councillor Louise Halliday

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

Committee Recommendations

Councillor Halliday reported on committee recommendations.

Public Transportation

Resolution C110801

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that correspondence be sent to the SC Transportation Society indicating that Council is favorably disposed towards their public transportation project and supports the project. Council will take a supportive role in this project and will assist where possible. Council believes that provision of public transportation in the area needs to be an initiative of a volunteer society lead by community members in order to make it feasible and sustainable.

Motion carried unanimously.

Number of Councillors

Resolution C110802

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Municipality conduct public consultation regarding the reduction of councillors from seven (7) to five (5) in future.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C110803

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that there be public consultation inviting members of the public to provide their opinion on the election of a mayor for the Municipality rather than a warden.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C110804

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that both a paper survey and a social media survey be conducted to obtain public information on the possible reduction of councillors from seven (7) to five (5), and on the possible election of a mayor instead of a warden.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C11805

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that the public also be asked in the survey if there is some other alternative for the number of councillors which they would suggest.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson  
Louise Halliday  
Shaun Hatfield  
Cathy Stoddard

**NEGATIVE**

George El-Jakl  
Cecil O'Donnell

Motion carried.

Department of Transportation Issue

Resolution 110806

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by S. Hatfield that a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation Office, in Shelburne, requesting that West River Road be graded and upgraded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Cecil O'Donnell

Councillor O'Donnell gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council. He also reported on the recent meeting of the Hiring Committee.

Resolution C110807

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the Municipal Council hire Angie Chetwynd and Nathan Nickerson as By-Law Enforcement Officers 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 Unsightly Premises Provisions of the Municipal Government Act, subject to their appointment by the Nova Scotia Police Commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Services Advisory Committee Meeting

The Clerk informed members that the Committee of the Whole has initiated a meeting with the Fire Services Advisory Committee to discuss the development of fire services in the Municipality. Eugene Stoddard of the Fire Services Advisory Committee has suggested that the meeting be held Wednesday, August 10, 2011, in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, commencing at 7:00 p.m., since this is the night for their regular monthly meeting.

It was agreed by members that this would be a suitable date for the meeting. It was agreed that the Deputy Warden be advised of the meeting in the event that she is available to attend.

Minister of Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations

The Clerk also confirmed that The Honourable John MacDonell, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, will be meeting with councils of Shelburne County, in Shelburne, on August 9, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

It was agreed that the Warden and councillors Halliday and Stoddard would attend the meeting.

Governance Study

The Clerk confirmed with members councillors and department heads have been invited to meet with Nancy Bray of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations on August 23, 2011, at 4:00 p.m., to discuss the Governance Study.

Councillor Cathy Stoddard

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

Brendan Nickerson

Councillor Stoddard also informed members that due to Brendan Nickersons' busy schedule, the Certificate of Congratulations on being selected to represent the Province on Team Nova Scotia during the Canada Winter Games, and a sweatshirt and jacket, were given to his grandmother for delivery to him.

Councillor Shaun Hatfield

Councillor Hatfield gave a brief report on his 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.

NEW BUSINESS

Financial Statements

The Clerk informed members that further to the Draft Financial Statements being presented to Council on June 28, 2011, the Official Financial Statements have now been received from the auditors. Copies have been circulated to councillors.

Resolution C110808

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by C. Stoddard that the Official Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

VIC Stats

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with the Visitor Information Centre Stats Report for May 16, 2011 to July 31, 2011. In comparison to last year there were 32 less visitors this year to date. The majority of visitors are still from Nova Scotia looking for information about the local area. Other Canadians were mainly from Quebec and Ontario as well as the western provinces. The report showed that as of July 31, 2011, 277 U.S. residents visited the V.I.C., as compared to 221 last year. Total visitors to date, 1,462 as compared to 1,494 last year. The report showed that other countries made up 8% of the total number of visitors to date.

Question was raised as to whether a breakdown of countries making up the 8% was available. The V.I.C. Manager will be contacted to see if these statistics are available.

Vehicle Tender

As a result of Municipal Staff's evaluation of the vehicle tenders received, it is recommended that the tender received from Smith & Watt Ltd., in the amount of \$33,500.00, plus H.S.T., for the 2009 Dodge Ram, 3/4 ton truck, be accepted.

This was the only response received that met the requirements of the tender. The vehicle has only 4,200 kilometers and it comes with a 7.5 ft. Boss snowplow and a salt spreader.

During discussion of this matter question was raised as to whether it would be possible to use government rebates to purchase a new truck for the same price.

Resolution C110809

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell and seconded by M. Atkinson that the Municipal Clerk contact the Municipal Solicitor to determine if the Municipality has legal grounds to reject the tender received from Smith & Watt Ltd., and that the matter be brought back to the next meeting of Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

**Moved** by C. O'Donnell that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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\_\_\_\_\_ Warden

Clerk

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

**On website August 10, 2011.**