

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

February 20, 2012

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
  - Shaun Hatfield
  - Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
  - Cathy Stoddard
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

Member Cecil O'Donnell was on leave of absence.

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

- Heritage Property Deregistration.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. Stoddard that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that minutes of the last previous meeting held February 6, 2012 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### BARRINGTON REGIONAL CURLING CLUB

Mr. Elwin Smith, President of the Barrington Regional Curling Club, appeared before the meeting to provide a monthly report.

Mr. Smith indicated the dehumidifier is working well after having been serviced. The compressor has also been working well since it was also serviced. Yesterday, the compressor required service because a fan belt had broken due to a screw rusting out on the condenser fan. This belt has been repaired and appears to be working satisfactorily now.

The Club held a Lobster Spiel with 24 teams participating. A Ladies Spiel is due to be held in the very near future. At this point only 6 teams have indicated participation. Unless a total of 8 teams are obtained the spiel will be cancelled.

There will be a pancake supper held at the Curling Club tomorrow from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Provincial Mixed Curling Bonspiel will be held starting Friday, March 9th, at 7:00 p.m.

The cookbook promotion of the Curling Club has been going well. Enough copies have been sold to pay for the cookbook and the copies that are being sold now will provide funds for the operation of the Club.

Having completed his report, Mr. Smith retired from the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

### MINISTER BELLIVEAU INTERVIEW

Minister Sterling Belliveau attended the meeting with his Executive Assistant, Mr. Mark Laventure.

Minister Belliveau discussed the following topics with members:

1. **North East Point Observation Deck.**  
Minister Belliveau indicated that he has spoken to the Minister of Natural Resources regarding this matter and has viewed the deck with his Executive Assistant this evening. Further communication will be received from the Department of Natural Resources.
2. **Local Roads.**  
Various issues were raised pertinent to local roads within the Municipality. The Minister indicated that he has discussed the condition of local roads with the Minister of Transportation and met with Mr. Stephen MacIsaac of the Department of Transportation. Minister Belliveau indicated that the double chip sealing that has been done on the Clyde Road has been received very well by residents. He indicated that the cost of this chip sealing is under \$50,000.00 per kilometer, which is a significant reduction from the previously tendered prices of approximately \$97,000.00 per kilometer for chip sealing.

It was requested of Mr. Belliveau that a list of roads to be chip sealed in the next fiscal year be provided, if possible.

It was also indicated to the Minister that the Oak Park Road leading to Barrington Municipal High School is in need of repair and improvement. This has been brought to the Minister of Transportation's attention.

It was also brought to Minister Belliveau's attention that Lighthouse Road in Baccaro is still in need of repair.

### **Lobster Fishing Industry**

Minister Belliveau then made a very informative presentation on the state of the lobster fishery in Nova Scotia. He indicated that it was the general consensus of those involved in the industry that the status quo is not working.

Minister Belliveau then made a slide presentation providing much information on the Nova Scotia fishing industry and the lobster industry around the world.

Resolution COW120213

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by M. Atkinson that Minister Belliveau be allowed to continue with his presentation and discussion of the lobster fishery even though the allotted time has been exceeded.

Motion carried unanimously.

When questioned, Minister Belliveau indicated that he has never heard any discussion of a quota system being implemented in the lobster fishery from either provincial officials or advisory boards. He indicated that there is a lack of trust between fishers and the regulators of the industry that must be overcome in order for successful collaboration to occur.

The Minister was then queried regarding the viability of a cannery in the local area. Minister Belliveau indicated that the Department is interested in this concept and needs to have a viable business plan presented. This is the avenue that has been taken with the new lobster fishers group. This group is in the preliminary stages of developing a business plan.

Minister Belliveau was then questioned about Bill 98, "Fishermen's Organization Support Act". This is an industry endorsed act which has been passed through the Legislature and received no opposition from any party. The regulations under this act are now being developed.

The Minister was also questioned regarding the Support Fisheries Safety Organization of Nova Scotia. Minister Belliveau again indicated this is an industry initiative. This initiative relates to the high cost of Workers Compensation Board premiums and safety within the industry.

Having completed his discussion and presentation, Minister Belliveau then retired from the meeting at approximately 8:10 p.m.

NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Mr. Craig Smith, the Nova Scotia Program Manager for the Nature Conservancy of Canada, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the Swaine's Road Bog. The Swaine's Road Bog is a 900 acre parcel of land owned by the Municipality adjacent to the Villagedale Road. Mr. Smith indicated that the Nature Conservancy is interested in entering into a partnership with the Municipality to preserve this land. The Conservancy would like to see this land become permanently protected property because of the presence of the endangered species, the thread leaf sundew. Mr. Smith made a presentation on the Nature Conservancy of Canada and its efforts in Nova Scotia to preserve and protect ecologically valuable properties. Members then discussed the Swaine's Road Bog with Mr. Smith asking a variety of questions. Mr. Smith indicated that the Conservancy wished to preserve all of the property, and if there are other private properties that similar arrangements can be made with, that would be adjacent to this property, the Conservancy would also be interested in those. Mr. Smith also indicated that the Conservancy is not in the business of policing properties but would educate local individuals in order to see that the property is properly monitored and maintained.

The Conservancy will send a written proposal with particulars of any agreement that may be required. Mr. Smith also indicated that easements were usually done in perpetuity but may also be done over a defined period of time. It was also indicated that the Conservancy has a Stewardship Endowment Fund which provides for 15% of the fair market value of the property to be set aside for its continued maintenance.

Having completed his presentation to the meeting, Mr. Smith then retired from the meeting room.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

As a result of correspondence from the Municipality, the Barrington & Area Chamber of Commerce has provided two names of individuals who have agreed to serve on the Economic Development Council that is currently being set up in south western Nova Scotia, which includes the Municipality of Barrington.

#### Resolution COW120214

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by L. Halliday that Wendy McGill and Liliana Stoddard be requested to provide a letter of introduction and biography so that members may better be able to choose a representative for the Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### SUN SAFETY POLICY

As a result of previous consideration, the Sun Safety Policy was reviewed again by the Recreation Director. It has been revised and updated.

#### Resolution COW120215

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Sun Safety Policy be approved by Council pending satisfactory review of the Municipal Solicitor.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### RECREATION POLICIES AND RENTAL AGREEMENT

This matter was deferred to the meeting from a previous meeting of the committee. It was the consensus of members that this matter may take considerable discussion and therefore it has been deferred to the end of the meeting.

CIVIC ADDRESSING BY-LAW

A draft of a proposed Civic Addressing By-Law had previously been circulated to all members for their information and review. The implementation of this by-law will be significant as it will affect most, if not all, property owners within the Municipality.

Some discussion then ensued regarding the signing requirements and the requirements to provide street signs for all private roads in the Municipality.

Resolution COW120216

**Moved** by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Municipality contact the Municipality of Argyle regarding their civic addressing sign program to obtain further information.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW120217

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by L. Halliday that Mr. Angus Atkinson be allowed to address the committee regarding this matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Atkinson then indicated that it is possible to buy these signs from a company in New Brunswick. Mr. Atkinson believes the name of the company is Trask Signs Limited. He has in the past purchased double sided signs with a post for approximately \$15.00.

YARMOUTH-ARGYLE-BARRINGTON DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION

Members had previously been provided with information regarding the Planning Commission. This matter had been deferred from a previous meeting of the committee for further consideration during this month as notice had been given to the Planning Commission that the Municipality would withdraw effective March 31, 2012.

Members then discussed the progress being made with the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law review.

There was much discussion regarding this review and the functions being provided by the District Planning Commission.

It was the consensus of members that the Municipality continue to proceed with the process for withdrawing from the Commission.

Resolution COW120217

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the District Planning Commission be required to provide all materials pertinent to the Municipality upon withdrawal from the Commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Information was circulated to all members regarding the selection of the Volunteer of the Year for the current year.

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Atkinson declared conflict of interest in this matter as he is one of the nominees.

It was agreed by members that the choice for Volunteer of the Year would be done at the next Council meeting as members have not had the opportunity to review the materials provided.

Councillor Atkinson returned to the meeting table.

CONTINUATION OF MEETING

Since the hour of 10:00 p.m. has been reached it was:

Resolution COW120218

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by M. Atkinson that the meeting continue until all matters have been dealt with.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

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

**NEGATIVE**

Cathy Stoddard

Motion carried.

TOURISM COORDINATOR

Information had previously been provided to members concerning the work of the Tourism Coordinator and continued funding of this function by the Municipality.

After some discussion it was agreed by consensus of members to continue funding this program for the next two years in order to fulfill the Municipality's commitment to it.

It was also suggested that the Tourism Coordinator be used as much as possible to promote tourism and tourism related events within the Municipality.

#### COMMUNITY GRANTS

Consideration of this policy was again placed on the agenda at the request of a councillor.

It was agreed by members that consideration of this policy may take some considerable time and therefore it will be deferred for further discussion to the end of the meeting.

#### DR. YEE REQUEST RE: PURCHASE OF COMPUTERS

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality purchase two new computers to replace the computers in Dr. Germanus office.

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that the motion be amended to include, "that had been returned to the Municipality and used elsewhere in municipal offices". These computers have been purchased to furnish the doctor's office in the past.

Amendment carried unanimously.

The division was then taken on the amended motion.

#### Resolution COW120219

"...that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality purchase two new computers to replace the computers in Dr. Germanus office that had been returned to the Municipality and used elsewhere in municipal offices.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### ELECTION PREPARATIONS

Members have been advised that there are three matters that should be considered regarding the preparation for municipal elections to be held in October 2012.

#### Electronic Voting

The first consideration is whether or not to conduct electronic voting. It was the consensus of members that since changes will already be implemented during this election for a reduced number of municipal districts, and councillors, that no additional changes would be advisable at this time. As a consequence, it was the consensus of members that electronic voting not be implemented during this election.

Preliminary List

The second issue is the preliminary list of electors. The Municipality ordinarily obtains a preliminary List of Electors from Elections Nova Scotia from which the Returning Officer amends the list and prepares a final List of Electors.

Resolution COW120220

**Moved** by C. Stoddard and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality obtain a preliminary List of Electors from Elections Nova Scotia as has been done in the past.

Motion carried unanimously.

Advance Polls

The final matter in preparation for municipal elections is to determine the date of an Advance Poll. Two Advance Polls are ordinarily held. One is held on the Tuesday prior to the election. The other may be held on either Thursday or Saturday of the week prior to the election. In the past the first Advance Poll has ordinarily been held on the Saturday prior to the election.

Resolution COW120221

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by L. Halliday that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality hold the first Advance Poll on the Saturday prior to the regular municipal election in October 2012.

Motion carried unanimously.

RELEASE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY

Correspondence has been received from Mr. David Eldridge requesting a release of right-of-way on property adjacent to the municipal property at Sherose Island. This is an old right-of-way contained in a deed for the adjacent property. The right-of-way can be traced back to the mid 1940s. The right-of-way does not appear to be on the documents provided by the Federal Government to the Municipality at the time the Sherose Island property was purchased by the Municipality. The right-of-way has not been used and there is no known requirement of the Municipality for the use of this right-of-way at this time. Although the right-of-way exists on paper it has not been used and there is no evidence of it on the ground.

Resolution COW120222

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the release of right-of-way requested for the Greenwood property adjacent to the municipal property at Sherose Island be approved pending acceptance by the Municipal Solicitor.

Motion carried unanimously.



### PROVINCIAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

The Municipality of Argyle provided information regarding the provincial boundary review. In this information the Municipality of Argyle indicates their objection to removing the constituencies that have been put in place for the Acadian areas of the province.

It was the consensus of members that this matter would be further discussed at a subsequent meeting of the committee.

### MEETING WITH NOVA SCOTIA LIBERAL PARTY LEADER

Information has been received, by telephone, from the Nova Scotia Liberal Party indicating that the Liberal Leader can meet with municipal representatives on the afternoon of March 8th. During this time the Liberal Leader will be meeting with other municipal leaders in Yarmouth and representatives from the Municipality of Barrington are invited to attend that meeting. If this is not a satisfactory time the Liberal Leader will arrange for a meeting in Barrington during the evening of March 8th.

#### Resolution COW120223

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by C. Stoddard that Donna LeBlanc-Messenger and Murray Atkinson be authorized to attend the meeting with the Liberal Leader in Yarmouth on March 8th, and that their expenses to attend be paid.

Motion carried unanimously.

### SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Schedule of Fees was circulated to members for their information and review.

### DEFERRED ITEMS

#### Resolution COW120224

**Moved** by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the matters deferred to the end of the meeting for further discussion be placed on the agenda for the next subsequent meeting of the committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

### HERITAGE PROPERTY DEREGISTRATION

As a result of an application from Marven and Deborah Stoddard for deregistration of a heritage property owned by them, correspondence has been received from the Municipal Solicitor advising in this matter.

The Heritage Property Registration Act has been amended in recent years. These amendments provide that property owners will have to wait three years instead of one year to do changes that are not approved by either the Province or the Municipality, and that deregistration will now only be permitted if the registration is proven to be inappropriate as a result of the loss of the property's heritage value. The request received for deregistration from Marven and Deborah Stoddard does not appear to do this. The Municipal Solicitor has suggested an alternative for the owners would be to apply to the Heritage Committee (PAC) to make the alterations they wish to do. The committee could then approve this request if it wishes and recommend it to Council. Council then would have to approve the request as well. This would allow the changes to be made without deregistration. Public notice and a public hearing would not be required but may be held if Council wished. This would allow the Stoddards to make their changes without deregistering the property, and allow them to make the changes to the property sooner rather than having to wait the three years required in the Act.

Resolution COW120225

**Moved** by L. Halliday and seconded by M. Atkinson that it be recommended to Council that Mr. & Mrs. Stoddard, who have applied for deregistration of a municipal heritage property owned by them, be informed of the information obtained from the Municipal Solicitor so that they may consider an appropriate course of action.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:40 p.m.

---

Chair

---

Secretary for the Meeting

**On website February 23, 2012**