

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

November 13, 2012

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

- Eddie Nickerson, Chair
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Department of Transportation Issues.
- New Horizons Request.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that minutes of the last previous meeting held October 1, 2012 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

GOOSE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Mr. Frank Hubbard and Mr. Bob Burns appeared on behalf of the Goose Lake Association, together with other members, to make a request of Council for upgrading of the portion of the Goose Lake Road that is owned by the Association. The Association is requesting the Municipality to provide funds to it in order to maintain a private road owned by the Association at Goose Lake. At present there is no assistance from the Municipality to maintain this private road. The property owners on the private road are currently charged \$100.00 per year for the purpose of maintaining the private portion of the Goose Lake Road. The Municipality currently maintains the portion of the Goose Lake Road that it owns. The Association has spent approximately \$3,000.00 in the past year to maintain the portion of the Goose Lake Road which it owns, and wishes the Municipality to help maintain this portion.

Members had been provided with a copy of the *Local Improvement By-Law*, together with the Goose Lake Association's request. The *Local Improvement By-Law* provides a mechanism by which this association, or any other association, may have local improvements done to private roads. These local improvements include constructing or improving streets, curbs, sidewalks, gutters, driveways, ramps, culverts, catch basins, catch basin leads and sewers within a public right of way. The Municipality can only spend taxpayers funds on public right of ways and would require the Goose Lake Association to turn over their portion of the Goose Lake Road to the Municipality in order for the Municipality to spend monies to maintain it.

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Messenger declared conflict of interest and removed herself to the public gallery as she is an owner of properties at Goose Lake which are accessed by this private road.

Resolution COW121101

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by G. El-Jakl that this matter be deferred for further discussion to a subsequent Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The presenters were also concerned that there were individuals who had obtained wood cutting permits from the Municipality, and who had campsites located in the area on Municipal property in Goose Lake, who were using the private portion of the Goose Lake Road for these purposes. These people were using the private portion of the Goose Lake Road and causing deterioration to it, for which the Association was receiving no compensation.

Having completed their discussion of this matter, members of the Goose Lake Association agreed to meet with the Municipal Clerk to further explore various possibilities for maintenance of their private road.

Deputy Warden Messenger then returned to the meeting table.

FIRE SERVICES REPORT

Committee members had previously been provided with a copy of the second quarterly report from the Fire Services Coordinator. A portion of this report addresses fire services being provided in the Port Clyde and Port LaTour fire districts. In this report the Fire Services Coordinator indicated that he believes the members in those two fire districts do not have an adequate number of trained firefighters to fight fires in their districts on their own. As a result he has met with the fire chiefs from the Port Clyde, Port LaTour and Barrington fire departments. Together they have addressed this matter by arranging for all three fire departments to be dispatched together for any fires.

All three fire chiefs, together with the Fire Services Coordinator, have signed a document that states that: "On confirmed structure fires Port Clyde and Port LaTour fire departments will be dispatched along with the Barrington Fire Department so that there are fifteen (15) Level I trained firefighters who could meet the standard of responding to fire and other emergency calls. On confirmed structure fires, they would also request a pumper and tanker from the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department as automatic aid." In this way there would be an adequate response to fire events in those two districts. This does not lessen the need for additional training that is required in the district, however it provides an interim solution to the concern expressed by the Fire Services Coordinator.

The Municipality's Fire Services Advisory Committee will be meeting tomorrow night and this matter will be brought up to the meeting by the Fire Services Coordinator. Councillor El-Jakl indicated he would not be able to attend this meeting. The Warden agreed to attend the meeting in place of Councillor El-Jakl. Also attending will be Councillor Jody Crook who is the councillor from the district where the Port Clyde and Port LaTour fire departments are located.

Councillor El-Jakl also indicated at this time that the Wood's Harbour/Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department is transferring the old buildings to the Wood's Harbour Community Centre Association. He provided a copy of minutes from a special meeting of the Wood's Harbour/Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department that was held on April 24, 2012. At this meeting a motion was passed to turn the old fire hall solely over to the Wood's Harbour Community Centre Association with two right of ways, thirty feet from the north line and 30 feet from the south line of the property.

CAUSEWAY TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Concern has been expressed over the timing of the traffic lights at the intersection of Highway #3 and Highway #330 at the Cape Sable Island causeway. It is believed that the traffic lights do not allow enough time for traffic exiting Highway #330 turning west onto Highway #3.

Resolution COW121102

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality contact the Department of Transportation and have them check the traffic lights at the intersection of Highway #330 and Highway #3 in order to increase the time allowed for traffic exiting Highway #330 turning west onto Highway #3.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY MAIL BOX CHARGES

This matter was referred to Committee of the Whole for further discussion by Council. Canada Post will be charging developers of new subdivisions an installation charge for community mail boxes located in these new developments. The installation charge will be \$200.00 per address.

After some discussion it was agreed by consensus of members that the motion previously made at Council should be approved as made.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Information was provided to members about the Supportive Housing Youth Focus Team located in Yarmouth. This matter had become part of the discussion as a result of correspondence received from the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

There then followed some discussion regarding both the SHYFT program and the letter from the Eastern Synod.

Resolution COW121103

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality endorse the principle contained in the letter from the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and communicate this to them by letter.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW121104

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that requests for funding from the SHYFT organization in Yarmouth be referred to next year's budget process for consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

BAY SIDE HOME APPOINTMENT

Barrington Municipal Council now wishes to appoint a member to the Bay Side Home Board of Directors to fill a recent vacancy. Two applications have been received from individuals interested in serving on this Board. The two applications have been circulated to members for their information and review.

Members agreed to conduct a secret ballot to determine which individual would be nominated.

Mr. Angus Atkinson, who was in attendance in the public gallery this evening, was asked to be a scrutineer, along with the Municipal Clerk, for the secret ballot.

Members then voted by secret ballot for their nomination. Members were informed that the successful applicant chosen by secret ballot was Lynn Lamrock.

Resolution COW121105

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that Lynn Lamrock be nominated to the Bay Side Home Board of Directors.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW121106

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that correspondence be sent to Bonnie Smith who also applied for the position of director of Bay Side Home, thanking her for her application and informing her that Council is very appreciate of the effort she puts in to Bay Side Home and that they had to make a difficult decision in nominating a member to the Board of Directors, and also that she should apply again in the case of any future vacancies.

Motion carried unanimously.

NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS ON COMMITTEES

Under present policy it is necessary to have at least three (3) councillors on the Hiring Committee, the Audit Committee and the Joint EMO Executive Committee. Councillors have expressed the opinion that they would like to have the number of councillors required on committees to be reduced. In order to reduce the number of councillors, it would be necessary to amend policies 39 and 59 appropriately.

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that policies #39 and #59 be amended and presented to Council to reduce the number of councillors required on the Hiring Committee and other standing committees to no more than two (2).

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that the motion be amended to insert the words "with the exception of the Joint EMO Executive Committee".

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook

Shaun Hatfield

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Amendment carried unanimously.

The amended motion now reads as follows:

Resolution COW121107

"...that policies #39 and #59 be amended and presented to Council to reduce the number of councillors required on the Hiring Committee and other standing committees to no more than two (2), with the exception of the Joint EMO Executive Committee."

AFFIRMATIVE

**Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Eddie Nickerson**

NEGATIVE

**George El-Jakl
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger**

Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS STIPENDS

Information was circulated to members at the beginning of the meeting indicating the stipends paid by other municipal units in Shelburne County, Yarmouth County and Digby County for the offices of Mayor, Warden and Deputy Mayor, Deputy Warden and Councillors.

Information concerning the Municipality's current policy, and the current remuneration paid to the Warden, Deputy Warden and Councillors, was also circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Resolution COW121108

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality's current policy for annual remuneration and expenses for councillors, staff and others be followed as stated.

AFFIRMATIVE

**Jody Crook
George El-Jakl
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson**

NEGATIVE

Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

Resolution COW121109

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the current remuneration of councillors begin at amounts that are currently in place which are the result of salaries being "frozen" during the previous three years.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook

George El-Jakl

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

It is necessary to put these motions in place in order to establish the current stipends for Council.

SEAL ISLAND LIGHT RESTORATION

It is now necessary for the Municipality to commit additional funds towards the restoration of the Seal Island Light in order to have this project proceed.

Moved by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality commit additional funds to the Seal Island Light Restoration Project.

The Warden then requested a seconder for this motion an additional three times. The motion receiving no seconder was then declared lost.

Resolution COW121110

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that the Warden discuss the Seal Island Light Restoration Project with our MLA and report back to committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

EUTHANIZATION OF ANIMALS

Information was provided to councillors indicating that it was recently necessary for the RCMP to euthanize an animal in the local area. As a result it was brought to the attention of members that there had been no member of the Department of Natural Resources available for this purpose, and that there was no "tranquilizer gun" in the local area for the purpose of tranquilizing animals rather than euthanizing them.

Resolution COW121111

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that correspondence be sent to the Department of Natural Resources asking why there is no tranquilizer gun available in the local area, and why there was no trained personnel available for euthanization of the animal in question.

Motion carried unanimously.

PVSC PICTOMETRY

Members were provided with information on the PVSC Pictometry Program. A photograph of the intersection of Highway #3 and Highway #330 was circulated to members in order to give them an illustration of the PVSC Pictometry. It is requested that the Municipality purchase additional aerial photography from the Property Valuation Services Corporation at a cost of \$150.00 per square kilometer. The remainder of the Municipality's aerial photography which has not already been purchased can be done at a total cost of \$16,800.00, plus HST. It is requested that this amount be provided in the Municipality's budget for the coming year in order to have this photography done during the spring.

Resolution COW121112

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality include \$16,800.00 in its 2013/14 operating budget for the purchase of the aerial photography to be done by the Property Valuation Services Corporation.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Members were informed that the work on the shoulder of the road on Cape Sable Island has progressed well and is much appreciated. It is also requested that this work be continued.

Resolution COW121113

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that correspondence be forwarded to the Department of Transportation indicating appreciation for the maintenance work that has been done on the shoulder of the road on Cape Sable Island, and requesting them to continue this work, especially in the North East Point area along Highway #330.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW121114

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that correspondence also be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting them to grade the Upper Clyde Road beyond the point where the chip sealing has been done on that road.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW HORIZONS REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from the Young at Heart New Horizons Seniors Association in Wood's Harbour. In this correspondence they are requesting a letter of support from the Municipality that they can include in their request for a grant from Nova Scotia Health and Wellness to purchase the former Hilltop Furniture building in Wood's Harbour. This building will be used to conduct seniors and other programs in their community.

Resolution COW121115

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality provide a letter of support, as requested, to the Young at Heart New Horizons Seniors Association.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:30 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website November 15, 2012.