

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, December 10, 2012.

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 6:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported that all councillors representing all districts of the Municipality were present with the exception of Councillor Shaun Hatfield. Councillor Hatfield is expected to arrive shortly.

- Warden Eddie Nickerson
- Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Jody Crook
- Councillor George El-Jakl
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield (6:55 p.m.)

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that a Closed Session of Council be held to deal with personnel matters as indicated on the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Closed Session of Council was held to deal with personnel matters.

The Regular Council Meeting was called back to order at 7:05 p.m.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Employee evaluations for Stacey Chetwynd, Arena Services Technician; Shenton Allen, Property Services Technician; and Darren Brown, Property Services Technician, were presented before members for review.

Resolution C121201

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that Stacey Chetwynd, Arena Services Technician, receive her yearly increment effective November 22, 2012.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C121202

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that Darren Brown, Property Services Technician, receive his yearly increment effective December 6, 2012.

Motion carried unanimously.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that the minutes of the last meeting held November 26, 2012 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL

Council at their meeting held October 9, 2012 passed a motion to nominate Lynne M. Perry for consideration of The Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal award. Mrs. Perry passed away September 30, 2012. She was the Executive Director of the South Shore Tourism Association and very active in many local boards and societies such as the Drug Dependency Board, Canadian Cancer Society, local school parent support groups, etc. The nomination was accepted by the Governor General of Canada and the Jubilee Medal has been provided to the Municipality. Lynne's family was in attendance. The Warden presented the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to Lauren Atkinson who accepted on behalf of her grandmother.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Seal Island Light Restoration

The Warden informed members that he has been in discussion with MLA Sterling Belliveau's secretary, and he has been advised that the application for funding for the Seal Island Light Restoration Project is still being considered by the Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism. Confirmation of this has also been received by way of email from the department.

The Clerk informed members that ACOA had been contacted and an extension has been requested to sign the Letter of Offer. No response has been received to date. The Clerk informed members that without receiving an extension from ACOA, the Letter of Offer must be signed not later than December 26, 2012.

At this time the tabled motion from the November 26, 2012 Council meeting was brought forward.

"Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the Municipality pay the Province of Nova Scotia's portion of the restoration cost, up to a maximum of \$21,700.00."

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the above motion be amended making it conditional upon no favourable response being received from the Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism by December 21, 2012.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
George El-Jakl
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

NEGATIVE

Shaun Hatfield
Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the above motion also be amended indicating that if ACOA extends their deadline to sign the Letter of Offer that date be used instead of the date quoted above of December 21, 2012.

AFFIRMATIVE

George El-Jakl
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

The amended motion reads as follows:

Resolution C121203

"...that the Municipality pay the Province of Nova Scotia's portion of the restoration cost up to a maximum of \$21,700.00, subject to their being no favorable response received from the Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism by December 21, 2012, or at the end of the extension period should one be approved by ACOA to sign the Letter of Offer."

Motion carried.

Resolution C121204

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that the above motion be tabled until December 21, 2012 if no favourable response is received from the Province or later should an extension be granted by ACOA.

Motion carried unanimously.

If necessary, a meeting to approve the Letter of Offer will be held on December 21, 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE

Crow's Neck Beach

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of an email received from Harold Carroll of the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources regarding access to Crow's Neck Beach. In this email Mr. Carroll advises that the Department is not in a position to provide support for any new and/or improved access over crown land at Crow's Neck Beach. The lands in question occupy a significant beach area that is under review as part of the government commitment to achieve 12% protected lands, and is also part of their provincial park system review. These two processes are overlapping as they move toward completing a draft Integrated Parks and Protected Areas Plan. Lands under review are being limited from new or expanded development so as to not create unintended impacts for the yet to be released plan. The plan will provide recommendations on future management which is critical to indicating what development for public use may or may not be compatible. No new permits or Letters of Authority will be granted at this time.

Resolution C121205

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that a letter be forwarded to Mr. Harold Carroll of the Department of Natural Resources explaining that the Municipality's main concern is to upgrade existing public access to Crow's Neck Beach, not new development or expanded development in that area, and that a copy of this letter be forwarded to the Minister of Natural Resources.

Motion carried unanimously.

Federal Gas Tax Program

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from the Canada/Nova Scotia Infrastructure Secretariat which advised that the last year for funding disbursements under the current program will be in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. All funds that have not been expended by March 31, 2014 shall be returned to the Province by March 31, 2016.

Resolution C121206

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the paving of the municipal parking lot at McGray Avenue, and upgrades to the municipal boat launch at McGray Avenue be added to the list of possible capital investment projects to be funded by the Gas Tax Revenues.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was the general consensus of members that Federal Gas Tax Program Projects be discussed during Strategic Planning Meetings to be held in the new year.

Regional Enterprise Networks

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities regarding Regional Enterprise Networks and the Province's commitment to Regional Economic Development. The letter advised that as a result of the decision of ACOA to eliminate core funding, an independent panel was formed to make recommendations regarding the RDA model. The new model will be called Regional Enterprise Networks and is designed to operate without federal funding. Currently the UNSM and the Province are working on a go-forward plan.

During discussion of this matter the Warden informed members that an invitation has also been received from the Municipality of Argyle to attend a meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2013 to discuss new proposed economic development regions and their impact on our area. He also informed members that an invitation has been received from the Municipality of Argyle inviting himself and the Clerk to attend a meeting to be held on Monday, December 17, 2012 to discuss an outstanding issue originating from the South West Shore Development Authority.

Department of Environment - Watercourse Alteration Program

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Environment regarding suggested changes to be made to its Watercourse Alteration Program. The Department is requesting comments on proposed changes.

The full document will be provided to each Council member.

Resolution C121207

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that any feedback from councillors is to be forwarded to the Municipal Clerk which will be forwarded on to the Department of Environment.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Deputy Warden Messenger

Deputy Warden Messenger reported on recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Council.

UNSM Meeting Invitations

Resolution C121208

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that the Municipality request staff to draft a policy providing for payment of councillors' expenses to attend Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities events and workshops without requiring prior approval by Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

Disposition of Federal Government Property

Resolution C121209

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the Municipality has no known purpose for the Public Works and Government Services property in East Baccaro, and that the Federal Government be informed that the Municipality has no interest in purchasing it .

Motion carried unanimously.

Riverhead Road Intersection

Resolution C121210

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that correspondence be sent to the Department of Transportation requesting that brush and alders along the eastern side of the road near the Riverhead Road intersection be cut and trimmed back to provide better visibility.

Motion carried unanimously.

Student Physician Sponsorship

The Committee of the Whole Council is recommending that a separate and independent society be established for the purpose of sponsoring students who wish to become physicians.

Resolution C121211

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Clerk determine any legal parameters which may affect the establishment of a Health Human Resources Society to be initiated by the Municipality who may appoint some of the members to this body.

Motion carried unanimously.

Computers

Resolution C121212

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that a policy be drafted for an information technology allowance to be provided by the Municipality, and that the Municipality no longer provide councillors with laptops as there is a more cost effective manner for this to be done.

Motion carried unanimously.

Department of Transportation

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that a letter be sent to the local Department of Transportation Office and to the Minister requesting the Department of Transportation to address the road conditions at the sharp turn known locally as "Bear Point Woods".

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that the above motion be amended to add that the Department of Transportation be requested to contact Councillor George El-Jakl so he can be on site when the situation is viewed by their staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

The amended motion now reads as follows:

Resolution C121213

"...that a letter be sent to the local Department of Transportation Office and to the Minister requesting the Department of Transportation to address the road conditions at the sharp turn known locally as "Bear Point Woods", and that the Department of Transportation be requested to contact Councillor George El-Jakl so he can be on site when the situation is viewed by their staff."

Motion carried.

Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger also expressed an interest in being present, and it was agreed that Councillor El-Jakl would contact her once arrangements have been made.

Minor Hockey Request

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Municipality give permission to Shelburne County Minor Hockey to locate a Nova Scotia webcam at the Barrington Municipal Arena.

Resolution C121214

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that the above motion be tabled until a reply has been received from the Municipal Solicitor regarding the installation of a Nova Scotia webcam at the Barrington Municipal Arena.

AFFIRMATIVE

George El-Jakl
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

Jody Crook

Motion carried.

The following recommendation from the Committee of the Whole Council will also be dealt with after comments have been received from the Municipal Solicitor:

"...that it be recommended to Council that Shelburne County Minor Hockey be required to obtain permission from other groups conducting events other than minor hockey for the purpose of streaming their events with the Nova Scotia webcam prior to doing so."

Deputy Warden Messenger gave a brief report on her activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor George El-Jakl

Councillor El-Jakl gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Senior Safety and Services Society

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of the Coordinator's Report for the month of November, statistics on Shelburne County seniors, brochure and Christmas tea flyer.

During discussion of this matter Councillor El-Jakl informed members that the only concern he has received regarding the senior bus trips was that there was not enough time due to there being only one driver. He suggested that in future maybe trips should be planned with two drivers.

It was agreed that Joint Services be added to a future meeting of the Committee of the Whole Council to be discussed as it relates to Senior Services, Tourism, etc.

Code of Conduct for Elected Officials

The Clerk made reference to Policy No. 60, "Code of Conduct for Elected Municipal Officials". In that policy there is a section that requires councillors to sign a Statement of Commitment to the "code" within seven (7) days of taking the councillor's oath. Each member was asked to complete the Statement of Commitment as soon as possible and return to the Office.

Payroll Agreement

The Clerk informed members that steps have been taken to arrange for direct deposit for the municipal payroll commencing the first payroll in January 2013. Payroll services will be provided by Ceridian Canada Limited, and the Clerk is requesting approval to enter into the payroll agreement.

Resolution C121215

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that the Clerk and Warden be authorized to sign the agreement with Ceridian Canada Limited to provide for direct deposit of the municipal payroll.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by G. El-Jakl that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Warden

Clerk

Secretary for the Meeting

On website December 13, 2012.