

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

May 12, 2014

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

- Lindsay (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:

- Grant Request.
- Budget Meeting.
- Sou'West Transit.
- Communities in Bloom.
- Barrington Passage Post Office.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by D. Messenger that minutes of the meetings held April 22nd, April 24th and May 1st, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Warden noted that the interview with representatives from South West Health would be rescheduled for another evening.

ALBENIA LANE SEWER

Since Mr. Messenger was now present the Warden invited him to make his presentation regarding the Albenia Lane sewer.

Mr. Messenger indicated that he spoke on behalf of Mr. Hennigar who owns the company, Butler Estates, and also on behalf of other people who live on Albenia Lane. He indicated that there is a significant cost for the environmental approvals and engineering information required for the Municipality to take over the sewer line. It is also necessary to have a camera put through the portion of the sewer line that is being requested to be taken over in order to determine that it is in satisfactory condition. The estimated cost of doing these things is approximately \$6,000.00. Mr. Messenger is requesting the Municipality to share the cost of having these requirements met.

Upon questioning, Mr. Messenger indicated that he had not spoken to other residents recently regarding this matter, but assured members that they were all in support of the Municipality assuming ownership of this sewer line. The 8" sewer line runs close to Civic #3466, then in a straight line to the middle of the next property to a manhole. It may be necessary to add two additional manholes in the sewer line. Mr. Hennigar is willing to install these at his expense, if necessary.

Mr. Messenger was also informed that an easement will be required from Butler Estates allowing the Municipality to maintain and repair the sewer line at any time in the future should it be necessary.

The request from Butler Estates is that the Municipality cost share the up-front engineering and evaluation costs for the sewer line. These costs are estimated to be \$6,000.00 and the Municipality is being requested to pay 50% of the cost.

Resolution COW140501

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality enter into an agreement with Butler Estates Limited to share 50% of the cost of the engineering and evaluation fees to a maximum of \$3,000.00, providing all of the requirements of the Municipality and Nova Scotia Environment are met prior to the Municipality making any payment for costs.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

Members agreed to further address the current agreement that is in place with Butler Estates later in the evening at the scheduled Council meeting.

SCHOOLSPLUS PROGRAM

Andrea Huskilson, the local Board member for the Tri-County Regional School Board, and Kathy Hart who is the SchoolsPlus Board Coordinator for the Tri-County Regional School Board, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of making a slide presentation of the SchoolsPlus Program. Ms. Hart then proceeded to provide the Committee with an overview of the program and its use and effect in coordinating the efforts of various government departments.

Having completed their presentation, the ladies retired from the meeting at approximately 8:29 p.m.

CROWELL'S STORE PROPERTY

Tremaine and Shelly Blinkhorn, Jim and Donna Reed, and Fred Chetwynd and his wife appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the potential sale of the Crowell's Store property. These people are neighbors to this property and would like to see the former Crowell's Store building torn down and removed from the property.

Mr. Blinkhorn acted as spokesman for the group for the most part. He stated that the Schedule "A" indicated that there was a right of way across the Reed's driveway to access the rear of the Crowell's Store property. He indicated that he did not believe that this right of way existed any longer. Mr. Blinkhorn suggested that the property was no good to anyone else but its neighbors, and that the only alternative that the Municipality had to his offer was for it to demolish the building. He had previously talked to the woman who had offered to purchase the property previously, and indicated that he had not received any response to his offer when the offer from this lady had been considered by the Municipality.

It was indicated that none of the neighbors wanted any development to take place on this site. Mr. Blinkhorn stated that he intended to have it torn down if he were to purchase it.

Mr. Reed then provided a written presentation to members and made several comments regarding the property. He indicated that it is a dangerous location for a school bus stop. The school bus stop that is there is dangerous because there is much traffic in the area. He also indicated that when the store was located there, there was much traffic to the store which was not acceptable to the neighbors. He also indicated that there had been six or seven incidents in the vicinity of the store over the years. He indicated that he felt there was no well on the property.

Mr. Fred Chetwynd also spoke to members. Mr. Chetwynd indicated that he had been living in the area for 36 years. He felt that cars drive too fast past this area and suggested that the Municipality should accept Mr. Blinkhorn's offer in order to reduce the traffic so that there is no commercial development on the site. He said he is concerned for the safety of the children who are picked up by the school bus in this area.

Mr. Blinkhorn indicated that his offer is firm and that he would be willing to place a bus shelter for the children waiting for school buses, and would guarantee that the building would be demolished and gone by the end of the summer if he purchased the property.

Having completed their discussion of the matter, the public members retired from the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m.

SPRING CLEANING

Conflict of Interest

The Warden declared conflict of interest vacated his seat and left the room as his wife is employed at one of the local institutions that may be requested to do the spring cleaning of municipal buildings.

The Deputy Warden then assumed the Chair.

Members then discussed the possibility of contacting the Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion regarding the cleaning of various municipal buildings. This will be done in the near future by Municipal Staff to determine whether or not this can be done by that organization and at what cost.

BARRINGTON BAY TRAIL

The Warden then returned to the meeting and assumed the Chair.

Members were then provided with an update on the Barrington Bay Trail. The trail has been open for a one year trial period. To date, only two written complaints have been received at the Municipal Office regarding the use of 4-wheelers on the Barrington Bay Trail.

This matter will be brought before the Committee again at a June meeting in order to determine the next steps to be taken in this matter.

HOUSING AUTHORITY RESIGNATION

A letter of resignation has been received from Mr. Roy Quinlan who is the Municipality's representative on the Western Regional Housing Authority. The letter submitted by Mr. Quinlan is in some detail and addresses some concerns with the various aspects of the operation of the Housing Authority.

Resolution COW140502

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that Mr. Roy Quinlan be invited to a Closed Session of the Committee of the Whole to discuss the issues he has indicated in his letter of resignation from the Western Regional Housing Authority.

Motion carried unanimously.

GRANT REQUEST

A grant request has been received from the Woods Harbour Fishermen's Memorial Association. The Association is requesting \$1,000.00 toward the upkeep and maintenance of the fishermen's memorial.

It was the consensus of members that a contribution of \$500.00 be included in the Municipality's budget for the current year for the Woods Harbour Fishermen's Memorial.

BUDGET MEETING

It was suggested that the municipal department managers present their budgets to Committee of the Whole at the next scheduled budget meeting.

It was the consensus of members that the next budget meeting be held on Thursday, May 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

SOU'WEST NOVA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

The Municipality has been asked to contact the Utility and Review Board regarding a request by Sou'West Nova Transit Association to provide a Letter of Agreement to them. Sou'West Nova Transit Association has been contacted by telephone and requested to provide, in writing, what, if anything, is required. The Municipality is now waiting for a response from the Utility and Review Board and the Motor Vehicle Department of the Province of Nova Scotia. This information will be communicated to the Sou'West Transit Association.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM

The Municipal Recreation Director and the Visitor Information Centre Manager have met with the local Chamber of Commerce to develop a program to participate in Communities in Bloom. This is a program for the beautification of the Municipality done through the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities. Additional information will be provided by the Recreation Director. The Committee will be brought up to date.

BARRINGTON PASSAGE POST OFFICE

The issue of vehicles backing out of the driveway along the side of the Barrington Passage Post Office was again brought to the attention of members.

Resolution COW140503

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that a representative of Canada Post be requested to meet with the Committee in order to discuss safety issues at the Barrington Passage Post Office.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:40 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website May 14, 2014.