

**SPECIAL MEETING  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL**

**November 24, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson, Chair
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
  
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk
  
- Anna Kenney, Recreation Director
- Stacey Dixon, Arena Technician

**PURPOSE OF MEETING**

The Warden informed members that the purpose of the meeting was to receive public input regarding the current operation of the Arena.

This is the first year the Arena has operated without a full-time Manager and concerns from patrons have been expressed to the Clerk and a number of council members.

The following user groups were represented:

- David Krafve, Past President, Shelburne County Minor Hockey Association
- Brennan Goreham, President, Sea Star Ice Dogs Hockey Team
- Samantha Brannen, Shelburne County Figure Skating Club
- Andrew Holland, Barrington Area Old Timers League
- Corey MacKinnon, Shelburne County Minor Hockey Timbits
- Coralee Scott, Shelburne County Minor Hockey Association
- Jennifer Spencer, Arena User
- Joleen Arey, Arena User
- Charla Strang, Arena User
- Elaine Garron, Arena User
- Angus Atkinson, Arena User

Individuals listed above were given an opportunity to address the committee.

The following concerns were brought forward:

- The canteen is usually closed when kids get off the ice and the canteen was not open sufficient hours during the recent tournament held at the Arena. It was suggested that the operation of the canteen could be tendered out.
- Early in the season there were some mix-ups with bookings, but this seems to be worked out now.
- Some presenters indicated that the public washrooms are not cleaned properly and that garbage is left on the bleachers, while other users indicated that they felt the Arena was clean.

- Concern was expressed that there is no “presence” at the Arena; no-one for individuals to go to with concerns or questions. It was suggested that the Recreation Office move to the Arena to provide the “presence” needed.
- Concern was expressed that it was not the Recreation Director’s job to run the Arena and that she should be focusing on programming.
- Concern was expressed that when you leave the Arena your clothes smell of the grease used in the canteen. This needs to be investigated.

At 7:00 p.m. members were asked whether they wanted to continue the meeting with the users of the Arena, or adjourn and convene the Council meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

It was the consensus of members that they continue the meeting with users of the Arena and that the Council meeting be held immediately following.

A continuation of the concerns expressed are as follows:

- It was suggested that a proactive Arena Manager is required in order to run the Arena and attract more people to the Arena. In addition, the Arena Manager could arrange activities such as hockey tournaments, skating competitions, etc.
- Snack machines at the Arena do not work half the time.
- It was suggested that the ice be put in earlier and taken out later in the year to accommodate hockey schools.
- Fundraisers should be held throughout the summer.
- Minor hockey indicated that they are attempting to arrange for provincials to be held at the Barrington Arena this year and questioned the availability of ice time and canteen.
- It was recently noted that a canteen worker was on the phone while waiting on customers at the Arena.
- 1 hour ice rental should be 1 hour, not 50 minutes
- Some concern was expressed regarding ice time. It was noted that these concerns should be discussed with their associations.
- The importance of the continuation of the adult skate was expressed.

Anna Kenney, Recreation Director, then addressed members and the audience and briefly explained her responsibility as it relates to the Arena operation. During her presentation she indicated that a fourth person has now been hired to operate the canteen.

Stacey Dixon, Arena Technician, then addressed members and the audience. She asked people to be patient with staff while they are learning their newly assigned duties. The operation of the skate sharpening machine was questioned. Mrs. Dixon advised that the machine was fixed tonight and is now operational.

During the meeting the Warden made members aware of deficits of the Barrington Municipal Arena which are as follows:

2014/15 Budget	\$ 84,000
2013/2014 Actual	\$155,199
2012/2013 Actual	\$118,032
2011/2012 Actual	\$ 96,994

The Warden also reported on Arena Rental Rates in other areas. Rates listed below are per hour.

Shelburne County Arena		\$110.00
Barrington Municipal Arena		\$115.00
Bridgewater Memorial Arena	– adult	\$135.00
	- youth	\$126.00
Lunenburg Co., Lifestyles Ctr	- adult	\$150.00
	- youth	\$140.00
Lunenburg Community Arena		\$139.00
Queens Place Emera Centre		\$140.00
Chester Arena		\$150.00
Yarmouth Mariners Centre		
	- Arena 1	\$152.00
	- Arena 2	\$139.00

Individuals were thanked for appearing before the committee and expressing their concerns as it relates to the Arena operation.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Warden

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Secretary for the Meeting

On website November 26, 2014.