

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, May 26, 2014. The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported that all councillors representing all districts of the Municipality were present, with the exception of Councillor Crook who has been detained at work and will be arriving later.

- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
- Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Jody Crook (7:58 p.m.)
- Councillor George El-Jakl
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield

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

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held April 28, 2014, and Special Council Meetings held May 12th, 15th and 20th, 2014 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

At this time a Closed Session was held to deal with the former BMHS legal matter (MGA 22(2)(f)) and personnel matters (MGA Section 22(2)(c)).

Conflict of Interest

Warden Nickerson declared conflict of interest during discussion regarding the former BMHS legal matter as he is a personal friend of the property owner, and therefore the Warden did not join members in the Closed Session for discussion of this matter.

Once this discussion was completed the Warden was asked to join members to discuss personnel matters.

Upon completion of the Closed Session, the Regular Council meeting was called back to order.

HEATH SPENCER, SHELBURNE ASSOCIATION SUPPORTING INCLUSION

Mr. Heath Spencer of the Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion appeared before the meeting and provided an overview of SASI's range of services and contributions to the community in light of their mission and mandate. The purpose of his presentation was to raise awareness and clarify SASI's services.

Mr. Spencer was thanked for appearing before Council and making his presentation.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Personnel Matters

Resolution C140506

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the performance evaluations provided for Rodney Shand, Property Services Technician – DRC; Rob Williams, Property Services Technician/C & D Landfill; and Thelma Ross, Secretary to the Building Inspector be accepted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C140507

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that the performance evaluation provided for Tyler Symonds, Property Services Technician be accepted, and that Mr. Symonds receive his annual increment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Former BMHS Legal Matter

The Deputy Warden informed members that during Closed Session members were brought up to date on the former BMHS legal matter.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

The Clerk requested that the agenda be amended to allow Brenda Maxwell of the Shelburne County Tourism Association an opportunity to address Council.

It was agreed by members that this matter be added to the agenda under New Business.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Provincial Procurement Process

As a result of correspondence being received from the Town of Shelburne expressing concern over the implementation of the Provincial Procurement Act by the Tri-County Regional School Board, Council requested the School Board to make whatever changes may be possible in its Procurement Policy to alleviate the concerns of the Town of Shelburne. A response has now been received from the Tri-County Regional School Board advising that their Board has voiced similar concerns with the Provincial procurement process and shares our concerns with the affects it may have on our local economy. The Board expressed their concerns to the Deputy Minister on January 30, 2014. The Province has reiterated the obligation of the Board to adhere to the contract provisions negotiated through the Province. It states that: "The same procurement rules apply to all government departments, as well as all associated broader entities of government, including school boards."

Resolution C140508

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that a copy of Council's letter addressed to the Tri-County Regional School Board and a copy of their response be forwarded to the Town of Shelburne for their information.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was further the decision of Council that "Provincial Procurement Policy" be added to the next Committee of Whole Council agenda for further discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Scotian Halibut Ltd.

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture which provided notification of proposed Aquaculture Species Amendment – Licence #1234, Lower Woods Harbour, Shelburne County. The letter further advised that in an effort to keep communities better informed about aquaculture activities in their area, the Province of Nova Scotia is beginning to contact municipalities directly to inform them of proposed applications for new aquaculture sites or amendments to existing sites. The letter was provided for information purposes only.

Letter from Debbie Atkinson

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a letter received from Debbie Atkinson which advised that she was very impressed and thankful for the improvements made at the South Side beach and North East Point beach. She requested to know whether there are any plans in place to carry out upgrades at the Stoney Island beach. In her letter she also questioned whether the business park could be changed to residential, and also questioned whether Council had any thoughts on an emergency route through Barrington Passage.

Much discussion took place regarding the questions raised by Mrs. Atkinson. It was agreed that upgrades to the Stoney Island beach would be further considered, and land ownership in the area will be investigated. This matter will be further discussed by the Committee of the Whole at a future meeting.

The emergency route through Barrington Passage was also discussed by members. It was noted that the current road system in the area is owned by the Department of Transportation. To create an emergency route through the community would be very expensive, and the Municipality does not have the financial capacity to carry out such a project.

The conversion of the business park to a residential area was discussed in detail by members. During discussion it was noted that the business park was created to provide serviced land for future business development in the community since in the past the Municipality missed two possible opportunities for development due to the lack of serviced land. During discussion of this matter it was also noted that there is a private developer in the area who has recently created a residential subdivision, and therefore Council will not be reviewing the conversion of the business park to residential at this time.

Resolution C140509

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that Mrs. Debbie Atkinson be advised of Council's decisions on the above matters, and that she continue to be kept up to date on these matters.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Jody Crook joined the meeting.

Presentation to Yarmouth Hospital Foundation Fundraising Campaign

Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin, Managing Director of the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation; Shirley d'Entremont, Board Chair; and Reg Rose and Dr. Yee, local board members from Barrington, appeared before the meeting.

The Warden and councillors presented Foundation members with a cheque in the amount of \$20,953.00 as a contribution towards their fundraising campaign for a new CT Scan machine and a new medication management system for the Yarmouth Regional Hospital.

2014 Children's Summer Reading Club

Correspondence has once again been received from Ian White of the Western Counties Regional Library requesting Council to continue its partnership with them during the 2014 Children's Summer Reading Club. Mr. White is asking that the Municipality once again provide 10 pairs of 2015 public swimming passes as draws for participants in Shelburne County.

Resolution C140510

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the Municipality of Barrington once again provide 10 pairs of 2015 public swimming passes as prizes for the 2014 Children's Summer Reading Club.

Motion carried unanimously.

Shelburne County Tourism Association

Brenda Maxwell, member of the Shelburne County Tourism Association, appeared before the meeting and advised that the Association has successfully applied to the South West Tourism Task Force for \$21,000.00 in funding for marketing efforts in 2014/2015. She advised that it is necessary for the Association to find matching funds to access the \$21,000.00. The deadline for payment or commitment letters is June 6, 2014. Mrs. Maxwell informed members that they are currently working with tourism stakeholders and business owners to obtain funding, and are requesting the Municipality to contribute \$5,000.00 towards their marketing efforts. The Association is also requesting that Council appoint a member to serve on the Shelburne County Tourism Association Board.

Discussion took place regarding the request from the Shelburne County Tourism Association.

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that the Municipality provide funding to the Shelburne County Tourism Association to assist with their marketing efforts in the amount of \$5,000.00 as requested.

AFFIRMATIVE

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

NEGATIVE

Jody Crook

George El-Jakl

Shaun Hatfield

Eddie Nickerson

Motion defeated.

Resolution C140511

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by J. Crook that funding be provided to the Shelburne County Tourism Association to assist with their marketing efforts in the amount of \$1,500.00.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook

Shaun Hatfield

Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Deputy Warden Messenger reported on her activities since the last meeting of Council. She reported on attending the Sea Cadets Annual Review at the Barrington Municipal Arena. She also reported on attending the UNSM Spring Workshop recently held in Pictou.

Resolution C140512

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that a letter be forwarded to Alan Brannen and all the volunteers involved in the Sea Cadet Review held on May 24, 2014 at the Barrington Municipal Arena, thanking them for their contribution to the community in organizing and running the Sea Cadet program year after year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C140513

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations complimenting him on his involvement in the UNSM Spring Workshop recently held in Pictou.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Jody Crook

Councillor Crook provided a brief update on his activities since the last meeting of Council. He provided a brief update on his recent meeting with the Port Clyde Volunteer Fire Department and Baccaro Light.

Councillor Crook also informed members that he has been in conversation with the MLA regarding possible chip sealing projects to involve the Blanche Road and West River Road.

Resolution C140514

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by D. Messenger that a letter be written to the Minister of Transportation emphasizing the need for chip sealing of the Blanche Road and West River Road, and that this letter be copied to the local office of the Department of Transportation and MLA for Argyle/Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor George El-Jakl

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

Hiring Committee Meeting

Councillor Hatfield reported on interviews recently held to fill the six (6) month term position of Tourism and Community Development Officer. Councillor Hatfield informed members that four candidates were interviewed for the position.

Resolution C140515

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that Suzy Atwood be hired as the Tourism and Community Development Officer for a six month term position, and that Linda Symonds be selected as the alternate should Mrs. Atwood not accept the position.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Hatfield provided a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Hatfield then reported on recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Council.

Municipal Boundary Review

It was reported that correspondence has been received from the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board indicating that the Board does not have jurisdiction to waive the statutory requirement for the 2014 review and application, however, the Board is prepared to consider a simplified application with respect to the 2014 review.

Resolution C140516

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Municipality undertake a simplified application with respect to the 2014 Municipal Boundary Review. This simplified application will include a public consultation session at a municipal council meeting, as well as advertising, and request for public input through the municipal website and the municipal facebook page.

Motion carried unanimously.

Arena RFP

It was reported that since the Municipality no longer has a certified refrigeration technician employed at the Arena, it will be necessary to hire the services of a refrigeration company to start up the refrigeration equipment at the beginning of the season, to inspect and maintain it at the mid point of the season, and to shut it down at the end of the season.

Resolution C140517

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that the Municipality issue a Request for Proposal for a refrigeration equipment maintenance agreement for the Barrington Municipal Arena and the Barrington Regional Curling Club for a one year contract period.

Motion carried unanimously.

Draft Social Media Policy

The draft Social Media Policy was once again considered by the Committee of the Whole Council on May 20, 2014. It was the consensus of members that the policy be referred back to Council for a decision.

It was noted that notice of the adoption of the draft Social Media Policy was given at the February 24, 2014 Council meeting. The matter was further considered by Council March 24, 2014 and at that time was deferred to the Committee of the Whole Council for further discussion.

Resolution C140518

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that the draft Social Media Policy be accepted as presented.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Joint EMO Budget 2014-2015

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a proposed Joint EMO Budget for 2014-2015.

Resolution C140519

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by S. Hatfield that the proposed Joint EMO Budget for the year 2014-2015 in the amount of \$16,000.00 be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Amendments to Policy 8 – Annual Remuneration, etc.

It was reported that notice was given at the April 28, 2014 Council meeting that it is proposed that Policy #8, “Annual Remuneration, Benefits and Expenses for Councillors, Staff and Others”, be amended to update the annual remuneration paid to the Warden, Deputy Warden and Councillors, and to provide for an automatic Cost of Living Adjustment up to 2.5%, per year. Any Cost of Living Adjustment over 2.5% will be referred to Council for consideration.

Resolution C140520

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that Policy 8, “Annual Remuneration Benefits and Expenses for Councillors, Staff and Others”, Section 1, be amended as presented.

AFFIRMATIVE

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

NEGATIVE

Jody Crook

Motion carried.

Consideration of Amendments to Policy 54, “Fire Response and Emergency Services Policy Re: Guidelines on Officer Requirements

At the last meeting of Council notice was given regarding proposed amendments to Policy #54, “Fire Response and Emergency Services Policy” to add, “Guidelines on Officer Requirements”.

Since that time a complete set of general operating guidelines has been prepared including previously approved guidelines which now form part of Policy 54, and proposed Guidelines regarding Officer Requirements, etc.

It was agreed that consideration of amendments to Policy #54, “Fire Response and Emergency Services Policy Re: General Operating Guidelines be considered at the June Council meeting giving members an opportunity to review the document in detail.

CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL MEETING

Having reached the hour of 10:00 p.m., the Warden asked whether there were any objections to continuing the Council meeting until all matters on the agenda have been dealt with.

As no objections were expressed, the meeting continued.

PAC Non Council Member Appointments

At the April 28, 2014 Council meeting it was reported that three (3) applications were received to fill the non Council vacancies existing on the Planning Advisory Committee. Since that time one application was withdrawn and it was realized that one applicant is not eligible to fill the vacancy.

Another advertisement was placed in the Coast Guard Newspaper inviting applications to fill these vacancies. No further applications were received.

Resolution C140521

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that Cindy Nickerson of Shag Harbour be appointed to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee for a term to expire March 31, 2016.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C140522

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that the Municipality once again advertise inviting applications from individuals wishing to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee for the Municipality of Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be dealt with, the Warden adjourned the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

Warden

Clerk

Secretary for the Meeting

On website May 29, 2014.