

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

December 7, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the Deputy Warden at 7:08 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson (7:16 p.m.)
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that minutes of the meeting held November 16, 2015 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

VENDING PERMIT REQUEST

Members were informed that a request for a Vending Permit has been received from Darlene Smith who is a resident of Woods Harbour. She is requesting a permit for *Twisted Sisters... Sou'West Grub'n Grill* which is a mobile food truck. The Vending Permit is requested so that the truck can be located on municipal property during the 2016 fiscal year. It is intended that the truck will be parked at the former site of the old tourist bureau adjacent to the Barrington River, at the South Side ball field during ball tournaments when there is no canteen available, and at the causeway site during race boat season. The truck is mobile and is powered by a generator and propane tanks. It is fully insured and all permits are up to date. The Municipality's application for a Vending Permit has been completed and meets all requirements of the Municipality at this time.

Resolution COW151201

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a Vending Permit to Darlene A. Smith for the *Twisted Sisters... Sou'West Grub'n Grill* mobile food truck be approved for the 2016 fiscal year.

Motion carried unanimously.

ERMES PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

At this time the Warden arrived at the meeting and assumed the chair.

Rhonda Symonds, President of the ERMES Parent Support Group, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing their request for funding. The Support Group is requesting funding in the amount of \$7,500.00 to help them establish a Learn and Play room in the school. Ms. Symonds then provided additional information to Council regarding the Learn and Play room and the activities that would take place in it.

There then followed some discussion regarding the amount of the funding requested as well as the funds available through the Municipality's playground funds under Policy No. 58.

Resolution COW151202

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that the ERMES Parent Support Group be provided up to \$2,500.00 to match funds that they will raise publicly for this project as provided in Policy No. 58.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW151203

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$1,250.00 be provided under Policy 58, Playground Funds, for the ERMES Parent Support Group for the purpose of establishing a Learn and Play room in the school.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW151204

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that a letter of support be sent to the Department of Education and to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities indicating the plight of this Parent Support Group and similar groups throughout the Province in relation to funding being provided by school boards for valuable programs within the school.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed their presentation, Rhonda Symonds and other members of the Parent Support Group present then vacated the meeting.

FIRE SERVICES COORDINATOR

The Fire Services Coordinator attended the meeting for the purpose of discussing a variety of fire services issues.

The first issue was the training requirements required by fire department officers and firefighters.

Having completed his meetings with chief officers of various fire departments, the Fire Services Coordinator is recommending that the requirements for training be extended to June 1, 2016. He assured members that courses are being made available between January 1, 2016 and May 31, 2016 to allow the required training to take place for all members and officers of the fire departments.

The Fire Services Coordinator then reviewed the Municipal First Responder registrations provided by all fire departments.

A written summary of the November fire calls was also circulated to members for their information.

Resolution COW151205

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality extend the fire department training requirements for officers and firefighters to June 1, 2016.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed his discussion of these matters, the Fire Services Coordinator vacated the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT

The Tourism and Community Development Officer, Suzy Atwood, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing her report for the month of November 2015. She reviewed the report in detail providing comments and answering questions as necessary. A diagram of the proposed boardwalk at the Seaside Tourist Rest Stop was also provided to members for their information and review.

Members then discussed the electrical issues which arose over the weekend at the gazebo at North East Point. Electrical supply issues at the Barrington Municipal Library were also brought up and discussed at the time. These issues need to be addressed by the Municipality.

Having completed her discussion of these matters, the Tourism Coordinator retired from the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

BARRINGTON REGIONAL CURLING CLUB

Bob Cushing, the President of the Curling Club, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing the dehumidifier at the Curling Rink. Mr. Cushing first thanked members for extending the water line from the Arena to the Curling Club prior to the start of this season.

The humidity at the Curling Club is currently a problem and continues to be a problem. This is affecting the ice and the curling stones.

The Club is requesting that the dehumidifier be replaced and believe that the most suitable type is the dessicant model. The dessicant model would require less maintenance in the long term and appears to be the best long term solution. The main drawback to the dessicant model is that it will consume more electrical power.

It is proposed that municipal employees can install a dessicant model dehumidifier in the Curling Club and that the contracting company supplying the dehumidifier would start it up in order to maintain its warranty.

Mr. Cushing indicated that the Club cannot operate another year with the current dehumidifier. He explained that the current dehumidifier is a Mark IV model and the lowest humidity that has been achieved in the Club this year has been 84%. The humidistat is set at 50% but this has never been achieved.

There was a suggestion that a new dehumidifier be installed at the Arena and one of the dehumidifiers at the Arena be taken to the Curling Club for installation. It was also suggested that installing the dehumidifier be deferred until after the end of the curling season.

Mr. Cushing provided an estimated cost from Reef Plus which is the company that now owns Fixair. Fixair is the company that installed the original dehumidifier at the time the Curling Club was built. The estimated cost for a dessicant model from Reef Plus is \$20,000.00. This does not include start-up by the company in order to maintain the warranty or installation of the machine. Mr. Cushing indicated that ideally 50%-60% humidity would be acceptable in the Curling Club.

It was then suggested that humidity problems in the Curling Club and the Arena both be addressed at the same time.

Resolution COW151206

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that it is recommended to Council that the Municipality contact an engineer to evaluate the humidity issues at the Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena and the Barrington Regional Curling Club as soon as possible and provide a report to the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having completed his discussion of this matter, Mr. Cushing then retired from the meeting.

SECONDARY ROAD THROUGH BARRINGTON PASSAGE

Information concerning previous discussions of this matter was circulated to members for their information and review.

It was the consensus of members that a vision for the future should include consideration of a secondary road through Barrington Passage. Further research on previous discussions will be done and circulated to members. This matter will be placed on a committee agenda in February 2016.

ARENA AUDIO SYSTEM

Members were informed that the Warden had obtained a quote through our MLA on an audio system for the Barrington Municipal Arena. The estimated cost of a new system is close to \$10,000.00.

Resolution COW151207

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality install a new audio system at the Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena as soon as possible.

Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIT SERVICES

Information was provided to all members summarizing the Audit Services proposals that have recently been received by the Municipality.

It is recommended that the Audit Committee evaluate the proposals received and make a recommendation to Council.

Resolution COW151208

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. Messenger that the Audit Committee consider the Audit Services proposals that have been received at a meeting in January and make a recommendation to Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

BUTLER'S ESTATES LIMITED REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from Butler Estates Limited requesting that the Municipality consider granting a right of use of the driveway on municipal property adjacent to the former Community Health Centre property which has been sold to Butler's Estates. Butler's Estates wishes to use the driveway on municipal property to access their property. There would be no change to the property, no trees removed and clearing of the driveway would be the responsibility of Butler's Estates if the tenants chose to use the rear parking lot.

It was the consensus of members that this matter be referred to the Municipal Solicitor for comment. It was the suggestion that a draft agreement with a disclaimer clause be included. The Municipal Solicitor will be consulted for this purpose.

CANADIAN RED CROSS REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from the Canadian Red Cross requesting donations. They currently have a program in place which will enable them to triple the value of any donation that they receive prior to December 21st. Should the Municipality donate \$500.00 this means the Red Cross will in fact receive a total donation of \$1,500.00 as these funds are matched from another source.

Resolution COW151209

Moved by D. Messenger and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council that a donation of \$500.00 be provided to the Canadian Red Cross as requested.

Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Interim Personnel Appointments

The Warden requested that members enter into Closed Session to discuss interim personnel appointments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 9:54 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting