

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

January 19, 2015

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

- Shaun Hatfield, Chair
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Recording of Meetings.
- Organization Study.
- Covering for Swimming Pool.
- Senior Services' Office Request.
- Engage Nova Scotia Meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by E. Nickerson 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 E. Nickerson that minutes of the meeting held January 12, 2015 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY FIRE SERVICES REPORT

David Kendrick, Fire Services Coordinator, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of providing his monthly report. Mr. Kendrick provided a written report for the 3rd quarter of the fiscal year. He then proceeded to review this report, and also reviewed the statistics on fire calls for the calendar year that he also provided, in writing, to members.

Statistics on the training provided to firefighters over the last three years was requested of Mr. Kendrick. These will be provided at a later time.

It was suggested that one method of providing an incentive for young people to take firefighter training was to have it become a university credit for those who are attending university.

There then followed some discussion regarding the use of purchase orders by the fire departments. The policy regarding purchase orders was requested by the Fire Service Advisory Committee and put in place in March of 2014.

Councillor El-Jakl then addressed the meeting regarding the requirement to have the breathing apparatus returned to the Fire Service Coordinator before a cheque was sent to pay for this apparatus. The Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department used purchase orders 102, 103, and 104, but no other purchase orders during the remainder of the 2014-2015 fiscal year. The motion to purchase firefighter gear for an individual firefighter was made by the Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department in July. The equipment was actually ordered in September of 2014. The use of purchase orders was actually authorized by the Fire Service Advisory Committee in February of 2014. It was suggested that if their budget is not exceeded, then changing the use of funds budgeted to purchase other items could be done without further approval. It was suggested this matter be further discussed at the next committee meeting.

There was some indication given then concerning the uniform application of Fire Services Policies to all fire departments in a consistent manner. Councillor El-Jakl expressed the opinion to members that it was felt by the Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department that policies were not being applied consistently across all fire departments.

Having reached the hour of 8:00 p.m., Mr. Kendrick retired from the meeting and members agreed to proceed to the next item on the agenda.

SEA STAR ICE DOGS

Mr. Brennan Goreham, President of the Sea Star Ice Dogs Hockey Team, and Louann Goreham, Treasurer, appeared before the meeting for the purpose of discussing their outstanding bill.

Conflict of Interest

Councillor El-Jakl declared conflict of interest as Mrs. Goreham is an employee of his business. Councillor El-Jakl then retired from the meeting room.

Mr. Goreham indicated he would have preferred to discuss the matter with municipal employees rather than Committee of the Whole. He indicated he did not know of the outstanding account when he assumed the position of President of the hockey team. The hockey team has been cutting expenses in recent months in order to preserve funds so that they can pay this bill. Mr. Goreham indicated that attendance is down at the games. They have one regular season game left and he estimates that there will be an additional 4 play-off games. The present balance of their account is \$2,144.58.

After much discussion it was agreed that the hockey team would pay \$1,200.00 immediately.

Members then discussed the Rental Agreement for use of the ice by the Ice Dogs hockey team. This agreement had not been signed. Mr. Goreham indicated that the agreement had not been fully filled in by the Recreation Director, and he was unwilling to sign it unless it had been filled in. He also indicated that the Sea Star Ice Dogs Hockey Team has never been incorporated and is not a legal entity as such.

There was then some discussion regarding the requirement to sign the Ice Rental Agreement. It was suggested that legal advice be obtained regarding the necessity of signing this agreement.

Having completed their discussion the representatives of the Ice Dogs Hockey Team then retired from the meeting at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Councillor El-Jakl then returned to the meeting.

TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT

Suzy Atwood appeared before the meeting for the purpose of presenting her report. A written report for the months of November and December was previously circulated to members for their review. Various aspects of this report were discussed. The webcam at the Causeway has recently been shifted in order to show a better view. This has been well accepted on the internet. The report from the previous two months was then reviewed indicating various events and marketing promotions that were being made.

Members then discussed the NHL Legends Hockey Game to be held on March 10th. There is a committee meeting for this event tomorrow night. The professional hockey players will also put on a clinic for approximately 30 minor hockey players on the following day, Saturday, March 21st.

Planning is now beginning for the Nova Scotia Marathon which will be held in July. The Tourism and Community Development Officer would like to have a Kids Run added to this event which would be a 2 km run across the Causeway and back. The Recreation Department volunteers are used to the maximum now, and therefore it would be necessary to find some other group to coordinate this event. The Tourism and Community Development Officer was asked to attend the meetings of the Cape Sable Historical Society concerning further development of the Old Court House building. She indicated she would be present at the next meeting. The Tourism and Community Development Officer is also assisting the Friends of the Cape Light Committee in sourcing funds for the maintenance of the Cape Light. The Tourism and Community Development Officer also indicated that the timeline that she had provided for tourism development in the Municipality is an estimate only. The development of tourism may or may not follow this timeline depending on progress being made.

There then followed some discussion regarding the Ambassador's Program which is designed to develop residents as ambassadors for the community.

There was also discussion regarding the Lobster Festival and funding of the Lobster Festival. It was indicated that the funding provided by the Municipality would be for events taking place within the Municipality of Barrington only. It is the intention that the Lobster Expo to be hosted at the Arena would be further expanded this year. It is also further intended that the Municipality of Barrington will become the centre of the lobster festival events.

At this time Councillor Hatfield retired from the meeting and Warden Nickerson assumed the Chair temporarily.

There then followed further discussion regarding tourism information.

Councillor Hatfield then returned and resumed chairmanship of the meeting.

Having completed her discussion of tourism matters, the Tourism and Community Development Officer then retired from the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER POSITION

Members then discussed the continuation of the Tourism and Community Development Officer position with the Municipality. There was some question whether this position is to be a full-time, permanent job, or to be a contract job with a definite term.

There was some discussion regarding the potential for renewal of the position after the term would be completed.

It was suggested that a five year contracted position be put in place, and an appropriate wage be determined for the position.

It was the consensus of members that this matter be further discussed at the next committee meeting.

ENGAGE NOVA SCOTIA

Members were informed that Engage Nova Scotia has agreed to meet with municipal councillors and employees on Monday, February 23, 2015, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. This time and date will be confirmed with Engage Nova Scotia and the department managers for the Municipality will be invited to attend the meeting.

SENIOR SERVICES' OFFICE

A request had previously been received from the Senior Safety Coordinator. The Coordinator would like to have her office moved upstairs in the municipal building so that it is more conveniently accessed by seniors. The Correction Officers have been asked if they would move their office downstairs switching locations with the Senior Services Coordinator. They are reluctant to do this even though they sympathize with the situation of the Senior Safety Coordinator. For the Corrections Officers this creates a security issue because they would be alone with their clients downstairs. Any change in the location of their office would have to be approved by their superiors at the Department of Justice.

It was then suggested that the Tourism and Community Development Officer move from her present location to the adjacent office, and the Warden would then move to the office now occupied by the Tourism and Community Development Officer. In this way the Senior Safety Coordinator's Office would be moved upstairs and would be located together with the Tourism and Community Development Officer's office. The Warden would still then have an office on the main floor of the Municipal Building. This was agreed to by members during the conversation.

Resolution COW150110

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by J. Crook that the Senior Safety Coordinator's office and the Tourism and Community Development Officer's office would be the first office on the left side inside the main entry of the municipal building, and that the Warden's office be moved to the office adjacent to the Probation Officer's office.

Motion carried unanimously.

Having reached the hour of 10:00 it was the consensus of members that the meeting continue until 10:30 p.m.

BARRINGTON RIVER BRIDGE

Members were informed that the Woodlands Multi Use Trail Association has been in consultation with engineers in order to have tender documents prepared for three work packages which would contain contract specifications for: a) abutment repair; b) central pier removal; and c) bridge structure, for the Barrington River Bridge. These tender documents will be prepared in the near future and financing will be sought for the required construction work.

ELECTRICAL GENERATION AT CSI CAUSEWAY

It was agreed that this matter be deferred to a meeting of the committee in July of 2015.

SEASIDE TOURIST REST STOP

Members were informed that a Request for Proposal for engineering services for this project has been issued and responses are being received. When the closing date arrives the proposals submitted will be reviewed and forwarded to Council for approval.

It was the consensus of members that the agreement with the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency be checked in order to see whether or not engineering services are actually required for this project, and that the Municipal Solicitor be consulted to determine whether engineering services are legally required.

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

It was agreed that there was positive and negative impacts of recording meetings and putting them on the Municipality's website.

It was agreed by members that this matter would be further discussed at a committee meeting in February.

ARENA OPERATIONS

Members were informed that it is anticipated that the current operations for the Arena should produce revenues and expenses approximately equal to what has been budgeted for the year.

There then followed some discussion of having a full-time manager at the Arena. It was also suggested that alternative rental terms be provided for minor hockey on weekends.

It was suggested that a manger be hired to manage the Arena instead of having Council and other employees doing this on a joint basis.

It was also suggested that a tender be issued for the operation of the canteen service at the Arena.

The sentiment was expressed that Council should not be managing the Arena.

It was the consensus of members that this matter be further discussed at a future committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:30 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website January 21, 2015.