

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

March 16, 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:

- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger, Chair
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson (7:03 p.m.)

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Directional Signs.
- Minister of Health Meeting.
- Fire Services.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by J. Crook that minutes of the Committee of the Whole Council meeting held March 10, 2015 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON & AREA SATELLITE DIALYSIS COMMITTEE

Members discussed the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee of Council for the purpose of lobbying the Provincial Government to establish a Satellite Dialysis Clinic in the Municipality of Barrington.

It was suggested at the previous Council meeting that there be two councillors from the Municipality, one councillor from the Town of Clark's Harbour and four or five public members on this committee.

Discussion then followed concerning the coordination of this committee with the public committee that is already in place.

David and Brenda Cleaver attended the meeting on behalf of the public committee that has already been established.

There was some discussion with the Cleavers regarding the establishment of two committees, or maintaining one public committee. The Cleavers agreed to contact Lee Goreham-Smith who is co-chair of the public committee in order to obtain further information. Members were also informed that a representative of the Minister of Health had called the Municipal Office today indicating that the Minister was willing to meet with representatives from the Municipality on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., at his office in Halifax.

It was the consensus of members that the Warden of the Municipality attend together with the Mayor of the Town of Clark's Harbour and the Warden of the Municipality of Shelburne, and two committee members.

Members then agreed to defer further consideration of this matter until the Cleavers were able to contact Lee Goreham-Smith in order to obtain further information.

TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Tourism and Community Development Officer appeared before the meeting for the purpose of giving a verbal report on her activities during the previous month. These activities included preparations for the NHL Legends hockey game, as well as planning for the Nova Scotia Marathon, Lobster Festival, UFO Festival and the Nova Star Magazine.

Having completed her report on these matters, the Tourism and Community Development Officer retired from the meeting table at 7:37 p.m.

Members then discussed continuing the position of Tourism and Community Development Officer. It was suggested that the emphasis of this position be on tourism, and the planning and marketing of community events.

Members agreed that there should be a five year contract for this position.

Resolution COW150314

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality advertise the Tourism and Community Development Officer position as a five year term position, with a renewable contract, according to the terms of the Municipality's Hiring Policy.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members then discussed the wage requirements for the Tourism and Community Development Officer position.

Resolution COW150315

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the salary for the Tourism and Community Development Officer position be established at a base rate of \$35,000.00, increasing in \$1,000.00 increments over a period of five years to \$40,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW150316

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the current Tourism and Community Development Officer position and the incumbent individual continue to fill this position until the process is completed to hire a person under a five year contract term.

Motion carried unanimously.

BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL ARENA

Arena Manager

It was the consensus of members that an Arena Manager be hired on a seasonal basis. It would be preferred that this individual will have refrigeration equipment certification, however this would not be necessary.

Resolution COW150317

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality advertise for a seasonal Arena Manager to work for a 40 hour work week at a salary range of \$35,000.00 to \$40,000.00 annually. It would be preferred that this individual have refrigeration equipment maintenance certification, if possible.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW150318

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by E. Nickerson that the Municipality prepare a Request for Proposal for the provision of canteen services at the Barrington Municipal Arena during Arena operating hours.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members then discussed the Arena Rental Agreement and the outstanding account of the Sea Star Ice Dogs. Members were informed that no payments or communication have been received from the Sea Star Ice Dogs since the last discussion with Committee on January 10, 2015.

It was the consensus of members that the treasurer of the hockey team be contacted to determine if payment would be received in future.

The members had previously received legal advice from the Municipal Solicitor indicating that there was no legal requirement for the signing of a rental agreement at the Arena. It was advisable for this to be done by Council in order to obtain the commitment of renters.

STATION ROAD PROPERTIES

Members were informed that a property owner owning two lots of property located behind the municipal building wishes to sell these properties.

Information was circulated to members indicating the approximate size and location of these properties.

Resolution COW150319

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality does not have any interest in purchasing the two properties located behind the Municipal Office.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

At present the Community Health Centre is vacant. The Committee was asked if the Municipality has further use for the Community Health Centre, and if so, what should be the disposition of that property.

Resolution COW150320

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality having no further use for the Community Health Centre property, dispose of the building and lot on which the building is located by way of public request for proposals.

Motion carried unanimously.

SEASIDE REST STOP ENGINEERING

It was the consensus of members that use of an engineer for the proposed Seaside Tourist Rest Stop project near the Cape Sable Island Causeway is not necessary.

Resolution COW150321

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality proceed with the Seaside Tourist Rest Stop project without engaging an engineering consultant.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield
Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

Motion carried.

BARRINGTON GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE

The Barrington Ground Search and Rescue funding request for the current year was circulated to members for their information.

Resolution COW150322

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by E. Nickerson that the funding request for the coming fiscal year from the Barrington Ground Search and Rescue organization be referred to the budget process for further consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

SHELBURNE COUNTY MUD MUNCHERS REQUEST

Correspondence from the Shelburne County Mud Munchers organization was read to members for their information and review. This organization wishes to have a permanent home for its yearly off-road racing event, and has raised the possibility of using the former “slough” property that was at one time owned by the Municipality.

CLOSED SESSION

Members then entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing legal issues which arise from this request.

Having completed their discussion of the matter, members then returned to Open Session.

As a result of the Closed Session discussions, members directed the Clerk-Treasurer to refer this matter to the Municipal Solicitor for further information and advice.

PURCHASE OF FIRE TRUCK

The Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department is purchasing a fire truck which will be financed on a permanent basis by a debenture from the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation. For this purpose a Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance Resolution has been drafted and will be brought forward to Council.

Resolution COW150323

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that a resolution for the Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance Subject to Interest Rate be forwarded to Council for consideration and approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL 2015
ANNUAL TEMPORARY COUNT PROGRAM

Correspondence has been received from the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal asking the Municipality if any vehicle count programs are required in this area during the coming year.

Resolution COW150324

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality inform the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal that there are no vehicle counts required by the Municipality for the coming year.

Motion carried unanimously.

SALARY REVIEW

The Municipality is required to complete a salary review every three years according to the Municipality's Personnel Policy. Information has been provided to all councillors this evening for this purpose. Members agreed to defer this matter for further consideration at a subsequent meeting of Committee of the Whole.

LOBSTER LICENCE PLATES

Members were informed that other municipal units in South Western Nova Scotia are asking Service Nova Scotia to provide licence plates with lobsters on them in order to promote the lobster fishing industry in Nova Scotia.

Resolution COW150325

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality support the efforts of adjacent municipalities to have a lobster licence plate within the Province of Nova Scotia.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SKATING TIMES

It was brought to the attention of a member that the preschool skaters and adult skaters are skating at the Barrington Municipal Arena during the same morning sessions. These groups previously had separate sessions, but during the winter, due to a lack of participation, the two groups have been combined into one skating session. Those attending the sessions were consulted and agreed to this combination.

It was the consensus of members that this matter would be further discussed at a Committee of the Whole meeting in September of 2015.

CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES

Information has been requested from the local office which has not been forthcoming. This information that was requested was to obtain the number of staff involved in Child Protection Services and the caseload for the Liverpool Office of the Department of Community Services. In spite of repeated requests for this information, no statistics have been forthcoming.

Resolution COW150326

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by J. Crook that it be recommended to Council that Municipal Employees contact the local Supervisor of the Department of Community Services, on a daily basis, requesting this information, until at least the end of March, and this information also be requested under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Legislation.

Motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Members were informed that a resident of the Port LaTour/Baccaro area had indicated at the Municipal Office that local ambulance drivers and fire department personnel are not always aware of the addressing format in the Port LaTour area. It was suggested that a sign be placed at the end of the Villagedale Road indicating which direction to go depending on the civic address number provided.

Resolution COW150327

Moved by J. Crook and seconded by S. Hatfield that the cost of obtaining and installing a directional sign for the purpose of indicating the civic addresses to the north and south of the Villagedale intersection be obtained by municipal employees.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE SERVICES

It was the consensus of members that the Fire Services Coordinator is attempting to determine the future direction of fire services within the Municipality, and any amendments that may be desirable for Policy 54 "Fire Services".

This information will be brought forward to members in the near future.

MEETING WITH MINISTER OF HEALTH

Resolution COW150328

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by J. Crook that the following individuals attend a meeting with the Minister of Health requesting the establishment of a Satellite Dialysis Clinic in the Barrington area:

- Warden Eddie Nickerson, Municipality of Barrington
- Mayor Leigh Stoddart, Town of Clark's Harbour
- Warden Roger Taylor, Municipality of Shelburne
- Co-chairs, Lee Goreham-Smith and David Cleaver from the public committee established for this purpose.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 10:22 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting

On website March 18, 2015.