

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING

September 19, 2016

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, at 7:04 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

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

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was agreed that the following items be added to the agenda:

- Fisherman's Cove Park
- Speed Limit Sign on Stoney Island Road
- Red School House Lane Culvert
- Floating Dock Rules
- Burning Restrictions Letter
- Letter to Volunteers

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by D. LeBlanc-Messenger that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by G. El-Jakl, and seconded by S. Hatfield that the minutes of the meeting held September 12, 2016 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

STEPHEN MILLS – NS EMO

Stephen Mills, from Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office, spoke with members regarding the drought situation in Barrington and other areas of the Province. Mr. Mills pointed out that the issue was first brought up in Barrington, and as conditions worsened more municipalities began contacting EMO. Mr. Mills complimented the Municipality on its early and thorough response to assist residents. The Minister of Municipal Affairs (EMO), Zach Churchill, was asked to support the need for assistance, and the Province made resources available, as well as contacting the Retail Council. In doing so the Retail Council (Sobeys and Loblaws) have provided between \$16,000 to \$20,000 of bottled water to municipalities. Barrington received 10 pallets of water on Friday that will be distributed by Ground Search and Rescue, at the Arena, and through Fire Departments. Mr. Mills said that there could be more water delivered as needed.

Mr. Mills responded to questions and comments from councillors. He stated that calling a State of Emergency would not provide any advantage in this situation as there are no powers or assets that cannot already be accessed. He spoke further regarding other methods of receiving water, including desalination, but other methods still have the issue of distribution. Mr. Mills said that there have been no health concerns reported to the Department of Health, and that all home visits have been continued to be carried out as per usual, with no disruption. Mr. Mills committed to seeing if a large tanker truck could be sourced through TIR to provide non-potable water that could be used for filling by the Fire Departments. Some further discussion ensued regarding volunteers and the time that they have been committing to the situation.

It was agreed that further planning for water should take place by both the Planning Advisory Committee, as well as look at funding models for people needing future improvements to their home water systems.

Mr. Mills was thanked for his time, and for the assistance from EMO.

STAFF REPORTS

CAO Report/Building Inspection Report

The CAO presented the Building Inspector's Report, as well as the CAO Report informing Council of activities for the previous month.

CAPE SABLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The CAO discussed meeting with the Manager of the Cape Sable Historical Society and their desire to move forward with renovations. This was discussed and the general consensus was that Council had agreed to the property review, and that this property would be reviewed as part of the overall property review as originally planned.

GAS TAX/ASSET MANAGEMENT

CAO brought forth information to members to inform them of the future need to develop an Asset Management Plan. An Asset Management Plan will be crucial in better organization and replacement of assets, and will also be required to receive future gas tax. This will need to be added to budget discussions for next year.

CLEAN ENERGY FUND

CAO brought forth information regarding the Clean Energy Fund and a few municipalities are now using this initiative. The CAO was asked to bring back more information including the logistics, who is eligible, etc.

CANADA 150 LEADERS

As part of the Canada 150 Celebrations, municipalities were invited to nominate Canada 150 Leader(s).

Resolution COW160911

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by G. El-Jakl that it be recommended to Council to nominate Donna LeBlanc-Messenger and Suzy Atwood as Canada 150 Leaders.

Motion carried unanimously. (4-0 D. LeBlanc- Messenger declared conflict)

DATES FOR OCTOBER MEETINGS

The regular scheduled meetings for October were discussed. The first CotW meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11th due to Thanksgiving on Monday. The second CotW meeting will be canceled as it will fall just after the Municipal elections, but the new Council will not yet be sworn in. The Council meeting in October will be Tuesday, October 25th to allow for the 10 days after the election needed to swear in the new Council.

TIR COST SHARED ROADS

TIR had asked if there were any “J” Class Roads that we would like to see cost shared next season.

Resolution COW160912

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council to ask TIR to add Tom's Road to the "J" Class list for the October 21st deadline.

Motion carried unanimously.

FISHERMAN'S COVE PARK

Development of Fisherman's Cove Park in Lower Clark's Harbour was discussed. It was reported that development is scheduled to commence this fall.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL ISSUES

There were a number of issues brought forth by councillors related to TIR.

Resolution COW160913

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by D. LeBlanc-Messenger that it be recommended to Council to ask TIR to post a speed sign at the start of the Stoney Island Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW160914

Moved by S. Hatfield and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council to ask TIR to investigate, and repair if needed, a culvert on Red Schoolhouse Lane.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution COW160915

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council to ask TIR to mow the sides of the roads as it has become a safety issue.

Motion carried unanimously.

LETTER FROM CECIL SWIMM

Cecil Swim sent a letter resigning from the Western Regional Housing Board, effective August 31, 2016, due to running for Municipal Council. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr. Swim.

MUNICIPAL PROPERTY REVIEW

Resolution COW160916

Moved by G. El-Jakl and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council to move forward with the sale of the recommended properties in the manner recommended.

Motion carried unanimously.

ARENA ISSUES

A number of issues with the Arena from last year were brought to the table. Many issues have been addressed with a re-organization of staff at the Arena. CAO will follow up on any issues that have not already been addressed.

JUNIPER HOUSE OFFICE SPACE REQUEST

Juniper House has asked if the Municipality would provide them office space, in-kind, for 2-3 days a week.

Resolution COW160917

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council to provide office space to Juniper House, in-kind, on a temporary basis.

Motion carried unanimously.

FLOATING DOCK RULES

It was brought forth that the floating dock currently had a boat docked on each side of it for more than a couple of days, and that they are basically taking up the entire dock. There is currently no policy as to length of stay, or use.

Resolution COW160918

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by S. Hatfield that it be recommended to Council that until a policy is developed for the floating dock that a temporary docking regulation be put in place stating that boats cannot dock for longer than 24 hours.

Motion carried unanimously.

SHELBURNE COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS BURN RESTRICTIONS

Shelburne County Firefighters Mutual Aid Association sent a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources asking for a permanent burn restriction to be put in place until the end of the drought.

APPRECIATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

All councillors expressed their deep gratitude to those who have given support to those in need during the drought situation. An ad will be placed to thank people to date, and future plans will be made to show our appreciation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 10:42 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting