

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, March 27, 2017. The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:04 p.m., with the following members present:

- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
- Deputy Warden Jody Crook
- Councillor Murray Atkinson
- Councillor George El-Jakl

- Rob Frost, Chief Administrative Officer
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

- Councillor Shaun Hatfield was absent due to vacation.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Being duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held February 27, 2017 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION – DAVID CLEAVER AND PHYLLIS HOPKINS RE: VETERANS TREE

David Cleaver and Phyllis Hopkins of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 148 appeared before the meeting. Ms. Hopkins advised that April 9, 2017 will be the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. They informed members that after the battle Lieutenant Leslie Miller of Scarborough, Ontario gathered acorns from an oak tree on the ridge and sent them home which were planted on his Scarborough farm. As part of the centennial commemorations in France in 2017, 100 saplings will be planted in the Vimy Foundation Centennial Park adjacent to the Canadian National Vimy Memorial site.

Royal Canadian Legion Branches may submit applications to purchase surplus saplings at a cost of \$125 each. The Legion is interested in making application to purchase one of the saplings and is requesting permission from Council to replace the existing Veterans Tree at the Barrington Municipal Library. The tree and possibly a plaque will be purchased by the Legion at no cost to the Municipality. Members of the Legion did suggest that they may request the Municipality to hold a short ceremony and assist with the planting of the tree, if their application is successful.

Resolution C170301

Being duly moved and seconded that Council approve the replacement of the existing Veterans tree located in front of the Barrington Municipal Library with a sapling from Vimy Oaks and that a contribution of \$200.00 be provided to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 148 to assist with the cost of this project.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Rural Internet Update

The CAO provided an update on steps being taken by the Western Regional Enterprise Network regarding rural internet.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs Re: Resolution No. 425

Correspondence from the Minister of Municipal Affairs advised that Resolution No. 425 received unanimous consent on November 8, 2016 by the General Assembly of the Nova Scotia Legislature. Resolution No. 425 reads as follows:

WHEREAS many residents of southwestern Nova Scotia are still dealing with historically low water levels; and

WHEREAS municipalities and the province have relied heavily on volunteers to distribute much-needed water to those whose wells are dry; and

WHEREAS fire departments, ground search and rescue groups, the Canadian Red Cross, municipal staff, and other volunteers have worked tirelessly to keep the water supply going for several weeks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of this House of Assembly thank the many volunteers who have, once again, reminded us that helping each other in times of need is what makes Nova Scotia such an amazing place to call home.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Warden

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

Report from Outside Committees

Western Counties Regional Library Board

Due to the absence of Councillor Shaun Hatfield this matter was deferred to the next meeting of Council.

Barrington Municipal Exhibition

Deputy Warden Crook reported on the March 6, 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Barrington Municipal Exhibition. At this meeting elections for new directors took place as well as discussion of the upcoming exhibition. The Municipal Exhibition this year will be held August 17 – 20, 2017.

Reports from Committees of Council

In the absence of Councillor Shaun Hatfield, Deputy Warden Jody Crook reported on Committees of Council.

Barrington and Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade

It was reported that the Barrington and Area Chamber of Commerce has agreed to hold the Christmas Parade a week earlier in order to allow lobster fishermen to attend with their families. As a result, discussion took place around the timing of the Festival of Lights.

Resolution C170302

Being duly moved and seconded it was agreed that the Festival of Lights be moved to the last Saturday in November (weekend prior to the start of lobster season).

Motion carried unanimously.

Sherose Island Boat Launch

Resolution C170303

Being duly moved and seconded that staff develop a proposal for the expansion of the parking area at the Sherose Island boat launch and bring information back to the committee for further discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Western REN Liaison and Oversight Committee Appointment

Resolution C170304

Being duly moved and seconded that Eddie Nickerson be appointed to the Western Regional Enterprise Network (REN) Liaison and Oversight Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Shelburne County Housing Coalition

Resolution C170305

Being duly moved and seconded that Shaun Hatfield be appointed as the Municipal representative on the Shelburne County Housing Coalition.

Motion carried unanimously.

CHAMBA Request

The Clark's Harbour and Area Minor Ball Association will be holding spring clinics in the arena to get ready for the upcoming ball season and need to acquire some equipment in order to do so. They requested that Council assist in funding the \$575.00 needed.

Resolution C170306

Being duly moved and seconded that Council provide CHAMBA with a one-time grant of \$200.00 for required equipment.

Motion carried unanimously.

In-Camera Discussion Regarding Land Transaction

Resolution C170307

Being duly moved and seconded that Council accept the offer to purchase the parcel of land identified as PID 82571795 as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Murray Atkinson

Councillor Atkinson gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor George El-Jakl

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

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

Tax Sale Results

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a copy of a report on the Tax Sale held March 20, 2017. There were 34 properties listed to be sold in total, 21 of which were purchased by private citizens and the remaining 13 did not receive bids. As recommended by the CAO, the Municipality did not bid on the 13 properties. These properties will be dealt with at a later date.

The outstanding taxes, interest and expenses on the date of the Tax Sale for all 34 properties were \$114,871.40. The 21 properties that were purchased paid \$86,524.07 of the balance, leaving \$28,347.33 still outstanding. The total funds paid for the 21 properties receiving a bid was \$174,776.53 resulting in a surplus of \$88,252.46. The surplus funds are held for a period of 20 years, as stated in our Municipal Policies, Policy #03, Tax Collection and Tax Sale Policy-Proceeds of Tax Sale.

Community Litter Clean-up Program

It was reported that each year the Municipality allocates \$10,000 in the Municipal Budget to provide for litter clean-up under the Community Litter Clean-up Incentive Program. The CAO questioned whether this is the best use of funds as the total cost of the project is probably closer to \$20,000 when you include collection and overtime paid.

Other suggestions brought forward included hiring two students in late spring or early summer, to provide litter clean-up and holding a litter clean-up day challenge.

It was agreed that this matter be added to the next Committee of the Whole Council agenda for further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Warden

Chief Administrative Officer

Secretary for the Meeting