

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, October 2, 2017. The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
- Deputy Warden Jody Crook
- Councillor Murray Atkinson
- Councillor George El-Jakl
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield
  
- Rob Frost, CAO
- Lesa Rossetti, Deputy Clerk

#### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Being duly moved and seconded the agenda was approved as presented.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held August 28, 2017 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### SECOND READING – PROPOSED DEED TRANSFER TAX BY-LAW

There were seven (7) members of the public present for this portion of the meeting, three of whom represented real estate agencies in the area.

At this time the Warden informed members that Council will be considering the adoption of a Deed Transfer Tax By-law tonight. A Deed Transfer Tax is a tax that is levied on the transfer of real property which is payable at the time of conveyance of the title. The Deed Transfer Tax is paid at the Registry of Deeds Office when the property is being registered. The Registry of Deeds collects the tax and then forwards it to the Municipality where the property is located. The Municipality is proposing that a Deed Transfer Tax of 1.5% be charged on the value of property transferred within the Municipality of Barrington. Based on last year's sale value a Deed Transfer Tax of .5% would generate \$93,000, 1% would generate \$186,000 and 1.5% would generate \$279,000.

Members of the public were each given an opportunity to address Council. The by-law as proposed was opposed by members of the public although they seemed somewhat agreeable to a lower Deed Transfer Tax or an increase in taxes to fund specific projects.

Much discussion followed regarding the proposed Deed Transfer Tax By-law. During discussion of this matter the Warden noted that out of 51 municipal units in Nova Scotia only 4 do not have a Deed Transfer Tax in place.

Members of the public also expressed concern regarding there not being enough advertising done to inform the public of matters being considered by Council. It was suggested that matters such as this should also be advertised on the radio. The CAO informed members that second reading of the Deed Transfer Tax By-law was advertised in The Vanguard Newspaper, on our facebook page and also on our website.

Resolution C171001

Being duly moved and seconded that the Deed Transfer Tax By-law be tabled based on information received tonight and the matter be referred to the Committee of the Whole Council for further review with a full complement of members present.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Murray Atkinson  
Jody Crook  
Shaun Hatfield  
Eddie Nickerson

**NEGATIVE**

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

At 8:30 p.m. a brief break was held.

At 8:45 p.m. the Council Meeting was called back to order.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence to be reported on.

**REPORT OF WARDEN**

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

**REPORT FROM OUTSIDE COMMITTEES**

**Councillor Shaun Hatfield**

Councillor Hatfield reported on meetings of the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation Board held January 31, 2017, March 28, 2017 and May 30, 2017. Minutes can be found attached to the agenda on the Municipal Website.

Councillor Hatfield also reported on the meeting of the Western Counties Regional Library Board held June 15, 2017. Minutes can be found attached to the agenda on the Municipal Website.

Councillor Hatfield also reported on activities of the Shelburne County Housing Coalition. The Coalition is currently proceeding with a Needs Assessment for affordable and accessible housing.

Councillor George El-Jakl

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

Deputy Warden Jody Crook

Deputy Warden Crook gave a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

Councillor Murray Atkinson

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

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Councillor Murray Atkinson reported on recommendations from committees.

Clark's Harbour Foggies

Resolution C171002

Being duly moved and seconded that Council provide a one-time, \$1,000 grant, to CHAMBA to be used towards the Clark's Harbour Foggies trip to the National Tournament in Newfoundland.

Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Request from Sou'West 4H Club

Resolution C171003

Being duly moved and seconded that Council provide a one-time, \$500 grant, to the Sou'West 4H Club to assist with their participation in the Provincial Show in Lawrencetown.

Motion carried unanimously.

UNSM Resolution Interim Report

Resolution C171004

Being duly moved and seconded that Council write a letter to UNSM and copy all municipalities regarding an alternate method of reviewing and democratically voting on resolutions to proceed to UNSM Conference, or even as a final method of selecting resolutions which would include an electronic system of voting with one vote per municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

Waiver of Tire Environmental Fee

Resolution C171005

Being duly moved and seconded that Council write a letter to the Minister of Environment in support of the request from the Municipality of West Hants:

**WHEREAS** the burning of tires contributes to serious air pollution and increased greenhouse gas emissions and is generally considered an environmentally unfriendly practice in Nova Scotia;

**AND WHEREAS** tires are successfully being recycled in the Province;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Municipality of Barrington request that the Province waive the environmental fee charged on new tires so long as the burning of tires for fuel is permitted.

In-camera – Business Park Lots

Resolution C171006

Being duly moved and seconded that Council accept the offer received on Lots 12 and 13 in the Business Park as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution Re: Right-of-Way

Resolution C171007

Being duly moved and seconded and carried that:

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of the District of Barrington owns land in Barrington Passage being PID 80052145 and PID 82553249 as shown on the attached survey plan;

**AND WHEREAS** Richard G. Newell and Monica J. Newell own land known as PID 80052343 and such land is also shown on the attached plan and adjacent to the lands of the Municipality of the District of Barrington;

**AND WHEREAS** a paved roadway leads to and from the Highway #3 over the lands of the Municipality of the District of Barrington to the lands of the Newells;

**AND WHEREAS** the paved roadway is for public use and is maintained by the Municipality of the District of Barrington;

**AND WHEREAS** the Newell's have requested a right-of-way over the paved roadway which would be non-exclusive to the Newells and would be used in common with the grantor and the public;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipality of the District of Barrington shall grant a non-exclusive right-of-way over the paved roadway to the Newells and the CAO shall have authority to execute such grant in the usual form.

Proposed Federal Tax Changes

Resolution C171008

Being duly moved and seconded that Council write a letter to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and our Member of Parliament, Bernadette Jordan, to express our concern with the proposed changes to Federal Income Tax as it relates to small businesses.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Proposed New Low Income Property Exemption Policy

At the last meeting of Council notice was given that Council would be considering the adoption of a new “Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy”, No. 41, to replace the existing policy. Highlights of the new policy are as follows:

- Deadlines for applications will be February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Proof of income must be provided.
- The property owners’ previous years rates and taxes must be paid in full.
- The exemption only applies to the property owners’ principal place of residence occupied by him or her.

Exemptions:

- Total household income of less than \$20,000 - \$300 exemption
- Total household income of more than \$20,000, but less than \$22,500 - \$200 exemption
- Total household income of more than \$22,500 but less than \$25,000 - \$100 exemption

The policy provides for an increase in income levels of 1% each year for the next five (5) years.

Resolution C171009

Being duly moved and seconded that the new proposed “Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy”, No. 41, be approved as presented which will replace the existing policy.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Amendments to Policy No. 70 “Municipal Floating Dock Policy”

Notice was given at the last meeting of Council that consideration would be given to tonight amendments to the Municipal Floating Dock Policy to reduce time allowed for boats to dock or moor at the floating dock. Originally a 12 hour period was allowed and now that amount of time will be reduced to 45 minutes. The policy is also being amended to allow the Queen of Hearts Dory Club to use one space at the floating dock, and if necessary, be allowed to tie a second dory to the first one. There is no time restriction on the berth occupied by the Queen of Hearts Dory Club.

Resolution C171010

Being duly moved and seconded that amendments to the “Municipal Floating Dock Policy”, No. 70, be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT – ACADIAN SEAPLANTS LTD.

The CAO informed members that Acadian Seaplants Ltd. has applied for a Vending Permit to permit them to unload moss boats at McGray Avenue, North East Point. This application is being made under By-Law No. 34, “Commercial Activity on Municipal Property”.

Resolution C171011

Being duly moved and seconded that the Vending Permit application submitted by Acadian Seaplants Ltd. for the unloading of moss boats at McGray Avenue be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

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Warden

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Chief Administrative Officer

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Secretary for the Meeting