

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING**

**December 3, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Warden Crook at 7:10 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson (Chair)
- Murray Atkinson
- Jody Crook
- Shaun Hatfield
  
- George El-Jakl – Absent due to family illness
  
- Chris Frotten, Chief Administrative Officer
- Ken Smith, Interim CAO
- Lesa Rossetti, Municipal Clerk

### **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

It was agreed that the following item be added to the Agenda:

- RFP – Auditing Services

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Being duly moved and seconded that the minutes of the last meeting held November 13, 2018, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **RCMP REPORT**

Sgt. MJ Deluco was scheduled to appear before the Committee this evening, but failed to show.

Arrangements will be made for her to present the RCMP Report at a future meeting.

### **ROADS ELIGIBLE FOR PAVING UNDER TIR COST SHARED PROGRAM**

Pamela Mehlman-Shand, Area Supervisor and Sergey Averin, Operations Supervisor of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal appeared before the meeting.

The Warden assumed the Chair at 7:14 p.m.

It was reported that representatives of the department were invited to meet with members to discuss the list of roads eligible for funding under their cost shared paving program.

Mrs. Mehlman-Shand provided confirmation that all roads listed in Table 1 of the Municipal Service Exchange Agreement are eligible for cost sharing which include more than just J Class roads. She further informed members that some of the roads contained on the list were paved by the province at 100% their cost.

During discussion of this matter it was noted that Newell Road in South Side was recently paved under the cost shared program.

Mrs. Mehlman-Shand reported on the following RIM priorities:

- Kenney Road - small asphalt patch
- Daniel's Head - small asphalt patch - just after bridge near beach
- Shouldering in Oak Park near school.
- Shouldering on Trunk 3 west
- Work will be carried out on the Blanche Road from the community hall to the end
- Brush cutting on Trunk 3 west

It was noted that some inhouse brush cutting is scheduled for Forbes Point and Popes Road.

It was suggested that Route 330 on Cape Sable Island near the Archelaus Smith Museum is in need of some repair.

It was reported that Red School House Lane is scheduled for some gravel work and a small asphalt patch is scheduled for Sherose Island Road near the fish plant.

During discussion of the Sherose Island Road it was reported that portions of the guardrail are missing, shouldering is required and on full tides rockweed is washed up on the road.

Mrs. Mehlman-Shand advised that they are working on a Shoreline Protection Program and Sherose Island Road may be one of the roads she has included for the program.

It was reported that the Wireless Road had gravel placed on it last year, but no ditching or culvert work was completed. Now water is running down the road and into driveways of property owners on the road. Mr. Averin agreed to have a look at this matter.

Mr. Averin informed members that he has now been in his position for approximately 2 months and is becoming more familiar with the area.

Councillor Crook made reference to a water problem at the end of Tom's Road which was created as a result of the road being paved. Mrs. Mehlman-Shand advised that this matter has been brought to the attention of the Construction Department.

The Lighthouse Road was brought up. Mrs. Mehlman-Shand advised that the road will be addressed under the RIM Program or the Shoreline Protection Program.

Remaining tree trimming and bush cutting along the Villagedale Road was questioned. Members were advised that this can be looked at for next year.

Councillor El-Jakl forwarded the following concerns:

- Water taking rocks from the coast over the guardrail in some areas.
- 562 Forbes Point Road - an asphalt driveway was cut to repair a drain. It was gravelled temporarily, but was never repaired with asphalt.
- 6757 Highway 3 - a slow sign is missing. The post is there but no sign.
- 6244 Highway 3 - on the sharp curve, water comes over the shoulder which freezes during the winter and causes dangerous driving conditions. Some local residents have taken icepicks at the road to try to mitigate the problem.
- Confusion regarding the paving of Station Road in Shag Harbour. Why is it not included in the list of eligible roads and a portion of the road has been paved before ? There are 12 homes on that road and the length of the road is approximately 0.25 km.

Councillor Hatfield informed TIR representatives of the following:

- Bateman Road has been submitted for paving under the cost shared paving program.
- Complaints are still being received regarding drainage and flooding out into the road in the vicinity of Bateman Road and the Red School House Lane. It was noted that new gravel was placed on the Red School House Lane last year under the RIM Program.

Mr. Averin questioned whether we were aware of a lot of our signs being stolen. In the last two months they have gone through 40 signs. He informed members that he has opened a case with the RCMP. Some signs were removed and dumped in the Port Saxon area.

The CAO asked how they would like for us to deal with TIR concerns. They suggested that residents be asked to contact the Operational Contact Centre (OCC) to report concerns. All calls are tracked and issued a ticket number. Residents can call back at a future date for an update on the matter.

The Warden questioned an email he sent regarding a water problem at the end of Bateman Road. TIR has attempted to solve this flooding problem by shaving off the top of Daley Road, but the problem still exists. Photos have been forwarded to Mr. Averin. He said he would have another look at the problem.

General discussion took place regarding Kenney Road in South Side.

Mrs. Mehlman-Shand and Mr. Averin were both thanked for taking time to meet with members to discuss TIR concerns.

### OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS

Nathan Blades of Sable Fish Packers (1988) Limited and John Davis of the Clean Ocean Action Committee appeared before the meeting.

The purpose of meeting with members is to discuss the issue of oil and gas development in the NS offshore, the risk to the seafood industry, the failure of the oil and gas regulator to enact sufficient regulations to satisfy the seafood industry's concerns and the role of municipal units to advocate for the protection and preservation of the seafood industry, the single biggest economic driver in this Municipality.

The Clean Ocean Action Committee is asking for Council's support in calling for a full public inquiry into the true risks of offshore hydrocarbon resource development. It was reported that they are asking all municipal units between Mahone Bay and Digby to join them in making this request.

A power point presentation was made of which a copy is attached.

It was noted that a letter was written to Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, Minister of Natural Resources and Minister of Environment and Climate on August 14, 2018, expressing Council's concern with respect to CNSOPB's decision to allow oil and gas drilling by British Petroleum (BP) Canada approximately 300 km off Halifax.

Mr. Blades and Mr. Davis were thanked for appearing before the Committee and making their presentation.

The CAO agreed to draft and share a proposed resolution with councillors prior to the December 10<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

### STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were circulated in advance to the meeting. Copies are attached.

### REQUEST FOR TAX REDUCTION– BUTLER'S ESTATES LIMITED

A Staff Report was prepared by the Manager of Finance and circulated to members in advance to the meeting.

A tax reduction application was received from Butler's Estates Limited requesting a reduction in the 2018 taxes for their property located at 3322 Highway 3, Lot 5, Barrington Passage. The property was loss by fire on December 17, 2017.

A prior tax reduction was provided to Butler's Estates Limited for the 2017 taxation year for the period December 18, 2017 to March 31, 2018, in the amount of \$912.35.

The Assessment Roll for the 2018 taxation year was finalized on December 1, 2017, and they are now requesting a reduction in taxes for the 2018 fiscal year to reflect the loss.

The total adjustment for the property based on the 2019 assessment value would be \$2,631.94. The sewer service charge was adjusted in 2018 to reflect the fire damage.

### Resolution COW181201

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that \$2,631.94, be written off the tax account in the name of Butler's Estates Limited for AAN 04279913 located at 3322 Highway 3, Lot 5, Barrington Passage as the building on the property was loss due to fire on December 17, 2017.

Motion carried unanimously.

### RECREATION CENTRE UPDATE RE: FUNDING SOURCES / CAPITAL PROJECTS

A Staff Report was provided by the Interim CAO regarding potential funding sources for the proposed recreation centre.

This matter was discussed in detail and it was agreed that the new Chief Administrative Officer be given a few months to be brought up-to-date on this project.

SELECT DATE FOR PUBLIC MEETING RE: RECREATION CENTRE DESIGN

There was general agreement that a public meeting to discuss the proposed recreation centre design be planned for early March 2019.

NEW TAX LAWS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019 RE: REMUNERATIONS PAID TO COUNCILLORS

The Warden informed members that there was no discussion at the NSFM Conference regarding the new tax laws to become effective January 1, 2019 as it relates to remunerations paid to councillors. He made a number of inquiries of other councillors attending the conference, but most were waiting to see what other councils were doing.

Some information was gathered from the AMANS List Serve. It appears most respondents are opting to increase remunerations upwards to keep the same net pay.

A Staff Report was prepared by the Manager of Finance dated September 14, 2018.

Resolution COW181202

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that as a result of the new tax laws, Council remunerations be increased as of January 1, 2019, to maintain the same net income.

AFFIRMATION

Murray Atkinson  
Jody Crook  
Shaun Hatfield

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

Amendments will be drafted to Policy No. 8 “Annual Remuneration, Benefits and Expenses for Councillors, Staff and Others” as a result of the new tax laws.

FORMER PORT CLYDE FIRE HALL

A Staff Report was provided by the Interim CAO which provided an update on the former Port Clyde Fire Hall. This report was submitted as a result of his discussions with the Municipal Solicitor regarding the allocation of funds and the agreement signed by the Port Clyde Volunteer Fire Department, the Barrington/Port LaTour Volunteer Fire Department and the Municipality of Barrington

The Interim CAO is recommending that the Municipal Council allocate the funds from the RBC Account, the CIBC Account and the Emergency Providers Fund to the Clyde Area Community Centre Association and allocate the funds held in the former Port Clyde Fire Department to the Barrington/Port LaTour Volunteer Fire Department.

As a result of discussions, it was agreed that the CAO, Deputy Warden and the Fire Services Coordinator arrange to meet with the Clyde Area Community Centre Association and the Barrington/Port LaTour Volunteer Fire Department to discuss the transfer of funds and property.

#### CANNABIS DISCUSSION

This matter was referred to Committee from the Planning Advisory Committee.

It was agreed that this matter be referred to a future meeting,

#### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – NOVA SCOTIA MARATHON COMMITTEE

Interest has been expressed by Colin Wickens and Adlai Cunningham to serve on the Nova Scotia Marathon Committee.

#### Resolution COW181203

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that expressions of interest received from Colin Wickens and Adlai Cunningham to serve on the Nova Scotia Marathon Committee be accepted.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### ROSEWAY HOSPITAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The Warden reported on a recent meeting of the Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation at which they discussed doctor locums and the Student Sponsorship Program.

In 2016 the Foundation requested Council to consider a 5 year financial commitment towards the Student Sponsorship Program, at which time we opted to provide a one time grant of \$1,200.00.

Byway of letter dated October 16, 2018, the Foundation once again requested a financial contribution to be applied towards the bursary offered through the Student Sponsorship Program. This request was forwarded to the budget process.

During discussion it was noted that the program was started in 2012 and bursaries have been granted to 4 students totalling \$16,000.00 all of which were from the Barrington area.

#### Resolution COW181204

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$1,500.00 be provided to the Student Sponsorship Program for this year and carry forward with a yearly contribution of \$1,500.00 for the remainder of the 5 year agreement which is believed to expire in 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

YARMOUTH HOSPITAL FOUNDATION – ULTRASOUND MACHINE

A request has been received from the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation for a financial contribution to assist with the cost of the purchase of an Ultrasound Machine. Total cost of the new machine is \$185,000.00. To date \$104,000.00 has been raised.

Resolution COW181205

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$1,500.00 be provided to the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation to be applied towards the purchase of a new ultrasound machine.

Motion carried unanimously.

PORTA POTTY – BARRINGTON BAY TRAIL

A resident has requested that a porta potty be provided on the Barrington Bay Trail year round.

The Warden questioned the CAO as to how these types of matters could be addressed. The CAO advised that these smaller type items can be dealt with by staff through budget approvals and policies.

The Warden suggested that we place a porta potty on the Barrington Bay Trail, year round, as a pilot project. The matter will be reassessed at the end of the one year period.

RFP – AUDITING SERVICES

A Staff Report was provided by the Manager of Finance regarding the RFP issued for Auditing Services. Two submissions were received which were as follows:

- BDO Canada LLP - Total for 5 year period - \$123,735.00
- Grant Thornton - Total for 5 year period - \$96,250.00

Both RFPs met the requirements of the request and were reviewed in detail by the Manager of Finance. It is her recommendation that the RFP received from Grant Thornton be accepted.

Resolution COW181206

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that Grant Thornton be appointed auditors for the Municipality of Barrington for a 5 year period, commencing 2019, at a total cost of \$96,250.00.

Motion carried unanimously

IN CAMERA SESSION RE: DOCTOR RECRUITMENT

An In-Camera Session was held in accordance with Section 22(2)(e) of the Municipal Government Act to discuss doctor recruitment.

The regular meeting was called back to order.

It was reported that direction was given to the CAO in the In-Camera Session to collect information as it relates to doctor recruitment and report back to members at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting