

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday, December 10, 2018. 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

Chris Frotten, CAO
Lesa Rossetti, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

The Warden informed members that this is a new item on the agenda which has been added by the CAO. This will help members be mindful of items which may present a conflict for them.

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held November 19, 2018, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

PURPLE RIBBON CAMPAIGN/SHINE THE LIGHT ON WOMAN ABUSE CAMPAIGN

The Warden informed members that today is the last day of the Purple Ribbon Campaign. Councillors and staff wore purple ribbons to raise awareness of the far reaching effects of violence against women.

PRESENTATIONS TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND SEARCH AND RESCUE

At 7:08 p.m. the Warden presented plaques to the Barrington/Port LaTour Vol. Fire Department, Island & Barrington Passage Vol. Fire Department, Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Vol. Fire Department and the Barrington Ground Search and Rescue Group, in recognition and appreciation of their valuable contribution and support to residents of the Municipality during the water shortage of 2018.

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The Warden also extended thanks to everyone who provided assistance during the water shortage.

After presentations were made a brief break was held to allow members an opportunity to socialize with representatives of the fire departments and search and rescue.

The regular meeting was called back to order at 7:30 p.m.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

NSFM Final Resolutions and Board Report

It was reported that NSFM has provided final resolutions and statements of municipal concern as agreed to at the NSFM Fall Conference. Resolutions and statements have now been sent to the Province for their consideration which include the following topics:

- CAP
- Extended Producer Responsibility
- Municipal Funding
- Municipal Modernization
- Roads

Information received from NSFM also provided an update on their initiatives report.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

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.

Councillor Shaun Hatfield

Councillor Hatfield 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.

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REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Councillor El-Jakl reported on recommendations from committees of Council.

Request for Tax Reduction - Butler's Estates Limited

It was reported that a Tax Reduction Application has been received from Butler's Estates Limited for the former medical centre property which was destroyed by fire on December 17, 2017.

A previous reduction was provided covering the period of December 18, 2017 to March 31, 2018, in the amount of \$912.35. Since the assessment for 2018 does not reflect the loss, they are now requesting a reduction in taxes for the period April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, totalling \$2,631.94.

Resolution C181201

Being duly moved and seconded 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.

New Tax Laws Effective January 1, 2019 Re: Remunerations Paid to Councillors

Resolution C181202

Being duly moved and seconded 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
George El-Jakl
Shaun Hatfield

NEGATIVE

Jody Crook
Eddie Nickerson

Motion carried.

Expressions of Interest - Nova Scotia Marathon Committee

Resolution C181203

Being duly moved and seconded 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

Resolution C181204

Being duly moved and seconded 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

Resolution C181205

Being duly moved and seconded 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.

RFP – Auditing Services

The CAO provided information on the recent Request for Proposals for External Auditing Services for a five year contact. Staff is recommending that the RFP received from Grant Thornton be accepted due to price, location, experience and accounting software.

Resolution C181206

Being duly moved and seconded 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.

CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF DRAFT RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE POLICY

Notice of consideration of the adoption of a Respectful Workplace Policy was given at the last meeting of Council.

The new policy will be part of the Personnel Policies and promotes awareness, prevention and prompt resolution of offensive behaviour. The draft Respectful Workplace Policy will replace our current Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures.

Resolution C181207

Being duly moved and seconded that the draft Respectful Workplace Policy be approved as presented and Policy 32 “Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures” be repealed.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF DRAFT EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE POLICY

Notice of consideration of the adoption of an Employee Discipline Policy was given at the last meeting of Council.

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Current discipline is noted in the Personnel Policy in Article 22 relating to unsatisfactory performances and Article 21 "Grievance Procedures". As part of the process of revising our policy regarding harassment and the development of the Respectful Workplace Policy it is suggested that this policy be adopted as well.

Resolution C181208

Being duly moved and seconded that the draft Employee Discipline Policy be approved as presented and references to discipline contained in Articles 21 and 22 of the Personnel Policy be repealed.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Fundraising Committee

As previously reported, the Community (Arena) Fundraising Committee has disbanded. Contact was made with the group advising of current arena project that any remaining funds could be applied towards. Projects noted were arena roof repairs and the purchase of a new ice resurfer. The Fundraising Committee has provided a cheque in the amount of \$17,865.18.

Resolution C181209

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter of thanks be forwarded to the Community Fundraising Committee thanking them for all their hard work and financial contributions to the Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena.

Motion carried unanimously.

Destruction of Documents

As a result of information being attached to the Agenda, Kathy Johnson of the Cape Sable Historical Society has expressed interest in obtaining some files scheduled for disposal. Files will be pulled and the Society will be given an opportunity to review them before steps are taken to dispose of them. Also, the CAO indicated that in the future, contact will be made with the Society to give them or any other society an opportunity to obtain documents with historical value.

Resolution C181210

Being duly moved and seconded and carried that:

WHEREAS the documents and records of the Municipality of the District of Barrington as set out in the Affidavit of Chris Frotten, Chief Administrative Officer, sworn at Barrington, Nova Scotia the 3rd day of December, A.D., 2018, are no longer required;

AND WHEREAS according to the said Affidavit the said documents and records have been personally examined by the said Chief Administrative Officer and he has determined that there is nothing of value therein and that the said documents and records do not include any documents or records which are exempt from destruction pursuant to Section 3 of the Destruction of Documents By-Law;

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BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the said documents and records as set out in the said Affidavit of the said Chief Administrative Officer be forthwith removed and destroyed

Offshore Oil and Gas

The Warden reported on a presentation made to the Committee of the Whole Council by the Clean Ocean Action Committee. The Committee is requesting Council's support in calling for a full public inquiry into the true risks of offshore hydrocarbon resource development.

In advance to the meeting each member was provided with a draft resolution and letter supporting the request of the Clean Ocean Action Committee. The CAO informed members that after reviewing the letter with the Warden, they are suggesting the following amendment:

In the third paragraph, first sentence, remove "We want to be clear that we do not oppose the development of our oil and gas resources" and replace with "We share the Clean Ocean Action Committee's opinion that both industries can co-exist".

Resolution C181211

Being duly moved and seconded that Council support the call for a public inquiry and that the draft letter be amended as indicated above and made ready for the Warden's signature.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C181212

Being duly moved and seconded and carried that:

A healthy marine environment is critical to industries, like fishing and tourism, that are the primary lifeblood of Nova Scotia coastal communities.

It is our responsibility to protect and nurture our local economies. It is also our right, and the right of our citizens to be consulted on all major developments that might impact those economies.

The catastrophic effect of a major oil spill at an offshore drill site is unthinkable, yet public knowledge of the risk and potential consequences of such a spill remains inadequate.

We hereby call for a full and independent public inquiry into the pros and cons of oil industry exploration in offshore Nova Scotia to provide our communities, who bear the lion's share of the risk of a disaster in the offshore, a full appreciation of the extent of that risk and of the steps we can take to minimize it.

We also call for a moratorium on all further oil and gas exploration in the offshore pending the completion of that inquiry.

Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings

The CAO is suggesting that "Notice of Motions" be removed from future agendas of Council and "Agenda Items for Future Meetings" be added.

This change was agreed to by consensus of members.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Warden

Chief Administrative Officer

Secretary for the Meeting