

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre in Barrington, NS., on Monday August 24, 2020. The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:05 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 circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Hatfield informed members that he would be declaring Conflict of Interest when members deal with the grant request received from the Sebim Beach Property Owners Association and the appointment to Bay Side Home Board of Directors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 27, 2020, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

PRESENTATION BY GRANT THORNTON

Representatives of Grant Thornton, Gloria Banks and Kelsey Murphy appeared before the meeting to present the draft audited financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2020. They provided highlights of the audit and advised that the year ended with an operating surplus of \$196,416.00.

Resolution C200801

Being duly moved and seconded that the operating surplus of \$196,416.00 be transferred to the Operating Reserve, as recommended by the Audit Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C200802

Being duly moved and seconded that Council approve the draft audited Financial Statements as presented by Grant Thornton.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

The Deputy Warden and each Councillor gave a brief report on their activities since the last meeting of Council.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Councillor Atkinson reported on recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Council.

Over Estimate Memo Re: Lighthouse Road and Fish Plant Road

Correspondence was received from NS Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal advising that their estimates for paving Lighthouse Road and repaving Fish Plant Road, under their cost shared programs, were low. The total tender amount for paving Lighthouse Road is \$388,000.00 which is 10.9% over the original estimate and the total tender amount for repaving Fish Plant Road is \$98,000.00 which is 30.7% over the original estimate.

Resolution C200803

Being duly moved and seconded that Council accept the increased prices as stated by Nova Scotia Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal. Lighthouse Road new cost share amount \$194,000 and Fish Plant Road new cost share amount \$49,000.

Motion carried unanimously.

Western Regional Housing Authority Appointment

Applications were invited from individuals wishing to serve on the Western Regional Housing Authority. Only one application was received and that was from Cecil Swimm, who has served on this Board in the past.

Resolution C200804

Being duly moved and seconded that Council appoint Cecil Swimm to serve on the Western Regional Housing Authority Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Requests

Wood's Harbour Community Centre

Resolution C200805

Being duly moved and seconded that Council provide an Operating Investment Grant in the amount of \$1,500.00 to the Wood's Harbour Community Centre.

Motion carried unanimously.

Sebim Beach Property Owners Association

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Hatfield declared Conflict of Interest, vacated his seat and left the meeting room. Residents of Sand Hills Beach Road, including Councillor Hatfield, use the garbage bins owned by the Sebim Beach Property Owners Association.

The Sebim Beach Property Owners Association is requesting a grant from the Municipality to assist with the cost of improving their garbage collection process and collection area.

Resolution C200806

Being duly moved and seconded that Council provide a municipal grant to Sebim Beach Property Owners Association in the amount of \$500.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Hatfield returned to the meeting.

Tender – Library/CED Centre Roof Replacement

Resolution C200807

Being duly moved and seconded that the tender received from Garian Construction in the amount of \$48,294+HST for installation of a new metal roof over the existing asphalt roof of the Barrington Municipal Library/Office Building be accepted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Floating Dock Monitoring Contract

Resolution C200808

Being duly moved and seconded that the floating dock monitoring contract for North East Point be renewed to Carl Stewart for a one-year period.

Motion carried unanimously.

Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena Canteen Agreement

Resolution C200809

Being duly moved and seconded that the contract with Twisted Sisters – Darlene Smith, for canteen services at Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena, be renewed with an addition to the contract to provide more specific hours.

Motion carried unanimously.

Visitor Information Centre

In January 2020, Council approved to cease operations of the VIC located at 2517, Highway 3, Barrington and to sell or lease the building long-term.

Resolution C200810

Being duly moved and seconded that Council sell the VIC building located at 2517, Highway 3, in Barrington, by way of an RFP.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that the RFP would be developed and presented to members for review prior to proceeding.

Set Date for 1st Advance Poll – October 10, 2020

Resolution C200811

Being duly moved and seconded that October 10, 2020 be set for the 1st advance poll for the 2020 Municipal Election.

Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

The Chief Administrative Officer provided his report for the period July 28th to August 24, 2020 of which a copy is attached and forms part of the minutes.

Topics highlighted were as follows:

- Development of Asset Management Plan
- Amenities at Beaches
- Drought & Water Shortage

- 2021 World Double Bit Axe Throwing Championship
- Recreation Programming
- Building Permits & By-law Enforcement
- Fire Services and Emergency Management
- Capital Project Update

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

Consideration of Amendments to Policy 42 Re: Municipal Grants

It is proposed that Section 3.0 of Policy No. 42 "Municipal Grants and Sponsorship/Advertising Policy" be amended to indicate that it is preferred that organizations be incorporated under the Societies Act, but that consideration will be given to applications submitted by non-registered organizations as well. It is also recommended that Section 21.0 be amended to allow an advertisement to be placed in the newspaper and/or on social media informing organizations of the opportunity to apply for a grant.

It was reported that Notice of Consideration was given at the Committee of the Whole Council Meeting held August 10, 2020.

Resolution C200812

Being duly moved and seconded that proposed amendments to Policy No. 42 "Municipal Grants and Sponsorship/Advertising Policy" be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Bay Side Home Board of Directors Appointment

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Hatfield declared Conflict of Interest, vacated his seat and left the meeting room. He has a family member in management at Bay Side Home.

A vacancy currently exists on the Board of Directors of Bay Side Home as a result of the resignation of Pamela Townsend. Expressions of Interest were invited from interested individuals and 2 applications were received. The applications were forwarded to Bay Side Home Board of Directors for recommendation. The Board is recommending that the application received from Carrie-Dawn Weeks be accepted and should she decline, then Lynn Ensor be appointed to the Board.

Resolution C200813

Being duly moved and seconded that Carrie-Dawn Weeks be appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of Bay Side Home as recommended by the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C200814

Being duly moved and seconded that should Carrie-Dawn Week decline the appointment, then Lynn Ensor be appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of Bay Side Home, as recommended by the Board.

Councillor Hatfield returned to the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report on.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

No items were brought forward.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Warden

Chief Administrative Officer

Secretary for the Meeting

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KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

Nothing new to report at this time.

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

We continue to await a response from FCM regarding our funding application to the Municipal Asset Management Program. It has been four weeks since our application began to be reviewed and it can take up to eight weeks.

c. Renewal or Expansion of Sewer System

Nothing new to report at this time.

2. Economic Growth

a. Development of Additional Business/Commercial Property

Nothing new to report at this time.

b. Reduction of Commercial Taxation

Nothing new to report at this time.

c. Improved Access to Internet

Nothing new to report at this time.

3. Promotion and Support of the Tourism Industry

a. Amenities at Beaches

Phase 2 of the Stoney Island Beach Parking Area, which has seen the installation of wooden guardrails to resemble the parking area at Sandhills, is in progress. We have a few posts to put in deeper, a new layer of gravel to put down and the guardrails to install.

We should receive the first batch of beach signage from Causeway Computers soon and will begin installation once it is received. Last month, I noted that we were waiting for a response to our application to the Beautification and Streetscaping Program. On July 29, we were advised that

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we will receive \$7,288 towards the signage project which represents approximately 35% of the cost.

Finally, WSP has complete their preliminary 2D conceptual site plans which I have shared with Council for their review and input. Once these plans are finalized, WSP will move on to the 3D visualizations as well as provide landscape and engineering reviews. As mentioned last month, these plans will help us solicit the approval and collaboration of provincial agencies and other local stakeholders and set a strategy which will guide our ongoing work.

b. Work to Attract Accommodations

Nothing new to report at this time.

4. Provision or Support of Services for Residents of the Municipality

a. Continued Work Towards Additional Medical Services (Medical Clinic, Dialysis)

Nothing new to report at this time.

b. Develop Water Access Plan (docks, wharves and marinas)

Nothing new to report at this time.

c. Improve Active Transportation (sidewalks, trails, boardwalks)

Nothing new to report at this time.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM JULY 27TH TO AUGUST 23RD

TOPICS

Drought & Water Shortage

Over the past month, we have continued to experience dry conditions which has worsened the drought situation and increased water shortage challenges. Since our last report, we've moved from the "Collection of Information" phase to phases 2-4 which includes the provision of drinking water, water fill up stations, shower facilities, washing machines and water delivery.

Water Fill Up Stations

Water hoses are available for filling containers at the following locations:

- Barrington Port Latour Fire Hall
- RV Dumping Station on Sherose Island
- Island Barrington Passage Fire Hall
- Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Fire Hall. For Woods Harbour, residents need to contact a member of the WSHS fire department to access their hose.

It is important to note this water is non-potable and people using the hoses are responsible for cleaning and sanitizing before and after use.

Water Delivery & Drinking Water

Fire departments began delivering water on August 12 and will continue to do so on a once-a-week basis. On August 12, they delivered to 22 households and last Wednesday, they delivered to 12 households.

To request a delivery, residents must call the following numbers and leave a message anytime prior to Wednesday, **every week they want water**. They are asked to provide their name, civic number and phone number in the message.

Barrington Port Latour Fire Department Area: 902-635-4019

Island Barrington Passage Fire Department Area: 902-637-7381 or 902-745-0228

Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Fire Department Area: 902-723-2455

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It is important to note that the fire departments will not put water in wells and, once again, this water is non-potable. Residents will be required to sign a waiver at the time the fire department fills their container.

Showers and Washing Machines

We are working with EMONS to coordinate access to shower facilities. It seems as though there is a possibility, we may be able to use BMHS, but we are still trying to confirm all of the details. In the meantime, we are working on a “Plan B” for showers which would see our arena showers opening to the public. We are trying to determine, with the help of EMONS, what health and safety protocols we would need to follow to do so.

We’ve also received a number of inquiries relating to washing machines. Our traditional location at the Ground Search and Rescue building is not available this year so we have reached out to SASI to see if we could collaborate to open the washing machines they have in Barrington Passage that they use for their laundry service. In the meantime, we are also working on a “Plan B” for washing machines. We will be looking to community halls or other public spaces that we may be able to install the two washing machines that we have.

Water Supply Upgrade Lending Program

A reminder that we have a Water Supply Upgrade Lending Program which provides financing for water supply upgrades to qualifying property owners. We’ve received multiple inquiries about this program recently and more information on the program can be found on our municipal website or by contacting the office directly at 902-637-2015.

Monitoring & Advisories

We currently have 50 people on our contact list and continue to monitor the situation daily. If you are aware of or approached by residents that are facing challenges due to the water shortage, please have them contact Dwayne directly or the municipal office.

Official updates are posted on the EMO Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Barrington-and-Town-of-Clarks-Harbour-Emergency-Management-Organization-1464486240453177/>)



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2021 World Double Bit Axe Throwing Championships

Planning for the 2021 World Double Bit Axe Throwing Championships has already begun. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) held their first meeting on July 15, 2020 and will continue to meet regularly over the next year to organize a great event.

The LOC is in the process of incorporating itself and developing the necessary policies and procedures as to how it will operate. The LOC has created a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/worldaxethrowingchampionships/>) which will serve to promote the event and provide updates along the way. They made their first big announcement last Saturday – unveiling the dates of the event which will be August 26-29.

The LOC's next steps are to finalize its executive and directors from the pool of volunteers it has put together and begin to apply for funding and solicit sponsorships.

Recreation Programming

The Department hosted another very successful outdoor music concert with several youth performers we call **Sounds of Summer**. The attendance numbered about 65 and we received a lot of great comments on the event. We had a comprehensive safety plan in place that worked very well and gives us confidence to continue to provide outdoor activities to larger groups.

We are awaiting our mid-term report from Nova Scotia Lifeguard Service (NSLS) relating to their **Beach Lifeguard Assessment**, but comments are extremely positive from those involved in the project. Stoney Island Beach has been very busy this summer and as a result is favoured for the provision of lifeguard services, but the full assessment will provide the needed details and feasibility.

Our summer recreation programming continued throughout the month and will begin to slow down with the start of the school year. **Hello Fun** increased its in-person activity time to half days Monday to Friday. The high leader-to-participant ratio this summer has led to significant improvements: children are participating with more engagement, good behavior and much more family communication. It has also meant we were able to use some of the older youth participating in doing peer led activities and providing them opportunities for leadership development.

We are beginning to receive requests for the use of our **facilities** from user groups and are reaching out to past regular users to see what their plans are. The goals are to create consistency

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among user groups and access to facilities while balancing the provision of a wide variety of recreation opportunities to residents. Both the **Arena** and **Recreation Centre** have facility health & safety plans to adhere to public health guidelines. These work along side each specific user groups "Return to Play" approved plan. We have already received additional requests because it is unclear if schools will be open for community use this year.

Planning is well under for **Fall Programming**. Plans include programming and event options designed to get people outdoors seeking self-directed recreation. Archery clinics, activity hikes, kayaking workshops, stargazing, and more are being planned. We are looking into improving our equipment loan inventory as well. The hippocampe we share with other recreation departments has been loaned out continuously all summer for use on Barrington area beaches.

Finally, we've received some great feedback from the community on what they would like to see in terms of recreation and have had success with "pop-up" programming. For example, Joel has begun a drop-in **Spikeball** session every Tuesday at Stoney Island Beach. So far each session has had 8 participants all aged 15-25! Spikeball is a great beach sport for youth and young adults. By providing free drop ins, we are giving access to youth and adults to try out the sport for themselves on our beaches. Also, Some youth in the community mentioned that they would like to play beach volleyball so Joel contacted Volleyball Nova Scotia and they mentioned that there was a easy and cheap way to put up a beach volleyball court. We have since ordered a volleyball netting, two posts, and screws and the Department of Property Services will help the Recreation Department put up the beach volleyball net at Stoney Island Beach. This will increase physical activity levels at our beach, and will grow the sport of volleyball.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From July 20th to August 16th, 2020, 27 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$369,000. 57 building inspections were carried out along with 14 fire inspections. We received 2 new subdivisions during this period and 2 others were sent to be registered. Presently we have 3 open subdivisions we are continuing to work on.

We received 4 new by-law complaints which we investigated and are presently working to resolve. These ranged from noise complaints to improper disposal and storage of waste. During this period, we closed 3 other complaints which leaves us with 3 open complaints.

During this period, we received no new dangerous and unsightly complaints and have just 1 open file that we continue to work on but should be resolved shortly.

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Dave continues to work on civic numbering. Since reopening in June, he has visited over 40 properties regarding posting proper civic numbers. Soon, he will be visiting all property owners in the Sebim Beach area and giving information to them regarding properly separating household waste and civic numbering.

Fire Services & Emergency Management

There continues to be no COVID-19 related staffing issues for the fire departments, and they continue to monitor the status of their membership and communicate that information to the Fire Services Coordinator. Their functions are beginning to normalize but their facilities remain closed to the public.

The Department of Property Services continues to retrofit the container we purchased for live fire training. They are nearing completion and will begin training sessions on it once complete.

Dwayne and I have participate in two engagement sessions regarding WCB presumptive cancer coverage for firefighters and the recommendation being put forward takes the list from 6 types of cancer to 17 types of cancer – which is a positive improvement that aligns us closer to the other Provinces in the Country.

Otherwise, Dwayne continues to monitor COVID-19 updates from the province and EMONS and communicates regularly with EMONS regarding the Provincial response by participating in all conference calls. He is also preparing for the Firefighter 1 course that is starting in September and has performed monthly inspections of municipal properties.

This July the Fire Departments responded to 8 calls and they responded to 6 in July 2019. Here is the data for the month of July:



An ocean of opportunity

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BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE							
EMERGENCY CALLS July 2020							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	1	1		1	1	1	5
Island Barrington Passage FD	1	1					2
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD						1	1
TOTALS	2	2		1	1	2	8
B/PLT -							
IBP -							
WH/SH							



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CAPITAL PROJECT UPATE

Here is an update on our 2020-2021 Capital Projects:

Rank	Project	Status
5	Cargo Trailer Replacement	Not Started
7	Manhole Cover Repairs	Not Started
10	Fall's Point Road Lift Station Retrofit	Not Started
13	Municipal Administrative Centre Renovations	Not Started
14	Former Knowles Property Sewer Lateral	Not Started
1	Recreation Centre	In Progress
2	Beach Facilities	In Progress
3	Library Roof Replacement	In Progress
6	Brass Hill Treatment Plant Roof Replacement	In Progress
15	Internet Improvement Project	In Progress
4	Barrington Ballfield Fencing Replacement	Completed
8	Woods Harbour Treatment Plan Fence Replacement	Completed
9	Zero Turn Lawnmower	Completed
11	Treatment Plant Flow Meters	Completed
12	Portable Toilets	Completed

