

Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of the Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday March 22, 2021. 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 George El-Jakl
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield
- Councillor Andrea Mood-Nickerson

- Chris Frotten, CAO
- Lesa Rossetti, Municipal Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

- Tender Evaluation Report – 2007 Platform Trailer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

PRESENTATION BY CHUCK SMITH RE: BLACK LOYALIST HERITAGE CENTER AND GEOGRAPHICAL NAME CHANGE

Chuck Smith, President of the Black Loyalist Heritage Society, appeared before the meeting. He explained the mission of the Society is to recognize the Black Loyalist as a distinct and formative Canadian cultural community and to share the ongoing relevance of the Black Loyalist story to our community and the world.

He informed members that the mandate of the Society is to preserve and protect the history and the legacy of the Black Loyalist of Nova Scotia and their descendants. They want lasting recognition of the legacy and the significant contributions made by the Black Loyalists and people of African descent and the importance of cultural inclusion.

Mr. Smith invited members to visit the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre located in Birchtown.

Having reached the hour of 7:30 p.m. and with Mr. Smith's agreement, his presentation was adjourned to allow members an opportunity to deal with the Demolition Order scheduled for this time.

CONSIDERATION OF DEMOLITION ORDER RE: DERELICT VESSEL

Dwayne Stewart was informed by way of letter dated March 3, 2021, that Council would be considering the issuance of a "Demolition Order" tonight to address the dangerous and unsightly condition of his derelict vessel #CFV-104115 located at 1138 Clements Pond, Highway 103, Barrington, NS.

The CAO provided details on the timeline of the process. It was noted that the first letter was sent to Mr. Stewart on February 20, 2018 relating to the derelict vessel.

The CAO reported on details of the Demolition Order. The Order will require Mr. Stewart to demolish the derelict vessel within 30 days from the date of the Order and failure to do so will result in the Municipality carrying out the work and the cost of so doing would be added to his tax account.

Mr. Stewart was given an opportunity to speak at this time. Mr. Stewart informed members that he was instructed to move the "green" boat at McGray Avenue, but was never contacted regarding the "yellow" boat and didn't understand how the Municipality could take his boat and place it at the Landfill. He requested copies of correspondence to him relating to the derelict vessel and it was agreed copies would be provided.

Resolution C210301

Being duly moved and seconded that the matter be deferred to a Special Council Meeting to be held after a Committee of the Whole Council Meeting, to give the CAO an opportunity to provide Mr. Stewart with the documentation he has requested.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONTINUATION OF PRESENTATION BY CHUCK SMITH RE: BLACK LOYALIST HERITAGE CENTER AND GEOGRAPHICAL NAME CHANGE

Mr. Smith returned to the meeting to discuss the geographical name change request of Cape Negro. He informed members that the general consensus of people he has discussed this matter with felt that the name should be changed.

Reference was made to the presentation to Council by GeoNova on September 21, 2020. During the presentation it was noted that it is the decision of the Provincial Government to change community names. There is public engagement, but that only relates to proposed replacement names.

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Much discussion took place regarding derogatory community names.

Resolution C210302

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter be written to the Province asking them to expedite the renaming of Cape Negro Island, Cape Negro Point, Cape Negro Harbour and Cape Negro Community since this has been an ongoing matter since 2017.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Smith was thanked for his presentation to Council and left the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the regular meeting held February 22, 2021 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT PLAQUE

The Warden informed members that The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen, presented a plaque to each community in Nova Scotia to recognize and thank everyone for their efforts during the 2020 pandemic.

The intent in presenting the plaque to each community is that all residents should have an opportunity to view it. The plaque will therefore be installed in a publicly accessible area within the Administrative Centre.

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 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee informed members that a Public Participation Meeting was held on February 24, 2021, to discuss and receive oral and written presentations from the public concerning the following two matters:

1. That the Land Use By-law be amended to add the definition of a lobster storage facility to read "Lobster Storage Facility" means an enclosed facility or part of a facility constructed onshore which is capable of holding live lobsters for future sale to the wholesale or retail markets in controlled conditions utilizing pumped seawater and to identify approved zones and setbacks for these facilities.

There were no verbal or written comments or suggestions received.

It is the recommendation of PAC that Council proceed with the next step in the process which is a Public Hearing.

Resolution C210303

Being duly moved and seconded that the Municipality proceed with a public hearing for the proposed amendments to the Land Use By-law to add the definition of a lobster storage facility and identify approved zones and setbacks for these facilities.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. An application has been received from Duramax Holdings Inc. for the establishment of a lounge in the Commercial General (CG) Zone, on their property located in Barrington Passage, AAN 10260841, by Development Agreement, as per the Land Use By-law.

There were no verbal or written comments or suggestions received.

It is the recommendation of PAC that Council proceed with the next step in the process which is a Public Hearing.

Resolution C210304

Being duly moved and seconded that the Municipality proceed with a public hearing for the establishment of a lounge in the Commercial General Zone by Duramax Holding Inc. in Barrington Passage, by Development Agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

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Strategic Planning Process

Resolution C210305

Being duly moved and seconded that the draft strategic planning process be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

The Chief Administrative Officer provided his report for the period ending March 21, 2021 of which a copy is attached and forms part of the minutes.

Topics highlighted were as follows:

- New Recreation Centre
- Development of Asset Management Plan
- Amenities at Beaches
- Budget
- Tax Sale
- New Complaints Handling System
- Recreation Programming
- Free Low-Income Tax Program
- 2021-2022 Tourist Season
- Building Permits & By-law Enforcement
- Fire Services and Emergency Management
- Capital Project Update

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

Consideration of Adoption of Proposed Naloxone Policy

It is proposed that Council adopt a Naloxone Policy which will allow staff to administer Naloxone from the Opioid Overdose Emergency Treatment Kit which will be available at the Administrative Centre, Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena and Recreation Centre.

It was noted that Notice of Consideration was given to members at their meeting held February 16, 2021.

At the February 16, 2021, meeting question was raised as to whether a member of the public should be able to administer the Opioid Overdose Emergency Treatment kit. Comments from the Municipal Solicitor were circulated to members in advance to the meeting. Amending the policy to be able to hand over the Treatment Kit to a member of the public would increase the Municipality's risk and liability.

Discussion took place regarding the policy and whether it should be amended to make the Treatment Kit available to the public.

Resolution C210306

Being duly moved and seconded that the proposed Naloxone Policy as presented at the February 16, 2021 Committee Meeting be approved.

AFFIRMATION

Jody Crook

George El-Jakl

Andrea Mood-Nickerson

Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

Shawn Hatfield

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from NS Health/Community Health Boards Re: Affordable Housing

Correspondence has been received from The Community Health Boards of the South Shore advising that affordable housing is one of the current priorities of the Health Boards in the Western Zone of Nova Scotia. Addressing housing below standards by improving the quality and by increasing the availability of adequate and affordable housing, including social housing, has the potential to reduce health inequalities in chronic and infectious diseases and injuries. Therefore, they are writing to us to advocate for the recognition and initiation of action in correcting this urgent crisis within our communities.

It was agreed that this matter be referred to a committee meeting for further discussion.

Response Re: Ambulance Shortage

Members were advised that a response has been received to our letter to the Minister of Health and Wellness regarding recent ambulance shortages in the Province. The reply stated the Minister's assurance that he is dedicated to quality and timely access to emergency prehospital care for all Nova Scotians regardless of their area of residence. While there have been reports through social media that no ambulances are available in certain areas of the Province, these messages do not accurately reflect true emergency ambulance coverage nor the dynamic deployment model used to reallocate resources in response to call demand. The EHS system is attentively working to guarantee access to care for patients and families within the mandated response time.

TENDER EVALUATION REPORT RE: SALE OF PLATFORM TRAILER

A tender was issued for the sale of the surplus 2007 Platform Trailer. The following tenders were received:

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| <u>Tenderers</u> | <u>Tendered Sums (highest first)</u> |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Matthew Amero | \$2,110.55 |
| Alex Maillet | \$1,635.50 |
| Jerry's RV | \$1,502.55 |
| RE Deveau | \$1,305.00 |
| Newell Projects | \$1,001.00 |

Resolution C210307

Being duly moved and seconded that the tender received from Matthew Amero for the purchase of the 2007 Platform Trailer in the amount of \$2,110.55, plus hst, be accepted.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

No items were brought forward.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

At 10:02 p.m. the Regular Council Meeting was adjourned to go in-Camera to deal with contract negotiations.

This session was held in accordance with Section 22(2)(e) of the Municipal Government Act.

At 10:12 p.m. the Regular Council Meeting was called back to order.

REPORT ON IN-CAMERA SESSION

Resolution C210308

Being duly moved and seconded that the Council for the Municipality of the District of Barrington, as one (1) of the eleven (11) municipal units in South West Nova Scotia mitigating the impacts to the region of the ongoing lobster dispute, accept to extend the services of IRIS Communications and Public Affairs for communications and public affairs support and counsel on a month to month basis in the amount of \$6,000.00 plus HST monthly, of which the Municipality's share is \$698.94, plus HST.

Motion carried unanimously.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Warden

Chief Administrative Officer

Secretary for the Meeting

Staff Report
March 22nd, 2021

KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

As mentioned last month, the Recreation Department, in partnership with our architects, launched a survey to help us get a better understanding of the use of the walking track in our new Centre. The findings were presented to Council at their March 8 Committee meeting. Following the discussion, questions relating to the design of the building were forwarded to the architects. Once we receive a response, it will be shared with Council in the hopes of approving a design.

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

We have received word from FCM regarding the grant we applied for in the amount of \$50,000 to complete an infrastructure assessment and implement an asset management program. That being said, until authorised by FCM and Infrastructure Canada, we are not permitted to make any public statements related to the status of the application for MAMP. Once authorised, we will make a public announcement.

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 report at this time.

3. Promotion and Support of the Tourism Industry

a. Amenities at Beaches

Staff Report
March 22nd, 2021

Since Council's approval of the Terms of Reference of our Beach Resource Team, we have been working on finalizing members. We have been speaking with the various provincial departments that we would like to have a seat on our team, and we hope to have the remaining members finalized by next week and an initial meeting set up in the few weeks thereafter.

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.

Staff Report
March 22nd, 2021

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM FEBRUARY 22ND TO MARCH 21ST

TOPICS

Budget

The budget has been one of the main priorities in the last three months. Council has completed its review of the first draft of the operating and capital budgets and will be discussing the impacts of some amendments in the next two weeks. A final draft of the budgets will include the feedback received during these meetings and we are hopeful it will be approved at the end of April.

Tax Sale

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our annual tax sale was done by tender this year. We accepted tenders until 2:00 p.m. AST last Friday, March 19, 2021. In the end there were 14 properties on the tax sale list, and we received a total of 115 bids on all but one property. Formal notice to the winning bidders was provided today, March 22 and the successful bidders have three full business days to pay in full. A list of the winning bids will be posted on our website in the coming days.

New Complaints Handling System

We launched our new complaints handling system on March 1. “Helpdesk” will help us streamline the complaint process through a cloud-based app which will allow the public to submit complaints online. A public page that includes a form is available for residents to report problems 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from any device and location. Internally, Staff and Council will have access to an internal application (authorized access only) to manage the complaints/inquiries.

Residents can report problems by visiting our website and clicking on “Report a Problem” on our homepage or by visiting <https://helpdesk.barringtonmunicipality.com/report>.

Recreation Programming

Over the past month, the Department supported the community in a number of ways. They assisted the Barrington Curling Club with an application for funding that would allow them to replace the ice condenser unit required by the facility. They also supported the Barrington Leisure Park Association in developing their plan for the coming year and identifying funding pots available to help them in this work. Finally, they are also connecting with a class from BMHS as well as potentially partnering with the school to have community equipment available.

Staff Report
March 22nd, 2021

The Department has been assessing options and plans for the **summer seasons** during several regional meetings. These groups are looking to lobby for increased Day Camp cohort sizes to align with education and sport in order to adequately provide room for support staff, junior leader development and more access for children and families to recreation this summer. Our current plan is to operate 2 day-camps for ages groups 5-8 and 9-12 along with a junior leader program (age 11-14) and sport activity days. We hope to hold programming at different locations throughout the municipality to make more accessible for families.

MPAL Projects for the 2021-2022 fiscal year are under development. Ideas include work on the Sherose Island Nature Trail, increasing outdoor unstructured play, enhancing the equipment loan program, and assisting in the women on water program.

The **Take The Trail Challenge** has been ongoing in the month of March. This is a punch card challenge where we put up punch cards along 8 trail sections in Shelburne County: 3 trail sections are in the Municipality of Shelburne, and 5 are in the Municipality of Barrington. We have had some punch stations taken down; however, we had many people participate. Most of our participants were 45+. As of March 16th, we had 60 punch sheets submitted.

Finally, we were fortunate to have a visit from the **Western Loop Trail Coordinator**, Tyler Perrier Ehrlich and Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition Trail Coordinator Rick Jacques to assess the Sherose Island Nature Trail. A report will be provided to the Department for consideration.

Free Low-Income Tax Program

The Shelburne County Senior Services Society began their low-income tax program on March 1. This is a free service to all low-income seniors and residents of Shelburne County that has CRA registered volunteers complete and file residents' income taxes. There will be 4 locations throughout the County. The Municipality of Barrington's location is in the Administrative Centre from March 1 – April 30 and will be available for walk-ins and drop offs on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The low-income threshold is \$35,000 for an individual, \$45,000 for a couple or \$47,500 for 3 people. For more information, interested residents can phone 1-800-656-0397. A note that all = COVID-19 rules and guidelines will be enforced, and masks must be worn at all locations.

2021-2022 Tourist Season

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Plans continue to be under development for the 2021-22 tourism season. We are working on a plan for visitor servicing this summer and how that will look given the COVID-19 restrictions and the foreseeable limited travel restrictions that will be in place. We intend to hire **Tourism Ambassadors** which will be a lot more hands on this year, putting our selected ambassadors out and about in the Municipality. It will be highly digital in nature with a strong focus on social media, photography, and video content. Our Ambassadors will showcase our community to those at home to encourage them to choose to visit us when the time is right and safe to do so. Our Tourism Ambassadors will also provide in person travel information, counselling and assist with reservation within the region and the province. These positions will begin being advertised in the next week or so.

Suzy continues to work on a marketing plan with the Municipality of Shelburne for marketing Shelburne County Tourism which will be both digital and influencer based. They will also be working closely with our stakeholders in the County to help provide opportunities for training, workshops, and better engagement.

Finally, we have been working on a new municipal map with Digital Fusion. This map will compliment the Municipality of Shelburne's map and will showcase all the things to see and do within the Municipality in a fun and friendly layout. Together, the two maps will cover the entire County.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From February 15 to March 14, 20 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$879,000. 30 building inspections were carried out along with 53 fire inspections and 24 fire re-inspections.

One new civic number was issued this reporting period and 54 homes were visited to discuss the civic numbering by-law. One new subdivision and one preliminary plan of subdivision were received. This leaves three open subdivision files that we continue to work on. One new variance has been requested which was denied, and subsequently appealed to Council.

During this period, we received no new dangerous and unsightly complaints and have no open files and we continue to work on 3 outstanding by-law investigations.

Fire Services & Emergency Management

Staff Report
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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.

The EMO executive committee had a meeting to review the revised EMO Plan.

Live fire training took place this month at the container on Sherose Island. The fire departments have been very satisfied with the training facility as it meets their needs very well.

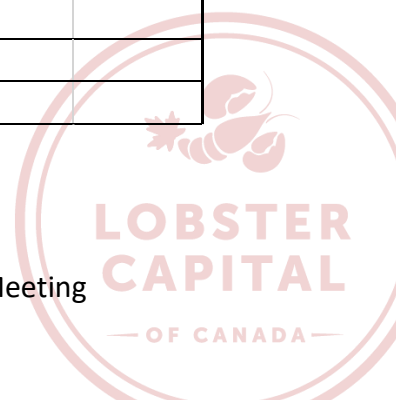
Once upcoming training sessions are held, we will have 74% of firefighters in the municipality trained to interior firefighter level and 17% trained to exterior firefighter level for a total of 91% formally trained. For comparison in 2012 the numbers were 37% and 10% for a total of 47%.

Otherwise, Dwayne has received new curriculum for officer courses and vehicle extrication and is preparing the updated curriculum for various courses, has completed yearly SCBA testing, continues to monitor Covid-19 updates from the province and EMONS, perform monthly fire and life safety inspections and prepare for upcoming training.

This February, the Fire Departments responded to 12 calls and they responded to 25 in February 2020. Here is the data for the month of February:

| BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| EMERGENCY CALLS February 2021 | | | | | | | |
| FIRE DEPARTMENT | Fire | Mut | Auto | MFR | MVC | Other | TOTAL |
| | | Aid | Aid | | | | |
| Barrington/Port La Tour FD | | | | | | | |
| Island Barrington Passage FD | 2 | | | | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD | 2 | | | | | 4 | 6 |
| TOTALS | 4 | | | | 3 | 5 | 12 |
| B/PLT - | | | | | | | |
| IBP - | | | | | | | |
| WH/SH- | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

CAPITAL PROJECT UPATE



Staff Report
March 22nd, 2021

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

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