

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETING  
May 10, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:03 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson, Chair
- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Shaun Hatfield
  
- Andrea Mood-Nickerson – Absent due to illness
  
- Chris Frotten, CAO
- Lesa Rossetti, Municipal Clerk

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The following items were added to the agenda:

- WCRLB Summer Reading Club
- Cost Shared Program for Paving Bateman Road
- Proposed Redistribution of Federal Boundaries
- Fuel Prices Re: low income

**APPROVAL OF 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 minutes of the regular meeting held April 19, 2022, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

There were no matters arising from previous meetings.

**DRAFT WASTE BY-LAW**

Draft 3 of a new Waste By-law was presented to members for their review. This draft includes suggestions from Region 6 regarding definitions, language around HHW, enforcement and penalties, etc.

Members were in general acceptance of Draft 3 and the document will now be sent to the Municipal Solicitor for review. His comments will be brought back to members for consideration.

### MUNICIPAL POLICIES

#### Proposed Amendments to Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy

It is proposed that the Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy be amended to reflect exemptions put in place during COVID-19 which are as following:

- For those making less than \$21,000 - \$400 exemption
- For those making between 21, 001 and \$25,000.00 - \$300 exemption
- For those making more than 25,001 - \$200 exemption

The revised amounts will be used in Section 1.6 which will increase by 1% each year for five years.

Notice is given tonight that proposed amendments to Policy 41 "Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy" will be considered by Council at their meeting on May 24, 2022.

#### Draft Video Surveillance Policy

It is proposed that a Video Surveillance Policy be adopted to confirm the Municipality's commitment to the ongoing protection of health and safety of its employees and the public, as well as the protection of municipal property.

It was noted that the policy has been reviewed by the Municipal Solicitor.

Notice is given tonight that the adoption of the draft Video Surveillance Policy will be considered by Council at their meeting on May 24, 2022.

### FORMER VIC PROPERTY

The future of the Visitor Information Centre was discussed.

#### Resolution COW220501

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that direction be given to the CAO to continue to rent the Visitor Information Centre until the end of June, 2023.

It was moved that the above motion be amended to ask OCA to remove their requirement for students or their guardians to sign the "Statement of Faith" allowing all people access.

There being no seconder to the motion, the motion was declared lost.

The original motion was then put to a vote.

#### AFFIRMATIVE

- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Eddie Nickerson

#### NEGATIVE

- Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

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Resolution COW220502

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that direction be given to the CAO to commence the process to sell the Visitor Information Centre building on or before July 1, 2023.

AFFIRMATIVE

- Jody Crook
- George El-Jakl
- Eddie Nickerson

NEGATIVE

- Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

COST SHARED PROGRAM FOR PAVING BATEMAN ROAD

It was requested that this matter be brought forward again.

The Department of Public Works has approved our submission to pave "Bateman Road", located in North East Point.

Resolution COW220503

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality approve the paving of "Bateman Road" located in North East Point under the Provincial Cost Shared Paving Program at a municipal cost of \$125,000.00 plus hst and funds be taken from the Gas Tax Fund to cover this expense.

Motion carried.

WCRLB SUMMER READING CLUB

Resolution COW220504

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that the WCRLB be provided with 10 pairs of 2023 public swimming passes to be used as prizes for the Western Counties Regional Library Board Summer Reading Club.

Motion carried.

FUEL PRICES RE: LOW INCOME

Resolution COW220505

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs expressing concern relating to hardships being experienced

by low income earners as a result of high fuel prices and ask what programs will be provided above and beyond current measures to alleviate pressure on residents of Nova Scotia and that this letter be copied to the Premier and MLA.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS

Warden Nickerson reported on a recent meeting he had with Greg Newell of the Department of Public Works.

#### PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL BOUNDARIES

It was reported that the Federal Government is proposing to redistribute their boundaries. If their proposal is approved as presented, Shelburne County will be removed from the South Shore / St. Margaret's riding and placed in the Acadian Shore – Shelburne riding. During discussion it was noted that public hearings are scheduled to be held in Bridgewater and Yarmouth, but none has been scheduled to be held in Shelburne County which will be most affected by this change.

Direction was given to the CAO to communicate with the appropriate department requesting that a public hearing be held in Shelburne County in connection with the proposed electoral boundary changes.

#### IN-CAMERA SESSION RE: SECTION 22(2)(e) MGA – CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

At 9:21 p.m. members moved In-Camera, in accordance with Section 22(2)(e) of the Municipal Government Act, to discuss contract negotiations.

The regular meeting was called back to order at 9:29 p.m.

#### REPORT ON IN-CAMERA SESSION

It was reported that direction was given to the CAO in the In-Camera Session to develop a fuel surcharge plan, in collaboration with the Waste Collector and the matter be brought back to the committee for review.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting