

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Monday March 28, 2022. 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 Andrea Mood-Nickerson
 - Councillor George El-Jakl (7:02)
 - Councillor Shaun Hatfield – Absent due to vacation.
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- 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.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of Conflict of Interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held February 28, 2022 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – SALE OF FORMER VIC PROPERTY

At 7:03 p.m. a Public Hearing was held in accordance with Section 51(3) of the Municipal Government Act, to receive comments and suggestions from the public prior to Council making a final decision to convey the former Visitor Information Centre property (PID 80047624, AAN 00228095) to Oceanview Christian Academy.

The Municipal Government Act requires the Municipality to hold a Public Hearing where Council proposes to sell property, valued at more than \$10,000, at less than market value. It is the intention of Council to sell the property to Oceanview Christian Academy at a price of \$20,000.00.

It was reported that notice of the Public Hearing appeared in the Vanguard Newspaper on March 9th and 16th, on March 9th and 22nd on the municipal Facebook page and on March 8th, 2022 on the municipal website.

A copy of the presentation made by staff is attached and forms part of the minutes.

Twenty-four members of the public were present for the public hearing. The Warden explained the process for individuals to address Council.

Adam Kenney, Chair of the Oceanview Christian Academy Board came forward and read their letter of October 12, 2021, at which time they officially submitted their request to purchase the former VIC property for \$20,000.00.

Comments received from the public were as follows:

- The Oceanview Christian Academy is about education excellence providing a loving and supportive environment for all students. Current enrolment is 64 and still growing. Students are from different backgrounds. The school is good for our community.
- Opposition was expressed that the Municipality is willing to sell a property assessed at \$222,000.00 for \$20,000.00.
- Question was raised as to whether members of the LGBT community would be permitted to attend Oceanview Christian Academy and it was stated that the Academy's anti-LGBT beliefs, as indicated on their website, are not consistent with our community and country's values and laws.
- Opposition was expressed regarding the use of public funds for schools that are already publicly funded.
- The location of the property next to a playground and ballfield are ideal for a school setting.
- It was recognized that drugs are a problem in the area and selling the property to the OCA is an investment in the community.
- Question was raised as to why the public is just being informed now that the property is available for purchase.
- Anyone is welcome to attend the Academy.
- All students have a right to an inclusive education and a right to be who they are.
- It is a blessing to have OCA in our community.

Each councillor was given an opportunity to comment on the matter.

The CAO informed members that one written submission was received which was from Peter Weeks. He and his wife are opposed to the sale of the Visitor Information Centre unless it is put on the market, making it available to everyone.

The Warden thanked members of the public for their comments concerning this matter and indicated that members would be moving back to their regular meeting.

Resolution C220301

Being duly moved and seconded that the sale of the former VIC property to the Oceanview Christian Academy be deferred to the April 11, 2022 Committee of the Whole Council Meeting for further discussion and a Special Council Meeting be scheduled to follow.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook

Andrea Mood-Nickerson

Eddie (Lindsay) Nickerson

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NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried.

Resolution C220302

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter be sent to the Oceanview Christian Academy, not later than March 31, 2022, requesting answers to questions members have raised by April 11, 2022.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook

Andrea Mood-Nickerson

Eddie (Lindsay) Nickerson

NEGATIVE

George El-Jakl

Motion carried

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

REPORT OF WARDEN

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

REPORT ON WCRL BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the Western Counties Regional Library Board Meeting held December 2, 2021, were provided to members in advance of the meeting.

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

Deputy Warden Crook reported on recommendations from the Planning Advisory Committee.

Draft Amendments to the Land Use By-law Relating to Agricultural Uses

Resolution C220303

Being duly moved and seconded that draft amendments to the Land Use By-law relating to Agricultural Uses dated March 24, 2022, be approved, as presented, in First Reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

Request to Deregister Heritage Property - Greenhill Community Church

Resolution C220304

Being duly moved and seconded that Council proceed with a Public Hearing, as outlined in the Heritage Property Act, to deal with the Society's request to deregister the Greenhill Community Church located at 2274 Port LaTour Road, Upper Port LaTour, as a municipal heritage property.

Motion carried unanimously.

PAC Vacancies

Resolution C220305

Being duly moved and seconded that Council accept all three applicants to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee for a two-year term from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2024. The three applicants are Jessica Swaine, Trudy Peterson and Bobbi Maxwell.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Deputy Warden Crook reported on recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Council.

Bulk Water Supply

\$100,000 was included in this year's capital budget to construct a bulk water source in the municipality. After some research, it was determined that the project would be far more expensive and complicated than originally expected. Due to the complexity of constructing a bulk water source, the enhancement of the municipality's current water supply upgrade lending program is the preferred method of assisting residents with an on-site solution.

Resolution C220306

Being duly moved and seconded that the Municipality enhance the water upgrade lending program by incorporating a grant component for low to medium-income households and direct the CAO to draft by-law amendments, program guidelines and an application form for future consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Modernization Education Sessions

An invitation has been received from the Municipality of Shelburne for councillors to attend “Education Sessions on Municipal Modernization” that they are organizing for the spring.

Resolution C220307

Being duly moved and seconded that the Municipality accept the invitation from the Municipality of Shelburne to attend “Councillor Education Sessions on Municipal Modernization” and any councillor wishing to attend may do so.

Motion carried unanimously

Endorsement of Ordering New Truck for IBPVFD

The Island and Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department intends to place an order for a new rescue vehicle in accordance with the implementation of the new multi-year funding formula and vehicle replacement plan which was approved by members in 2019 for a three year term.

Resolution C220308

Being duly moved and seconded that the Municipality endorse the order of a new medium rescue vehicle by the Island and Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

Brass Hill Wastewater Treatment Facility RFP

Resolution C220309

Being duly moved and seconded that the bid received from Higgins Construction in the amount of \$1,137,000.00, for upgrades to the Brass Hill Wastewater Treatment Facility – Phase 1, be accepted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Letter Re: Condition of Wharf Infrastructure in Southwest Nova Scotia

An email has been received from Lucien LeBlanc with a draft letter from the Port Authority of Pinkneys Point addressed to MP Chris d’Entremont, MP Rick Perkins and Fisheries Minister Joyce Murray which expressed concern regarding the condition of port infrastructure throughout Southwest Nova Scotia.

Mr. LeBlanc is requesting councils from the Municipality of Yarmouth, Argyle, Barrington and Clare to also send a similar letter expressing concern regarding wharf infrastructure.

Resolution C220310

Being duly moved and seconded that staff craft a letter to reflect the contents of Mr. LeBlanc’s letter in support of the harbour authorities and local wharf infrastructure within the Municipality of Barrington.

Motion carried unanimously.

2022-2025 Salary Scales

Resolution C220311

Being duly moved and seconded that salary scales, based on the salary review of the CAO, be approved as presented to members in the In-Camera Session.

Motion carried unanimously.

BRCC Operating Agreement

Resolution C220312

Being duly moved and seconded that the Barrington Regional Curling Club Operating Agreement, for a 10 year period effective May 31, 2022, be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

The Chief Administrative Officer provided his report for the period ending March 28, 2022 of which a copy is attached and forms part of the minutes.

Topics highlighted were as follows:

- New Recreation Centre
- Development of Asset Management Program
- Development of Additional Business/Commercial Property
- Improved Access to Internet
- Continued Work Towards Additional Medical Services (medical clinic, dialysis)
- Improved Active Transportation (sidewalks, trails, Boardwalks)
- Budget
- Complaints Handling System
- Recreation Programming
- Building Permits & By-law Enforcement
- Fire Services & Emergency Management
- Capital Project Update

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

Consideration of Adoption of Draft "Community Litter Clean-up Program Policy"

It is proposed that Council adopt a new policy "Community Litter Clean-up Program Policy" to help address litter concerns in our Municipality. The purpose of the policy is to provide a framework under which the Municipality would offer an incentive to individuals and non-profit groups to clean litter from ditches, trails and beaches.

Notice of consideration of the adoption of this new policy was given at the February 22, 2022 meeting of the Committee of the Whole Council.

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Resolution C220313

Being duly moved and seconded that Council adopt the "Community Litter Clean-up Program Policy" as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Amendments to Policy 74 "Proclamation Policy"

It is proposed that Policy 74 "Proclamation Policy" be amended by deleting Sections 2 and 3.

Notice of consideration of proposed amendments to this policy was given at the March 14, 2022 Committee of the Whole Council Meeting.

Resolution C220314

Being duly moved and seconded that Council approve amendments to Policy 74 "Proclamation Policy" as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Increased Flexibility in Canada Community-Building Fund Program

In advance to the meeting, members were provided with correspondence received from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing advising that the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) Program, which was formerly known as the Gas Tax Fund (GTF), now has some increased flexibility. Infrastructure Canada has made fire halls and fire station infrastructure eligible investments under the CCBF by the addition of a new category.

It was agreed that this matter be added to a future committee meeting agenda for discussion.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

No items were brought forward.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Warden

Chief Administrative Officer

Secretary for the Meeting

Public Hearing

Sale of municipal property
2517 Highway 3, Barrington - PID# 80047624

March 28, 2022



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Legislative Authority

Municipal Government Act (1998):

Section 51

(1) A municipality may sell or lease property at a price less than market value to a nonprofit organization that the council considers to be carrying on an activity that is beneficial to the municipality.

(2) A resolution to sell or lease property referred to in subsection (1) at less than market value shall be passed by at least a two thirds majority of the council present and voting.

(3) Where the council proposes to sell property referred to in subsection (1) valued at more than ten thousand dollars at less than market value, the council shall first hold a public hearing respecting the sale.

(4) The council shall advertise the public hearing at least twice, in a newspaper circulating in the municipality, the first notice to appear at least fourteen days before the hearing.

(5) The notice of the public hearing shall include the date, time and place of the hearing, the location of the real property or a description of the tangible personal property, the estimated value of the property and the purpose of the sale. 1998, c. 18, s. 51.



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Origin

Octobre 12, 2021 - Offer received

Octobre 18, 2021 - Direction was given to the CAO to commence the process of selling the property located at 2517 Highway 3, Barrington.



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Table 1. KEY TERMS AND CONDITIONS (PROPOSED)

Civic Address	2517 Highway 3, Barrington
Area	Approximately 30,000 sq./ft. (divided off of 1.65 Acres)
Zoning	RG Residential General
Assessed Value ¹	\$222,000
Appraised Value ²	\$168,000
Tax Status	Commercial Exempt
Proposed Purchase Price	\$20,000
Terms of Offer	The Academy shall be responsible for all operating and capital costs including annual real property tax.
Proposed Use	Private education
Conditions of Sale	Property to be conveyed on an “as is, where is” and “with all faults” basis. A right of first refusal shall be applied to the conveyance. A parking and access easement is included.
Closing Date	Second quarter of 2022

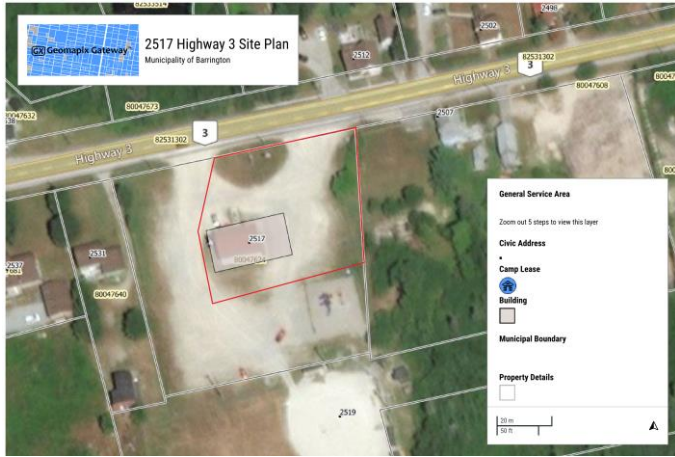
¹Determined by the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC)

²Determined by an Independent appraisal in October 2020



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Property Site Plan



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KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

We are still awaiting an official response to a funding application we submitted back in July 2021 to the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program. We reached out to them officially and received a reply indicating that “Infrastructure Canada officials are working diligently to review and assess projects for eligibility and merit under the continuous and timed intake streams.” They confirmed that our application “is under review and pending completion of the assessment process.” Unfortunately, they “cannot provide with you a precise timeline for a decision at this time.”

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

Our work continues on developing our asset management plan, implementing an asset management software, creating policy and procedure framework and training on asset management.

We are hoping to have condition assessments of our major infrastructure done in the next two months to help input this information and data as a baseline in our asset management software.

Following the completion of the draft policy and framework, we will be presenting all of the information to Council for approval.

c. Renewal or Expansion of Sewer System

Nothing new to report at this time.

2. Economic Growth

a. Development of Additional Business/Commercial Property

A Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking development proposals from qualified firms or individuals for the opportunity to purchase and develop a portion of municipally owned properties along Highway 3 in Barrington Passage (PID# 80051063 and 82569138) was issued on Monday, February 14 and the deadline is Thursday, April 28, 2022. The RFP can be found at <https://procurement.novascotia.ca/tender-details.aspx?id=MODB2201> and has also been publicized through our website and Facebook page.

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b. Reduction of Commercial Taxation

Nothing new to report at this time.

c. Improved Access to Internet

We continue to anxiously await the completion of the remainder of the Barrington East Project and the Port La Tour project. Our contact with Bell continues to provide us with updates as we've been touching base with them regularly.

As noted the last few months, the completion of the Port La Tour project hinges upon a grade 1 water crossing being completed by Nova Scotia Power between Port Clyde and Port La Tour Road. I am happy to report that the work on the crossing has begun and we hope that it will be complete this week.

As for the remainder of the Barrington East Project, the dependencies such as grade 1 engineering assessments, tree trimming, and the placement of anchors and poles mentioned the last few months are still to be completed.

Promotion and Support of the Tourism Industry

d. Amenities at Beaches

Nothing new to report at this time.

e. Work to Attract Accommodations

Nothing new to report at this time.

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

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

In October, the construction of a community health centre was identified as a priority of the Municipality. This decision will ensure that it is included in our budget deliberations next year and included in our new Strategic Plan. Our first Special Committee of the Whole Meeting on this project was on December 14, 2021. At this meeting, members discussed how to manage the project, how to choose a design, and how to choose a location.

We hoped to have scheduled our next meeting in February/March but have postponed it until April to finish gathering all of the necessary information. This meeting will be a brainstorming

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session to discuss components of the design and members will also review information gathered on the design and experiences of other community health centres owned or operated by municipalities and/or communities similar to ours.

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

Nothing new to report at this time.

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

We installed a trail tracker on February 15. We had 525 people use the trail from February 15-28. Below is the daily data. Please note that February 21 was Heritage Day which accounts for the increase in usage that day.

2022-02-15	18
2022-02-16	24
2022-02-17	6
2022-02-18	6
2022-02-19	50
2022-02-20	39
2022-02-21	191
2022-02-22	138
2022-02-23	21
2022-02-24	12
2022-02-25	2
2022-02-26	4
2022-02-27	13
2022-02-28	1

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM FEBRUARY 28TH TO MARCH 27TH, 2022

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 adjustments 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.

Complaints Handling System

It has been a year since we've launched our complaints handling system. Our "Helpdesk" has helped us streamline the complaint process through a cloud-based app which allows 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.

To provide an overview of the data associated with our first year of usage, we've prepared a "2021-2022 Complaints Report", which can be viewed here: https://barringtonmunicipality-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/p/cfrotten/EbxChoA7lgtDhFnKx_nFtVMBWvArsdQtUjCwnXZTNm10w?e=DnL0kE.

A reminder that 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

A line-up of after school activities, guided hikes and try-it sessions are being planned for the Spring. This programming will have something for all ages. Dates will be available shortly and communicated through our website, social media channels and through schools.

We are partnering with Senior Safety Services to facilitate a senior's walk series from May to October as well as a Seniors Picnic celebration on June 15th at Sherose Island.

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We are working with the volunteers of Sherose Island Rocks to assist with their Easter Egg Hunt on April 16. We will have a couple fire pits with s'mores stations as well as a bouncy castle. The MOM Market is also planning an event in the Arena Parking lot that day.

Recruiting of summer staff positions is going fairly well. The deadline to receive applications is April 8 and we are currently concentrating on finding aquatic staff to ensure we have time to provide any required training upgrades.

We are working with Health Promoting Schools teams to build our relationships with each area school and support the school community. We also hope this will increase availability of community use of schools.

We are excited to be working with the Recreation Advisory Committee on recommendations for the future of Sherose Island Recreation Park. We have heard from many that there are wishes for another ball field, expanded playground, senior's areas, multi-purpose courts, trail expansions/enhancements and so on. We will look for community and stakeholder feedback on a variety of possibilities.

The "Make Your Move" campaign is on its way. there are currently radio ads that play on CJLS daily and our MPAL is coordinating with public works to place "park here" signs at Sobey's parking lot.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From February 21, 2022, to March 20, 2022, 17 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$2,374,205. This is a \$1,495,205 increase compared to the same period last year. 42 building inspections, 10 fire inspections and 1 fire re-inspection were carried out.

During this period, no new civic numbers were issued but 11 households and businesses were visited. Dave also presented to a seniors' group on Cape Island regarding the importance of civic numbers and basic fire safety.

We received 2 new subdivision applications, so we now have 4 open subdivision files that we continue to work on.

During this period, we received no new complaints relating to illegal dumping or streetlights.

Fire Services & Emergency Management

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There have been some cases of COVID-19 and close contact isolations in the fire departments, but none have caused any response issues to this point. They continue to monitor the status of their membership and communicate that information to the Fire Services Coordinator.

The Barrington Port LaTour Fire Department has sold pumper #44 to Islands and District Fire Department in Argyle.

Otherwise, Dwayne has prepared and taught a strategy and tactics course, attended a regional EMO meeting in New Minas, attended a Shelburne County Mutual Aid Association meeting in Ingomar, continues to monitor COVID-19 updates from the province and EMONS and performed monthly fire and life safety inspections.

Last February, the Fire Departments responded to 23 calls, and they responded to 12 in February 2021. Here is the data for the month of February:

BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE							
EMERGENCY CALLS February 2022							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut Aid	Auto Aid	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	2		1			1	4
Island Barrington Passage FD	1	1	1		1	5	9
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD			2	4		4	10
TOTALS	3	1	4	4	1	10	23
B/PLT - vehicle fire, Possible structure fire							
IBP - Barn							
WH/SH-							



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CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

Here is an update on our 2021-2022 Capital Projects:

Rank	Project	Status
10	Bulk Water Source	Not Started
1	Landfill Truck Scale	In Progress
2	Recreation Centre	In Progress
3	Brass Hill Clarifier & Screens	In Progress
4	Property Services Building	In Progress
5	Beach Facilities	In Progress
7	Municipal Admin Office Renovations	In Progress
8	Municipal Admin Building Accessibility	In Progress
6	Internet Project	Completed
9	Arena Refrigeration Control System	Completed
11	Basil Blades Memorial Ballfield Lights	Completed
12	Lobster Pot Christmas Tree	Completed
13	Library Heat Pump	Completed

