

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 February 28, 2022. The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:04 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
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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.

VARIANCE APPEAL – LONG POINT LOBSTER & SEAFOOD LTD.

Dave Andrews, Development Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting.

An appeal has been received from Long Point Lobster & Seafood Limited, who wish to tear down their existing building located at 78 Boundry Street, West Head, Assessment Account Number 03516881 and replace it with a new building. Long Point Lobster & Seafood Limited is requesting the set back distance from the rear property line, for the new building, be reduced from the required twenty-five (25) feet to five point eight (5.8) feet. The original application to the Municipal Development Officer was rejected since the request does not meet the requirements of the Land Use By-law.

All property owners located within 30 meters of the variance sought have been notified of the appeal hearing, as required by the Municipal Government Act.

It was reported that Department of Fisheries and Oceans, West Head Small Crafts Harbour Authority and Gerrett Enterprises Incorporated have indicated that they have no objection to the variance.

Resolution C220201

Being duly moved and seconded that the variance requested by Long Point Lobster & Seafood Limited be approved and they be granted a variance of nineteen point four (19.4) feet reducing the rear set back to five point eight (5.8) feet to allow for the construction of a new building on their property, AAN 03516881.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held January 24, 2022 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

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.

SECOND READING RE: BY-LAW NO. 25 "TAX EXEMPTION BY-LAW"

It was reported that the Barrington Leisure Park Association recently acquired two additional parcels of land in the vicinity of their skateboard park in Barrington Passage and are requesting that they be provided with a tax exemption, the same as other properties owned by them.

It was reported that notice of Second Reading of proposed amendments to By-law No. 25 "Tax Exemption By-law" was advertised in the Vanguard Newspaper on February 9, 2022, and posted on social media, giving public notice that amendments would be considered tonight.

It is proposed that Schedule "B" of By-law No. 25 "Tax Exemption By-law" be amended by adding the properties recently acquired by the Association.

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Resolution C220202

Being duly moved and seconded that:

BE IT RESOLVED that By-law No. 25 “Tax Exemption By-law” be amended as follows:

Schedule “B” be amended by adding:

Barrington Leisure Park Association	10540402
	04969529

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

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

It was agreed that “Ukraine humanitarian relief efforts” be added to an upcoming committee agenda for discussion.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Councillor El-Jakl reported on recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Council.

Capital Planning Discussion – New Recreation Centre

Resolution C220203

Being duly moved and seconded that the CAO forward a letter to Infrastructure Canada’s Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program to determine the status of our funding application to assist with the cost of a new Recreation Centre.

Motion carried unanimously.

Trail Maintenance

The complaint received from Cecil Swimm and trail maintenance was discussed by the Committee of the Whole Council.

Resolution C220204

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter be sent to Cecil Swimm acknowledging his complaint concerning the condition of the Barrington Bay Trail and advising that the Municipality is not interested in taking over the trail, but is exploring ways to have the trail attended to and Mr. Swimm be advised that future concerns regarding the trail be forwarded directly to the Woodland Multi-Use Trails Association.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Resolution C220205

Being duly moved and seconded that the CAO advise the Woodland Multi-Use Trails Association that the Municipality has allotted \$10,000.00, in the 2022/23 municipal budget, for maintenance of the trail in the Municipality of Barrington and based on a citizen complaint, the association be asked to pay particular attention to the section of trail which sees the most multi-use, from Starboard Inn to No Frills, and that it be groomed at least twice a year and they be requested to commence maintenance at their earliest convenience.

Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Report Re: Regional Emergency Management Organization

Resolution C220206

Being duly moved and seconded that staff be directed to initiate a formal dialogue with the Town of Clarks Harbour and Shelburne County East EMO in an effort to establish a Regional Emergency Management Organization encompassing the entire County.

Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence from Brenda Maxwell Re: Ambulance Service

Correspondence has been received from Brenda Maxwell expressing concern over the existing ambulance system in Nova Scotia.

Resolution C220207

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter be written to the Minister of Health and Wellness and Premier making them aware of Mrs. Maxwell's concerns and asking the Premier what steps have been taken by his government to address this matter since it was one of his campaign commitments and a copy of this letter be forwarded to Mrs. Maxwell.

Motion carried unanimously.

FGCAC Wire Trap Feasibility Study Letter of Support

The Program Manager of the Fishing Gear Coalition of Atlantic Canada has advised that they will be making application to FCM for additional funding to continue their program and they are requesting a letter of support.

Resolution C220208

Being duly moved and seconded that the Municipality provide a letter to the Fishing Gear Coalition of Atlantic Canada in support of an application to FCM for funding to assist with the cost of their End-of-life Fishing Gear Management Project.

Motion carried unanimously.

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STAFF REPORT

The Chief Administrative Officer provided his report for the period ending February 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)
- NS Lobster Crawl
- Tax Sale
- Recreation Programming
- Building Permits & By-law Enforcement
- Fire Services & Emergency Management
- Capital Project Update

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

Consideration of Amendments to Policy 59 Re: Terms of Reference for the NS Marathon Committee

It is proposed that the Term of Reference for the NS Marathon Committee be revised, as recommended by the committee. Revisions include terms of office, roles and responsibilities, sub committees, etc.

It was noted that notice of consideration of the proposed minutes was given at the Committee of the Whole Council Meeting held February 14, 2022.

Resolution C220209

Being duly moved and seconded that By-law No. 59 "Policy on Committees of Council" be amended by revising the Terms of Reference for the NS Marathon Committee as proposed.

Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report on.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

No items were brought forward.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Warden

Chief Administrative Officer

Secretary for the Meeting

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KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

1. Infrastructure Renewal

a. New Recreation Centre

Although we did not receive an official response, it seems like the funding application for \$750,000 to the Canada Community Revitalization Fund, we were not part of the list of projects approved in Shelburne County therefore we are assuming we were not successful in that application. We are therefore still awaiting an official response to the other funding application we submitted back in July 2021 to the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program. We hope that we will receive a response soon so that we can move forward on this project – in one way, shape or form.

b. Development of Asset Management Plan

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

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 Monday, February 14. 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.

b. Reduction of Commercial Taxation

Nothing new to report at this time.

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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. We have been fielding inquiries relating to the Port La Tour project as its anticipated completion dates was the end of August 2021. Our contact with Bell has been providing us with updates as we've been touching base with them regularly.

As noted last month, 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. The last update we received from Bell is that Nova Scotia Power now has the required permit from the Department of Natural Resources and Bell is hoping they can identify the timing of the build subject to weather.

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 last month 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 medical clinic 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.

The next meeting will take place in the beginning of February. This meeting will be a brainstorming session to discuss components of the design and members will also review information gathered

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on the design and experiences of other clinics owned or operated by municipalities 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)

The Sherose Island Trail evaluation project is starting the focus group interview phase which will gather detailed information about how people are using the trail. Cobequid Consulting has offered some free assessments of work we may wish to explore so we will look to them for guidance on possibilities for Sherose Island as well as possible trail/ green space development on Cape Sable Island.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM JANUARY 24TH TO FEBRUARY 27TH, 2022

TOPICS

Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl

We kicked off February and the Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl on Groundhog Day, February 2 with a virtual event at the Cape Sable Island Causeway, with Lucy the Lobster seeing her shadow. Cailin O'Neil, a travel blogger and content creator hosted the morning event, with support from Donna Hatt and Stephanie Miller-Vincent. This year Lucy received a lot of attention. Brett Ruskin of CBC arrived in Barrington on January 31 to do a story about Lobster Crawl and to meet Lucy. That episode aired on February 2 to a national audience. Following our virtual event, we went live on CTV Morning Live to talk about the lobster crawl and Lucy and following that Suzy did a radio interview with Hot Country FM. On February 3, she spoke with Andrew Carter from CJAD800 in Montreal about Lucy, the Lobster Crawl and the Lobster Capital of Canada.

Cailin stayed in the area for three days creating content for Shelburne County, the Municipality and the Lobster Crawl. We partnered with the Barrington Museum Complex on a Historic Photo Scavenger Hunt, which took place this last weekend. The Tail End Party took place in Lunenburg last night and we partnered on that event to supply prizes and lobster cookies from the Lobster Capital. Given the COVID restrictions and the limited events that could take place for this year's Lobster Crawl, we feel we have kept momentum going and next year will be bigger and better.

Tax Sale

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our annual tax sale was once again done by tender this year. We accepted tenders until 2:00 p.m. AST Monday, February 14. In the end there were 15 properties on the tax sale list, and we received a number of bids on all but one property. Formal notice to the winning bidders was provided and all but one successful bidder paid in full. A list of the winning bids is posted on our website.

Recreation Programming

We have started communication with school administration and community groups so that all access to school will be free of charge to community members for physical activity and recreation. There will be some promotion to the community at large as well because it opens up facility to host birthday parties, and other active events.



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We are working to return things to “normal” and prepare for spring and summer facility use and programming. We are currently supporting the planning of an Easter Trail event by the Sherose Island Rocks crew, planning a March Break “Get Outside” challenge, starting summer staff recruiting and trying to amplify our equipment loan program.

There are already concerns regionally that aquatic staff will be difficult to recruit this summer. We are identifying ways to train and hire. This may include some promotion to bring in retired or semi-retired people to do instruction as well as change hours of when instruction is offered.

We are working more closely with the Woodland Multi-use Trail Association and NS Trails to better support their work. They have an extensive trail etiquette campaign planned for the spring and wish to have larger events on International Trails Day which falls on the first Saturday in June.

We are wrapping up a funding program project which included the trail tracker and loose parts shed. A trail tracker has been installed as of February 8 and we will provide some trail usage reports for each Recreation Advisory committee meeting to track usage. We struggled to find loose sheds this year due to pandemic and supply issues. However, we have purchased a galvanized shed that will be placed at Woods Harbour playground in the Springtime.

We continued our work on the Hike NS challenge badges. There will be 9 different locations that people will hike, including beaches and trails in all districts in Barrington.

As part of the Make Your Move Campaign, parking lot signs have been purchased and are prepared to go on Sobeys parking lot in March. There will also be radio ads, social media contest, and google ads campaign that will be launched in March. Signs were purchased by the Healthy Tomorrows Foundation to promote the campaign at the Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena and at Barrington Curling Club.

Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement

From January 17, 2022, to February 20, 2022, 17 permits were issued with a total dollar value of \$1,371,000. This is a \$805,000 increase compared to the same period last year. 71 building inspections and no fire inspections were carried out.

During this period, no new civic numbers were issued. 10 households and businesses were visited during this period.



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We received 1 new subdivision application and 1 was completed and sent for registration which leaves us with 2 open subdivision files that we continue to work on.

During this period, we received 1 new complaint regarding illegal dumping. This complaint was investigated and resolved so that there are no open complaints.

Thelma received 1 new streetlight complaint while one complaint was resolved so presently there is only 1 open streetlight complaint.

1 streetlight complaint was resolved, and another was received therefore there is 1 presently open.

Fire Services & Emergency Management

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.

Otherwise, Dwayne has began a level II course with 12 students which will finish in February, continues to monitor COVID-19 updates from the province and EMONS and performed monthly fire and life safety inspections.

Last January, the Fire Departments responded to 21 calls and they responded to 8 in January 2021. Here is the data for the month of January:

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BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE							
EMERGENCY CALLS January 2022							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	1			1	1		3
Island Barrington Passage FD	2				2	3	7
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD				8		3	11
TOTALS	3			9	3	6	21
B/PLT - Chimney							
IBP - Electrical, chimney							
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

