

## PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Cathy Stoddard, Chair
- Murray Atkinson
- Cecil Swimm
- Cindy Nickerson
  
- David Andrews, Development Officer
- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

Absent was member Shaun Hatfield due to work commitments.

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- Wind Turbine Generators.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved** by C. Swimm and seconded by M. Atkinson that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by M. Atkinson and seconded by C. Nickerson that minutes of the meeting held March 22, 2012 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### LANDMARK GEOGRAPHIC SOLUTIONS INC.

Members were shown the mapping information being provided through Landmark Geographic Solutions Inc. This is a local information utility that is provided by this company over the internet for an annual fee. The Municipality has contracted for a period of three years for this service from Landmark. Members were shown how properties could be identified and located on the mapping system, and how the mapping system could be used by municipal employees. At present there are four municipal employees who have passwords and access to this information, with an allowance being made for up to as many as 10 employees.

### PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE

Members were provided with the section of the policy on "Committees of Council" that deals with the Planning Advisory Committee. This information was reviewed for the committee members to refresh their memories and information regarding the purpose and use of the committee.

### CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

Members were informed that a Climate Change Action Plan is required to be completed by the Municipality in order to continue to receive Gas Tax Funds from the Federal Government. This Action Plan must be forwarded to Service Nova Scotia who will in turn forward it to the Federal Government. The Climate Change Action Plan must be completed by December 31, 2013. Gas Tax Funds can be used to fund completion of this plan, and can be used to hire consultants for this purpose.

### REVIEW OF MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY AND LAND USE BY-LAW

The Municipal Planning Strategy has been in the process of review for the last 2 ½ years, together with the Land Use By-Law. The Municipal Planning Strategy is very near completion of its review. Once this is done, the resulting amendments to the Land Use By-Law will be made. The review of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law can be combined with the completion of the Climate Change Action Plan so that both may be funded through the Gas Tax Funds. The Climate Change Action Plan will be incorporated into the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, and also into the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law of the Municipality, so that all of these documents will then be coordinated together to provide a consistent presentation to developers for municipal planning and land use.

### WIND TURBINE GENERATORS

Members were informed by the Development Officer that there have recently been two companies interested in obtaining Development Permits for the purpose of constructing wind turbine generators within the Municipality. One of these proponents is proposing to construct two towers on property located behind the community of Atwood's Brook. This company is proposing that they construct two, 80 meter, 1.6 megawatt towers. They have obtained permission from the three adjacent property owners in order to do this. The Development Officer believes that the towers, that are more than 60 meters high and more than 1 megawatt in power, according to our By-Law, are large scale wind turbine generators and will require greater separation distances. Members of the committee concurred with the Development Officer. The Development Officer will further deal with the proponents in order to see that the proper requirements of the Land Use By-Law are met for development.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed their discussion of the business of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned by mutual consent of members at 8:05 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting

**On website June 22, 2012.**