

**RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**JULY 19, 2000**

Location: Court House, Arichat

Warden Cotton called the meeting to order and the Clerk took roll call of Councillors.

The Warden noted that the meeting was a special meeting to review a proposed agreement regarding water service to the Richmond Academy.

The Clerk indicated that Porter Dillon have completed their work on the evaluation of the impact of the proposed Richmond Academy School on the municipal water and sewer system.

Mr. Darrin McLean, Municipal Engineer, summarized the Dillon report, indicating that the major problem is inadequate fire flows/pressure for fire protection. Porter Dillon has calculated that approximately 1,600 gallons per minute are required for the sprinkler system and fire hydrants, however, the system can only supply 800 gallons per minute. The major problems are the size of the building, and its location on the same elevation as our water storage tank. Porter Dillon have calculated that the most cost-effective option for providing adequate water for fire protection is a new storage tank which will cost approximately \$625,000.

The Porter Dillon report has indicated that there is adequate water for domestic usage at the school, and the sewer system is capable of handling the school.

Councillor MacPhee indicated that the P3 tendering package from the Province included that the site selected for any new school must have adequate water for domestic consumption and fire protection.

In response to an inquiry, the Clerk indicated that the school was constructed without a building permit, because the Province insisted that they were not subject to the municipal building permit process.

Warden Cotton indicated that he felt the problem rested with the Province, who are responsible for funding additional infrastructure costs.

The solicitor noted that the P3 Partners maintain that there is adequate water, because the water is sufficient to operate the school sprinkler system, however, Porter Dillon have reported that there will not be any water available for the fire hydrants in the event that a fire activates the sprinkler system. The solicitor further indicated that this would present a liability problem to the Municipal Council, who are aware of the problem.

The Clerk suggested that the legal opinions to be provided by the solicitor be carried out “In-Camera”, as permitted in the Municipal Government Act.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Bourque that the meeting of Council proceed to “In-Camera” session. Motion carried.

Warden Cotton reconvened the Special Council Meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Bourque that Richmond Municipal Council authorize the appropriate municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the P3 Partners responsible for construction of the Richmond Academy to the effect that:

- the sufficiency of the water utility to provide fire protection will be submitted to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for determination;
- Council will provide water services to the school on an interim basis, so long as the school is not open for operation as a school, and the P3 Partners will indemnify the Municipality for any water related problems;
- If the U.A.R.B. determines that the current water utility is adequate to supply public fire protection services, the provision of water services shall become permanent, and the P3 Partners will pay regular utility rates;
- If the U.A.R.B. determines that the water utility is not capable of providing public fire protection to the Richmond Academy, the Municipality will terminate water services to the school and the P3 Partners shall install their own on-site services, or; the Municipality shall install a new water tower consistent with the recommendations of its engineering report and the P3 Partners shall pay the capital costs of that new water tower.

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Warden Cotton adjourned the Special Council Meeting at 8:40 p.m.