

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 8, 2001

Location: Court House, Arichat

Warden Cotton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for O'Canada.

The Clerk took roll call of Councillors.

Warden Cotton indicated Councillor Bourque was unable to attend the Council Meeting, due to illness.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Cotton indicated Councillor Sampson wished to add physician replacement for the Strait Richmond Hospital.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the item added be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes: December 11, 2000

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the minutes of December 11, 2000 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Petitions and/or Delegations:

- (a) Richmond County Community Economic Development Advisory Committee re:
Mandate/Directions Regarding Community Economic Development

Warden Cotton welcomed Mr. Yvon Samson to the meeting.

Mr. Samson indicated he was Chairman of the Richmond County Community Economic Development Advisory Committee and noted that Mr. Darryl Landry and Mrs. Eva Landry, two of the Committee members, were also present.

Mr. Samson presented his report (copy attached) and briefed Council on the Committee's activities and indicated the Committee consisted of one representative from each area of

the County, except for Isle Madame, where there were two representatives (La Picasse and DIMA) rather than four. He noted the biggest challenge is working together and being able to speak all the same language because everyone has different ideas. He indicated the Committee is focusing on improving the quality of life and try to create jobs. He indicated that since 1999, Committee members have met regularly and has learned to work together as a group. He also indicated that from time to time, government officials are invited to observe the Committee's work and noted that Robert MacDonald and Andre LeBlanc are active observers.

Mr. Samson indicated the CED Advisory Committee will focus on recommending to Richmond County Council a CED process and strategy to the extent that is reflected in all the development efforts of the county.

Mr. Samson indicated the Committee would like to suggest to Council certain directions that could be taken in order to solidify the community economic development of the county.

A question and answer period followed.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Richmond Municipal Council adopt the Mandate and Structure for the Richmond County Community Economic Development Advisory Committee as follows:

Mandate: To advise and guide Council on the definition of community economic development and the directions it may take in solidifying community economic development, tourism processes and strategies in Richmond County consistent with this definition.

Structure: The CED Advisory Committee will explore all possible structures that the Advisory Committee could possibly have. Initially the structure should include a person from each constituency in Richmond County.

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boudreau that the issue of Municipal Council providing financial assistance for the CED Advisory Committee members be tabled until budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the report of the Richmond County Community Economic Development Advisory Committee be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

(a) Committee of the Whole Report

Deputy Warden Goyetche presented the monthly report of the Committee of the Whole (copy attached).

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Boudreau that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and authorize staff to make application for the following projects:

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|---|-----------|
| 1. Arichat/Petit De Grat Water Supply – develop groundwater supply, and any necessary treatment | \$975,000 |
| 2. Louisdale/Evanston Water System – Louisdale and Evanston water storage | 460,000 |
| 3. Arichat Sewage Treatment – replace lift stations 2, 3 and 4, together with piping system repairs to reduce I/I | 520,000 |
| 4. Evanston Sewer System – replace sewer plant | 800,000 |
| 5. Arichat Sewage System – upgrade or replace sewage treatment plant (if necessary) | 1,500,000 |
| 6. Arichat/Petit De Grat Water System – upgrade surface water supply and treatment (if necessary) | 1,360,000 |

Motion carried.

Warden Cotton indicated the Village of St. Peter's has Village status and will apply for their own infrastructure funding.

In response to a concern from Councillor MacPhee regarding the need to come up with projects for unserved areas, Warden Cotton indicated this issue will be placed on a future Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and WHEREAS the existing schedule of rates for water and water services of the Richmond County Water Utility do not provide for 6" and 8" services;

AND WHEREAS Richmond Municipal Council has reviewed a report dated December 19, 2000, from Dillon Consulting, attached as "Appendix 1", which calculated the rates for 6" and 8" metered services, based on the existing meter capacity rating in the existing schedule of rates for water and water services;

AND WHEREAS Richmond Municipal Council deems these proposed rates for 6” and 8” services to be calculated in conformity with the existing schedule of rates for the water utility;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Richmond Municipal Council authorize staff to make application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, on behalf of the Richmond County Water Utility, for an amendment to a schedule of rates for water and water services;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board request that rates be established for 6” and 8” metered services, in accordance with the Dillon Consulting report, dated December 19, 2000, and attached as “Appendix 1”.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that \$1,500 be allocated to each district to be used towards Canada Day celebrations. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the rent for Year 2000 for D & S Auto Parts be frozen; and further moved that the rent for Year 2001 be increased, in accordance with the approved rental rates. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff be authorized to have an appraisal carried out of fair market value of this property; and further moved that the property be offered to Mr. Kob at the appraised value. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the monthly report of the Committee of the Whole be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

(a) Applications for “Member at Large” to the Planning Advisory Committee

- Ann Carter
- Dougald Matthews
- Rosemary Burns
- Paul Shears
- Robert Wambolt
- Daniel MacLean

The Clerk noted that Mr. MacLean’s application had only been received on January 2, 2001.

Warden Cotton indicated he wished to establish a process for nominations by either a show of hands or by indicating a choice of three members on a ballot.

Councillor McNamara indicated she wished to note the exemplary dedication and the knowledge into the insight of the planning process of the present “members at large”.

Councillor MacNeil indicated three of the applicants were from his district, and noted he would prefer if the voting was carried out by ballot.

Warden Cotton questioned the validity of the letter received from Mr. Matthews because it was unsigned.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Johnson that all applications received be considered. Motion carried.

Warden Cotton requested that each Councillor indicate their choice of three members by ballot and he called a short recess in order to count the result of the ballots and indicated that the Clerk and the Council Recorder would act as Scrutineers.

Warden Cotton reported the result of the ballots indicating that Ann Carter, Rosemary Burns and Paul Shears will serve as the “Members at Large” of the Planning Advisory Committee.

In response to a question from Councillor Boudreau, the Clerk indicated letters will be sent to all applicants indicating whether they were successful or not.

(b) Applications for “Member at Large” to the Richmond Villa Board of Directors

- Kirk Stone
- Alex Mombourquette
- Annette Martell

Councillor Beaton declared a conflict of interest indicating the Richmond Villa is a member of the Nova Scotia Association of Health Organizations, to which his employer is also a member and he left his seat during voting and discussion of this item.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that Richmond Municipal Council appoint Kirk Stone, Alex Mombourquette and Annette Martell as the “Members at Large” to the Richmond Villa Board of Directors. Motion carried.

(c) Applicants for “Member at Large” to the Heritage Advisory Committee

The Clerk indicated an advertisement had been placed twice and no applications had been received for “Members at Large” to the Heritage Advisory Committee and he indicated he would request staff to attend a Committee of the Whole Meeting to explain the process followed and role of this Committee.

(d) Returning Officer re: Report for the 2000 Municipal Elections

The Clerk summarized the report of the Returning Officer and noted that the voter turnout for School Board elections, in the districts that no Council elections were held, was low.

In response to a question from Councillor MacPhee inquiring if a request had been received from residents of Poll #21A, the Clerk indicated no request had been received and the Returning Officer had been instructed to follow the same procedure as carried out in the last election.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Boudreau that the Returning Officer's report be tabled and returned to a Committee of the Whole Meeting. Motion carried.

(e) Pickup and MacDowell re: M&NP and SOEI Assessment Appeals

(f) U.N.S.M. re: 2000 Report of the Regional Public Libraries Funding Review Committee

(g) Carl & Beth Cooper re: Thank You

Councillor McNamara indicated the correspondence sent out made reference to the Cooper Road being on a private road and noted this road is not a private road, but rather a public road that the Department of Transportation has been maintaining for the past 40 years.

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that a letter be sent to Carl & Beth Cooper, the District Planning Commission and the Department of Transportation indicating that the letter previously sent to them on December 18, 2000 regarding Council approval of the road name change from "MacLean Road" to "Cooper Road" should not have indicated that this road is a private road, because this road is a public road being maintained by the Department of Transportation. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

Councillor Sampson indicated that Dr. C.K. Thomas had indicated he would not be renewing his contract with the Strait Richmond Hospital, which was expiring on January 31, 2001 and reported that Dr. Thomas had been in a car accident before the holidays and will not be able to finish the remainder of his term.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor McNamara that a letter be sent to the Hon. Jamie Muir, Minister of Health, expressing Council's support for the efforts of the Strait Area Physician Recruitment Committee to secure a full time physician for the Emergency Department at the Strait Richmond Hospital and request the Department of Health's assistance through their recruitment team to place high priority on the serious situation that exists at the Strait Richmond Hospital; and further moved that copies of this correspondence be sent to MLA's Michel Samson, Rodney MacDonald and Ronnie Chisholm and also to the Town of Port Hawkesbury, Municipality of the County of Inverness and the Town of Mulgrave. Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Alena MacDonald indicated she wished to thank the Municipality for treating the media extremely well on the evening of the municipal elections, when they were reporting on election results.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Warden Cotton adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.