

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 13, 2002

Location: Court House, Arichat

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

The Clerk took roll call of Councillors.

Warden Cotton indicated that Deputy Warden Johnson could not attend tonight's meeting due to the death of a friend.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Cotton indicated that the Clerk and Engineer wished to add Sampsonville Water, Arichat/Petit De Grat Water and Digital Service, Councillor MacPhee wished to add Guysborough Antigonish Strait Tobacco Strategy Advisory Committee Report, Road & Shoreline Protection in River Bourgeois and Designation of Flat Calm Country Inn as a Municipal Heritage Property, Councillor Goyetche wished to add Richmond Housing and he wished to add the Village of St. Peter's, Visitor Information Centre.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the items added be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes: April 8, 2002

Councillor MacPhee indicated that on Page 3, Paragraph 1, "which is very detrimental to our residents" should be removed.

Councillor MacPhee indicated that Page 6, Section (f), Paragraph 2, should read "Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Board Tobacco Advisory Committee".

Councillor MacPhee noted that on Page 8, Paragraph 3, there was a typographical error and that "loose" should read, "lose".

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that the minutes of April 8, 2002 be adopted as amended. Motion carried.

Presentations and/or Delegations:

- (a) Strait Area District Labour Council re: "No Sweat Procurement Policy"

Warden Cotton welcomed Mr. Everett Baker and Mr. Alvin Peters to the meeting, who were presenting on behalf of the Strait Area District Labour Council.

Mr. Baker indicated that the District Labour Council is approaching municipalities to adopt a “No Sweat Procurement Policy”, eliminating the purchase of materials under sweated labour.

Mr. Baker indicated that they are requesting the Municipality to adopt a policy and approve a disclosure resolution.

In response to a question from Councillor Goyetche, Mr. Baker indicated that the Strait Area District Labour Council works indirectly with the Canadian Labour Congress and also indicated that the “No Sweat Procurement Policy” would not impact wages, however will restrict the type and conditions of work, noting that the standards for labour laws are international. Warden Cotton indicated that he would like to table the adoption of the “No Sweat Procurement Policy” for further consideration, noting that the Strait Area District Labour Council is seeking support for the principle.

Mr. Baker noted that a \$115.00 pair of Nike sneakers cost \$0.11 to make, noting that they were produced by children whose average age was 7, further noting that these children were paid a bowl of rice a day for their labour.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that WHEREAS some manufacturers and retailers produce their clothing under “sweatshop” conditions in factories, workshops and homes where workers’ rights are regularly abused;

WHEREAS these abusive conditions are allowed to continue because these production sites are deliberately hidden from the public;

WHEREAS most companies refuse to let their customers know where their clothing is made, and they are not required to do so under Canadian law;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian government already requires companies to list important consumer information on clothing labels so it would be a simple matter to require more specific information under the labeling regulations;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of the County of Richmond calls on the Canadian government to require companies to disclose the names and addresses of all manufacturing facilities making apparel products sold in Canada by instituting simple changes to the labeling regulations under the *Textile Labeling Act*. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council table the resolution on a “No Sweat Procurement Policy” at this time. Motion carried.

Warden Cotton thanked Mr. Baker and Mr. Peter's for their presentation.

(b) Tourism Cape Breton re: Update on Tourism Cape Breton/Richmond County
Tourism Statistics

Warden Cotton welcomed Mrs. Janet Connor to the meeting.

Mrs. Connor presented an update on behalf of Tourism Cape Breton.

Mrs. Connor indicated that there are currently 19 members on the Board of Tourism Cape Breton.

Mrs. Connor indicated that some recent achievements of Tourism Cape Breton include the establishment of eight visitor information centers, a world class web site and the hiring of four full-time employees to handle inquiries received via the website.

Mrs. Connor noted that there are 6547 tourism related jobs in Cape Breton, of which 275 are in Richmond.

Mrs. Connor indicated that there are 12 Tourism Cape Breton members in Richmond County and 15 targeted.

Mrs. Connor indicated that there were 68,800 party trips through St. Peter's in 2001, noting that there were 10,000 overnights. She also indicated that 2002 is looking like a good year for tourism in Cape Breton, noting that reservations are up from last year.

Mrs. Connor noted that VIC staff undergoes a 10-day training session with 3-4 days in the classroom and the remainder traveling throughout Cape Breton.

Mrs. Connor noted that Tourism Cape Breton is requesting funding from the Municipality in the amount of \$5,000 for visitor information services, level one marketing and member standards, noting that the cost of running the Tourism Cape Breton Office is approximately \$142,000 annually.

In response to a question from Councillor MacPhee, Mrs. Connor noted that there are no current statistics indicating if visitors make the loop around Cape Breton Island or if they

return the same route, further noting that there could be some analysis of this in the future.

Councillor MacPhee expressed disappointment regarding the staff at the Port Hastings Tourist Bureau, noting that they tend to send people opposite the direction of Richmond County to Baddeck and Inverness.

Mrs. Connor noted that unfortunately staff may form relationships with certain operators or may be from a particular location and sometimes they may have the tendency to send people in a certain direction because of these factors.

Warden Cotton noted that ECBC is aware that infrastructure is needed in Richmond County to attract visitors, noting that the area needs more to market.

Mrs. Connor noted that the tourism plan for Richmond County that was written a few years ago was very thorough and outlines where things need to be filled out in Richmond.

In response to a question from Councillor Goyetche, Mrs. Connor indicated that Tourism Cape Breton works closely with the provincial government, noting one project in particular, the Growth Fund.

Mrs. Connor noted that the province will be approaching various municipalities as well as Tourism Cape Breton to determine what is required in each area and from that, criteria will be set and an application form/process developed.

In response to a question from Councillor Goyetche, Mrs. Connor indicated that she will forward financial statements to Council, noting that audited statements are expected in 3-4 weeks.

Councillor Boudreau expressed concern regarding provincial VIC's, noting that there needs to be more work to determine how/why employees direct visitors.

In response to a question from Councillor Boudreau, Mrs. Connor noted that Tourism Cape Breton does not work directly with the provincial employees, noting that there will be a full review of all provincial VIC's this year.

In response to a question from Councillor Sampson, Mrs. Connor indicated that the Tourism Cape Breton Board is comprised of 19 members, four from each municipal unit, one from Port Hawkesbury and two members at large. Mrs. Connor noted that the Board meets every month and it required to meet at least eight times per year.

In response to a question from Councillor Sampson, Mrs. Connor indicated that Tourism Cape Breton has a toll free events line throughout the summer months and representatives from the various municipalities feed the system (telephone and website) with up-to-date information.

Mrs. Connor noted that the province has given Tourism Cape Breton \$10,000 to give to various festivals and events, noting that this amount is not significant for all of Cape Breton.

The Clerk noted that the Municipality now contributes approximately \$100,000 per year towards tourism in Richmond County, of which approximately half is salaries and related.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Sampson that this item be tabled until budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

(a) Committee of the Whole Report for the Month of May 2002

Councillor Sampson presented the monthly report of the Committee of the Whole (copy attached).

Councillor Beaton indicated that he would not be supporting Bounty Bay Shellfish Inc. in their purchase for land in the Richmond County Industrial Park noting that he questions their motives. Councillor Beaton noted that their application for sites in Lennox Passage is still open and if permitted, would destroy the waterways.

Councillor MacPhee indicated that he will be supporting this motion because to turn this down would be sending the message that the Municipality does not promote business in the County.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality agree to sell the parcel of land in Lennox Passage to Bounty Bay Shellfish Inc. for the purposes outlined in their presentation to Council. (Yeas – Councillor Boudreau, Councillor Goyetche, Councillor MacPhee, Councillor MacNeil, Councillor Sampson. Nays – Councillor Beaton). Motion carried.

Councillor Sampson gave notice that he will introduce a motion at the next regular session of Council to amend the municipal hiring policy, attached as “Appendix A”

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to the Minister of Community Services, Premier John Hamm and all MLA’s in the area indicating the need for this service in our area and its importance to the community. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boudreau that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality authorize the construction of a new municipal office and that a work group be formed, comprised of Councillors and staff, to oversee the construction. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a Site Selection Committee be formed to determine a suitable location for the new municipal office and that the Committee include the Municipal Engineer (Advisor), Councillor Boudreau, Warden Cotton and one additional Councillor. Motion carried.

Warden Cotton indicated that Councillor McNamara has expressed interest in serving on this committee.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that subject to funding, that a groundwater exploration program be initiated for Sampsonville as outlined in Dillon's recommendations on Page 24 (1-4) of their final report; and further moved that staff be authorized to implement the groundwater exploration program, given the approval recently received from the Minister of Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations, as identified in item (b) of correspondence. Motion carried.

Warden Cotton indicated that this was the item added to the agenda, and he felt that the process of groundwater exploration should move forward. He noted that the municipal portion is paid for by customers of the water utility.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that municipal staff begin the process to develop proposals and policies regarding the establishment of subdivisions, trailer parks and waste management districts, as the first phase and priority of the municipal infrastructure program, and with the understanding that Council will continue to develop a second phase and priority involving direct community infrastructure. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to Mr. Tom Willcock from Torus Country Lands Inc. and indicate that Municipal Council is not willing to enter into an agreement at this time. (Yeas – Councillor Boudreau, Councillor Goyetche, Councillor Beaton, Councillor MacPhee, Councillor Sampson. Nays – Councillor MacNeil). Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacPhee 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, with Councillors being able to combine their funds for a larger event, if they so wish. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the monthly report of the Committee of the Whole be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

(b) Physician Recruitment Committee Report

Councillor Sampson indicated that the physician working at the Strait Richmond Hospital left six weeks ago, due to personal reasons, noting that the hospital has been left with no daytime coverage.

Councillor Sampson indicated that he would like to thank the staff of St. Anne's Community and Nursing Care Centre for being very helpful during this time.

Councillor Sampson indicated that the Management of the District Health Authority #7 and members of the Strait Area Physician Recruitment Committee have been in contact with the Department of Health to improve the package for doctors at the Strait Richmond Hospital.

Councillor Sampson noted that on Thursday the Strait Area Physician Recruitment Committee will meet with Minister Jamie Muir to discuss this issue.

Councillor noted that recently a doctor, who expressed interest in the position at the Strait Richmond Hospital, has met with hospital staff and toured the community, noting that interest was also expressed by two other physicians and the Committee is hopeful that the position will be filled within the next few weeks.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Council support the efforts of the District Health Authority #7 and the Strait Area Physician Recruitment Committee in their efforts in having greater provisions for a physician at the Strait Richmond Hospital. Motion carried.

(c) Guysborough Antigonish Strait Tobacco Strategy Advisory Committee Report

Councillor MacPhee indicated that he will forward the Guysborough Antigonish Strait Tobacco Strategy Advisory Committee meeting minutes to Karen for distribution to all Councillors.

Councillor MacPhee reviewed a letter to the Hon. Jamie Muir regarding tobacco legislation.

Councillor Goyetche indicated that Richmond Municipal Council has previously made representation to the provincial government in regards to placing a ban on smoking in public places.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Councillor MacPhee's report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

(d) Heritage Advisory Committee Report

Councillor MacPhee indicated that Councillor MacNeil and himself completed an inspection of the Flat Calm Country Inn in D'Escousse and the Heritage Advisory Committee has recommended that the property be declared a heritage property.

In response to a question from Councillor Boudreau, Warden Cotton indicated that the Flat Calm Country Inn had completed the proper application forms required to have the property considered as a heritage property and they have been circulated it to Councillors as part of a package.

In response to a question from Councillor Boudreau, Councillor MacPhee indicated that it is just the Inn and Restaurant that are deemed heritage properties.

Councillor Goyetche suggested that the Flat Calm Country Inn be provided with a plaque.

Councillor MacPhee indicated that the Heritage Advisory Committee would take care of the advertising and would provide a plaque displaying the property's heritage status.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the entire building of the Flat Calm Country Inn in D'Escousse, be declared a heritage property. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

(a) Royal Bank re: Arichat Closure

The Clerk reviewed correspondence and a press release from the Royal Bank concerning the recent announcement regarding bank closures.

Warden Cotton indicated that he learned about the closure through the media, however a representative from the Royal Bank did contact him after the closures were made public, noting that they offered to transfer the Municipality's business to the Port Hawkesbury branch. Warden Cotton indicated, at that time, that he would not be in favor of moving the Municipality's business to Port Hawkesbury however the issue would have to be discussed at Council.

In response to a question from Councillor MacNamara, the Clerk indicated that the Municipality has been doing their business with the Royal Bank because they provide a higher level of return than Credit Unions.

Councillor Boudreau expressed his displeasure with the decision of the Royal Bank to close the Arichat branch, noting that he has been approached by the Royal Bank who has indicated that they will assist with transfers to the Port Hawkesbury branch, not the St. Peter's branch.

Councillor Boudreau indicated that he spoke with the Manager of the Arichat Branch who indicated that the main purpose of the branch was cheque-cashing, deposits and withdrawals, which are not money-making services. He also noted that he was told by staff of the Port Hawkesbury branch that the reason for the closure was mainly due to money-making factors.

Councillor Boudreau indicated that he was also quite disappointed with the fact that the bank did not survey the residents to determine their views and the impacts that the closure would have.

Moved by Councillor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that a letter be written to the Royal Bank expressing Council's displeasure with the proposed closure of the Arichat Branch of the Royal Bank and the manner in which this decision was made, without public or customer consultation, expressing the fact that they are removing the necessary services for the area's aging population. Motion carried.

Councillor Goyetche noted that he believed that approval was required from the Federal Minister of Finance, prior to closing a bank.

Councillor Goyetche indicated that this issue should be referred to the Mayors and Wardens Committee and that the Municipality should refuse to transfer their business out of the County.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Municipal Council write to our Member of Parliament, Rodger Cuzner, requesting that he determine if the closure of a bank branch requires approval from a federal department or agency and further moved that the Strait Mayors and Wardens be requested to examine the issue of bank closures in rural areas of the Strait, to determine if this is an issue that would impact the entire region. Motion carried.

Councillor MacPhee indicated that in Paragraph #3 of the letter from the Royal Bank it indicates that in certain circumstances a meeting can be held between the bank, representatives of the FCAC and interested parties in the vicinity of the branch, further noting that the Municipality should approach the FCAC to have such a meeting.

Warden Cotton suggested that the Deputy Clerk Treasurer should request proposals for the Municipality's banking services, as soon as possible.

Councillor MacPhee indicated that the Municipality should pursue discussion with Richmond County Credit Unions as to the services that they can provide the Municipality.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Municipal Council approach the St. Joseph's Credit Union, the Louisdale Credit Union and the First Richmond Credit Union to investigate if they are capable of providing banking service to the municipal unit.

The mover withdrew his motion, with the permission of the seconder.

Warden Cotton indicated that this motion was not necessary.

(b) Hon. Angus MacIsaac re: Sampsonville Groundwater Supply Exploration Study

The Clerk noted that the Municipality has received funding for the Sampsonville Groundwater Supply Exploration Study from the Provincial Capital Assistance Program in the amount of 50% of all eligible costs to a maximum of \$33,250.00, noting that approval was given within two weeks of application.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that a letter be written to the Hon, Angus MacIsaac thanking his department for the funding for the Sampsonville Groundwater Exploration Study and for the quick response. Motion carried.

(c) F.C.M. re: Municipalities Welcome Report of Prime Minister's Task Force on Urban Issues

For information purposes.

(d) Stora Enso re: UARB Hearings

For information purposes.

(e) Department of Transportation re: Meeting Request

Council discussed the poor road conditions over the past winter.

Councillor Sampson indicated that the Strait Area Mayors and Wardens Committee should bring this issue further, expressing Council's displeasure with snow removal efforts by the Department of Transportation this past winter.

The Clerk indicated that with recent announcements of additional changes to the Department of Transportation services, it is to be expected that services will only be worse next year.

Warden Cotton indicated that he will be attempting to set up a meeting with the Department of Transportation before the Annual Session.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that a letter be written to the Minister of Transportation indicating that the roads in Richmond County are deplorable, and that the continued reductions in personnel and service are resulting in public perception that the provincial Department of Transportation is ignoring the concerns and safety of Richmond residents. Motion carried.

(f) Hon. Angus MacIsaac re: Assessment Service Division

For information purposes.

(g) Region of Queens re: U.N.S.M. Sub-Committee Report on Assessment Services

For information purposes.

- (h) U.N.S.M. re: (i) Assessment Service Division
(ii) Newspaper Article re: Ban on Smoking

For information purposes.

- (i) Municipality of Colchester re: Future Role of U.N.S.M.

Warden Cotton requested that the CAO provide a verbal report on the Digby conference.

Mr. Digout summarized the proceedings, which recommended substantial changes to the manner in which the U.N.S.M. operates.

- (j) Municipality of the District of Guysborough re: Uniform Assessment for Fiscal Year 2002/03 & Adjustment Methodology

The Clerk indicated that the Municipality of Guysborough has written a letter to the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations indicating that they are not in favor of reducing the 2002/03 uniform assessment values.

The Clerk noted that since this letter was written, the Municipality of Guysborough has indicated that they will be supporting the Bill in favor of decreasing assessment.

- (k) Rodger Cuzner, MP re: International Trade Agreements

Councillor Boudreau noted that it appears that Mr. Cuzner is passing on the responsibility of ensuring that the rights and power of municipal governments will be considered and protected during international trade agreements by referring the issue to the Minister for International Trade, further noting that Mr. Cuzner did not even sign the letter to the Minister.

- (l) Emergency Measures Organization re: 911 Funding

For information purposes.

- (m) West Bay Road & District Volunteer Fire Department re: Fire Protection Rate

For information purposes.

- (n) Tourism and Culture re: Heritage Property Program

For information purposes.

- (o) Isle Madame Historical Society re: Request for Tax Exemption

- (p) St. Peter's United Church Hall re: Request for Tax Exemption
- (q) Island Community Justice Society re: Grant Request
- (r) MacAskill House Museum Society re: Grant Request
- (s) L'Ardoise Acadian Festival re: Grant Request
- (t) Richmond Academy re: Grant Request
- (u) The Mission to Seafarers re: Grant Request
- (v) Nicholas Denys Museum re: (i) Grant Request
(ii) Request for Tax Exemption

Councillor MacPhee indicated that with regards to the Richmond Academy grant request, that perhaps it could be in the form of a scholarship, in memory of past Council members that are deceased.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that the requests from the Isle Madame Historical Society, St. Peter's United Church Hall, Island Community Justice Society, MacAskill House Museum Society, L'Ardoise Acadian Festival, Richmond Academy, The Mission to Seafarers and the Nicholas Denys Museum be tabled until budget deliberations. Motion carried.

- (w) Child Care Connection – NS re: Child Care Awareness Days

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that the Municipality of Richmond proclaim June as "Child Care Awareness Days". Motion carried.

- (x) Falun Dafa Association of Canada re: Request of a Resolution Condemning China's Persecution Against Falun Gong Practitioners

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Boudreau that Richmond Municipal Council support the attached resolution condemning China's persecution against Falun Gong Practitioners and that copies of the resolution be forwarded to the Hon. Jean Chretien, Prime Minister of Canada; Hon. Bill Graham, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Hon. Kofi Annan, General-Secretary of United Nations; Mr. Jiang Zemin, President of China; Mr. Rongji Zhu, Prime Minister of China and Mr. Ping Mei, Chinese Ambassador in Canada. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

- (1) Clerk/Engineer re:

- (i) Sampsonville Water

Previously addressed.

(ii) Arichat/Petit De Grat Water

Moved by Councillor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Council accept the recommendation of staff, and that the size of the water treatment plant for the Arichat water system be 320,000 gallons per day and further moved that Council accept the recommendation of Dillon Consulting and that Rawdon Technologies be awarded supply of the water treatment plant equipment for the Arichat/Petit De Grat system, at their low tender bid. Motion carried.

The CAO explained that the water plant had been tendered by Dillon, because there was “lead time” involved, in obtaining the equipment for construction of the project.

(iii) Digital Service

Moved by Councillor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that the Municipality approach MTT regarding the implementation of digital service in Richmond County, particularly with regards to problems occurring in West Arichat and also from Evanston to Louisdale and inquiring of their plans, including time frame, for rectifying these problems. Motion carried.

(2) Councillor MacPhee re:

(i) Guysborough Antigonish Strait Tobacco Strategy Advisory Committee Report

Previously addressed.

(ii) Road & Shoreline Protection in River Bourgeois

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Richmond Municipal Council write a letter to the Minister of Transportation regarding the need for funds to repair problems with erosion of road shoulders along Northside River Bourgeois Road and Southside River Bourgeois Road and that copies of the correspondence be sent to our MLA and to the Department of Transportation Area Manager. Motion carried.

(iii) Designation of Flat Calm Country Inn as a Municipal Heritage Property

Previously addressed.

(3) Councillor Goyetche re: Richmond Housing

Councillor Goyetche noted that the Department of Housing office in St. Peter's is only open one half day per week and does not believe that staff are able to offer bilingual service.

Councillor Goyetche indicated that this is not adequate, in order to serve 117 units in Richmond County.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Sampson that a letter be written to the Minister of Community Services, indicating that the level of service provided to residents of Richmond has declined, since the decision to provide administrative and managerial services from the Port Hawkesbury office for approximately one half day per week in total; and further moved that the Minister be advised that the main population served is elderly and predominately Acadian, and inquiring if the individual servicing Richmond is capable of providing that service in French to the elderly population, who are more comfortable in their first language; and further moved that the Minister be requested to provide a position within Richmond County, staffed by an individual capable of providing service to our elderly constituents in their first language, with copies of this correspondence being sent to the MLA, MP, and federal Minister/officials that deal with protection of French language rights. Motion carried.

Councillor Beaton indicated that he has had instances with the seniors housing facility in D'Escousse where the property manager was not able to meet the maintenance needs of the facility.

Warden Cotton indicated that he spoke with Mr. Rudolph Boudreau, Property Manager, Richmond Housing, who expressed concern that his position is not being filled when he retires.

(4) Warden Cotton re: Village of St. Peter's – Visitor Information Centre

Warden Cotton indicated that he has met with members of the St. Peter's Village Commission who have indicated that they have been told that there are significant structural problems with the Visitor Information Centre in St. Peter's, and that if repairs are not carried out, it will not be opening this season.

Warden Cotton suggested that the Village Commission get a budget together and approach the Municipality to cost-share the repairs. He indicated that the repairs would cost approximately \$22,000.

The Clerk indicated that it should be stipulated that the Municipality would contribute conditional on a guarantee that the repairs will last.

Councillor MacNeil indicated that the Village Commission has been notified that the cost would be less than they had anticipated and that the engineer has indicated that the repairs will hold up.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that, subject to a letter from the Engineer indicating that all problems with the structure will be rectified and the repairs will rectify these problems for the long term, that the Municipality agree to cost-share the repairs to the St. Peter's Visitor Information Centre in the amount of 50% of the net costs to the Village Commission, to a maximum of \$11,000. Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions

Adjournment

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.