

**RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**JANUARY 13, 2003**

Location: Court House, Arichat

Warden Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Council observed O'Canada.

The Clerk took roll call of Councillors.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Johnson indicated the Clerk wished to add a form letter regarding the Non-Smoking By-Law, and the appointment of the Honorable Justice A.W.D. Pickup; Councillor Goyetche wished to add snow removal; and Warden Johnson wished to withdraw the Public Health Sub-Offices, because the situation has been resolved.

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

Review of Minutes: December 9, 2002

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Bourque that the minutes of December 9, 2002 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Petitions and/or Delegations:

(a) InRich re: Employment Support Network

Warden Johnson welcomed Tracy Crant, who summarized a new program offered by InRich, "Employment Support Program".

A question and answer period followed.

Warden Johnson thanked Miss Crant for her presentation.

(b) Eastern Counties Regional Library Board re: Library Update

Warden Johnson welcomed Dave Cumby and Mary Landry, who summarized the services offered by the Regional Library, particularly in Richmond County. They noted that the population decline in this region threatens provincial funding (which is based on

population), and this region has the lowest population per square kilometer in the province.

The delegation suggested that the municipal units in the region agree to maintain the total municipal funding at last year's level, which will suggest some minor contributions in excess of required funding.

A question and answer period followed.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Richmond Municipal Council express agreement for the concept of Library Board funding based on the cost of programs and services provided, while considering usage of these services, and further that the issue of maintaining the total municipal funding at last year's level be referred to Committee of the Whole. Motion carried.

Warden Johnson thanked the delegation from the Eastern Counties Regional Library Board, for their excellent presentation.

(c) Village on the Canal Association re: Programs

Warden Johnson welcomed Eva Landry, who provided hand-outs (attached - Village on the Canal Association and Nicholas Denys Fort proposal).

Mrs. Landry provided information on activities of their Association, and requested that Council provide fairness to Canada Day activities in St. Peter's. Mrs. Landry also requested a partnership with respect to a summer student position to assist with organizing activities in the community, and also requested a partnership with respect to a feasibility study for re-construction of the Nicholas Denys Fort. Mrs. Landry also noted that her Association felt the completion of the 104 to Sydney, which would by-pass St. Peter's, would be a positive thing for Richmond County and for the community of St. Peter's, because of the additional traffic and new opportunities.

A question and answer period followed.

Several Councillors commended the Association for their efforts, and also for their position with respect to the completion of Highway 104, which will bring benefits to St. Peter's and the entire county.

Moved by Councillor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor Bourque that Council refer the issues of the Canada Day activities, and potential partnerships for a summer student and the Nicholas Denys Fort feasibility study, to staff and Committee of the Whole. Motion carried.

#### Notices of Motions:

(a) Deputy Warden McNamara: to adopt the Policy for Providing Booster Pumps to

Residences in the Low Water Pressure Zone on the High Road in Arichat as a Policy of the Municipality, as recommended by the Deputy Clerk Treasurer (attached as Appendix "A")

Moved by Councillor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Richmond Municipal Council adopt the Policy for providing booster pumps to residences in the low water pressure zone on the High Road in Arichat as a policy of the Municipality, and attached as Appendix "A". Motion carried.

(b) Deputy Warden McNamara: to adopt the attached Policy on Councillors' Payment Payment (attached as Appendix "B")

Moved by Councillor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor Sampson that Richmond Municipal Council adopt the amended policy on Councillors' Payment, which is attached as Appendix "B". Motion carried.

#### Committee Reports:

(a) Committee of the Whole

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

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality agree to funding a retirement benefit to provide a bridge to public retirement benefits, because of the exceptional service provided by a Senior Administrator, who was not afforded retirement benefits by the Villa (which is owned by Municipal Council); and further moved that the Municipality place a limit of 50% sharing on a maximum of \$20,000 for the bridging benefit to be paid over a two or three year period. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boudreau that the Committee adopt the report of the Committee of the Whole. Motion carried.

#### Correspondence:

(a) Department of Justice re: Police Act

The CAO noted the request for responses by February 10, 2003.

Moved by Councillor Bourque, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Council authorize the Committee of the Whole to review this issue, and respond to the Province. Motion carried.

(b) Cape Breton Regional Municipality re: Governance Study

Previously dealt with at Committee of the Whole.

(c) Richmond Community Access Society re: Broadband Service

For information purposes.

(d) Rodger Cuzner, MP re: Broadband Pilot Program

For information purposes.

(e) Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists re: Off-Road Vehicles Policy

For information purposes.

(f) Department of Canadian Heritage re: National Flag of Canada Day

For information purposes.

#### Items Added to the Agenda

(1) CAO re: Form Letter re: Non-Smoking By-Law (attached)

The CAO indicated that he had only received one complaint regarding smoking to date, and described the action that staff were taking, which stressed education.

Councillor MacNeil suggested that advertising be more aggressive, by placing advertising on the Cable Stations, etc.

Councillor Goyetche suggested that businesses be provided with a sticker, indicating that their business is 100% smoke free, in accordance with the Municipal By-Law.

(2) CAO re: Appointment, Honorable Justice A.W.D. Pickup

The CAO noted the 27 years of service provided by Mr. Pickup to the local community, including Richmond Municipal Council, and the positive influences of his advice; which has now concluded due to his appointment to the Trial Division of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Richmond Municipal Council go on record as applauding and recognizing the deserving appointment of Mr. Pickup to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia; and further moved that appropriate recognition be provided. Motion carried.

Councillor Sampson clarified that the appointment of Solicitor by the Municipality was to the firm of Pickup and MacDowell, and this appointment is not scheduled for review until June.

(3) Councillor Goyetche re: Snow Removal

Councillor Goyetche indicated that he had experienced a problem in his district, which was resolved earlier today with the assistance of the MLA and the Highway Engineer. Councillor Goyetche indicated that he felt one piece of equipment was inappropriate for snow removal in his area, because it was undersized.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Glen Daniel Samson of Alderney Point addressed Council, indicating that he felt the highway truck being used in District #2 was far too small for the snow removal that was being attempted on some of the longer roads in District #2.

Moved by Councillor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Warden Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.