

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 12, 2003

Location: Court House, Arichat

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

The CAO took roll call of Councillors.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Johnson indicated that the CAO was requesting to add a debenture guarantee for the Village of St. Peter's (\$333,000); Councillor Cotton was requesting to add Nova Scotia Power re: extension of services and Councillor Goyetche was requesting to add Les Jeux de L'Acadie.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the items added added be accepted for the agenda. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes: April 14, 2003

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Cotton that the minutes of April 14, 2003 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Petitions and/or Delegations

- (a) L'Ardoise Economic Association for Development re:
 - (i) Community Funding Partner
 - (ii) Business Builders Program

Mr. Rene Samson approached Council on behalf of the L'Ardoise Economic Association for Development, and provided some background history on the Business Builders Program, with a request for a \$6,000 donation.

Mr. Lionel Boudreau and two of his children also addressed Council.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the presentation of the L'Ardoise Economic Association for Development be accepted, regarding the Business Builders Program, and referred to Committee of the Whole/budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Mr. Samson also approached Council for a second \$6,000 donation, for the Youth Conservation Corps; and he summarized the proposed activity with respect to water testing in L'Ardoise.

A question and answer period followed.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that the presentation from the L'Ardoise Economic Association for Development be accepted and that their request for a grant be referred to the Committee of the Whole/budget deliberations. Motion carried.

(b) Petit De Grat Community Infrastructure Development Project re: Funding Request

Mr. Barry Marchand approached Council, indicating that the Petit De Grat Ballfield Project were requesting \$30,000 to assist with repairs to the ballfield (that took place during a severe storm approximately two years ago).

A question and answer period followed.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Bourque that the Municipality send letters of support to the provincial and federal funding agencies identified in the proposal from the Petit De Grat Community Infrastructure Development Group. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the request of the Petit De Grat Community Infrastructure Development Project be referred to the Committee of the Whole/budget deliberations. Motion carried.

(c) Louisdale Lions Club re: Sidewalk Project

Mr. Roy Jeffrey approached Council, indicating that the Louisdale Lions Club were proposing to construct approximately 5 kms of sidewalks in Louisdale, at a cost of approximately \$225,000 per km; and they are requesting that Municipal Council fund 50% of the Phase I, which would result in a contribution of \$175,000 from the Municipality.

Mr. Jeffrey indicated that the Lions Club were prepared to commit \$100,000 of the \$175,000 community cost.

A question and answer period followed.

Moved by Councillor Cotton, seconded by Deputy Warden McNamara that the presentation from the Louisdale Lions Club be accepted and that their request for funding be tabled to deliberations on the infrastructure funding. Motion carried.

(d) Richmond Regional Branch RTA re: Whiteside School Building

Mr. Lester Morgan approached Council, with a request that Richmond County purchase the “Old Whiteside School”, which is the last one room school in the County. Mr. Morgan indicated that the rumored sale price was \$26,000, but that may be assuming that the property has water frontage, which is not certain.

A question and answer period followed, during which Mr. Morgan indicated that the retired teachers probably would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors of a group which would operate and own the Museum.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Municipal Council authorize staff to investigate the purchase of the “Old Whiteside School” property. Motion carried.

Notice of Motion – Councillor Cotton: to give First Reading Approval to the Solid Waste By-Law, which is attached as Appendix “A”

Moved by Councillor Cotton, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Richmond Municipal Council give First Reading Approval to the Solid Waste By-Law, which is attached as Appendix “A”; and that the By-Law be presented to Council for Second Reading at the next regular meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Municipal Council hold a Hearing preceding the next Council Meeting, regarding the By-Law, if the Solicitor indicates that is necessary. Motion carried.

The Solicitor indicated that he would research if a Public Hearing was necessary.

Councillor Sampson excused himself from the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Committee Reports:

(a) Committee of the Whole

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

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Bourque that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the three year capital projects for the period April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2006 be established as follows:

2003/04

Louisdale/Arichat Water Storage Tank Upgrades	-	\$700,000
Municipal Office Construction	-	2,000,000
Evanston Water Tank Valve Chamber Replacement	-	110,000
Construction of One Trailer Park in a Serviced Area	-	500,000
Construction of Two Subdivisions Serviced Areas	-	500,000

2004/05

Establishment of One Wastewater Management District	-	750,000
Arichat Sewage Pumping Station Upgrades	-	570,000

2005/06

Evanston Sewage Treatment Plant Replacement	-	1,700,000
Sampsonville Water System Replacement	-	<u>2,200,000</u>
Total		\$9,030,000

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that three scholarships in the amount of \$750 be provided by the Municipality, one given to a graduate of Ecole Beau Port and two issued to graduates of the Richmond Academy and further moved that a Committee be formed consisting of Warden Johnson, Councillor Boudreau and Councillor Beaton to establish criteria in consultation with the local high schools. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality provide funding to the Regional Committee of the Congres Mondiale for an employee, at the lesser of; \$3,700; or the net cost per month of actual wages and benefits paid to the employee, to be effective on the date of hiring the employee, and to continue until the end of the project; and further moved that the funding be applied to the net cost of the employee, that is if external funding is acquired for the position, then it will be applied to reduce the municipal funding. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality provide funding to the Richmond County Tourism Cooperative to cover first year membership fees (excluding the purchase of shares) to a maximum of \$10,000, for the first year of operation of the Co-Op. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Bourque that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the staff be advised to review the Tourism Strategic Plan, which was adopted three years ago, and provide

Council with a report on the progress and achievements made to date; and further moved that staff also provide recommendations and options for priorities for the next two year period. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Bourque that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to the Department of Transportation indicating Council's support for placing road repairs for both the high road and low roads in Arichat on their priority list. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Department of Transportation be requested to appear before Council to review their priority list for road repairs/upgrades for this year. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality's contribution to the Mayors and Wardens, in the approximate amount of \$9,001 be approved for the fiscal year 2003/04. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Warden be authorized to appoint the Water Supply Protection Committee for the communities of Arichat/Petit De Grat and Louisdale/Evanston/Whiteside, with the Committee to consist of the Warden, the Councillors representing the communities affected, and representatives of the communities. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden McNamara gave notice that she would introduce a motion at the next regular Council Meeting to amend the Dog By-Law.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that an additional \$500 be granted to the Canada Day activities to be held in St. Peter's (St. Peter's will alternate with L'Ardoise for this yearly event); in addition to the \$1,500 allocated to each of these two communities, \$1,500 coming from District #6 and \$1,000 coming from District #10. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Bourque that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that letters be written the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and to the Provincial Department of Environment and Labour inviting them to attend a Council Meeting in order to explain which areas are affected by the shellfish closures in Richmond County. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality sponsor a team in the "Drive Fore Literacy" golf tournament being held on June 21, 2003

and carry out other similar activities and support equivalent to last year's municipal support. Motion carried.

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

(b) Police Services Advisory Committee

Councillor Beaton gave the report of the Police Services Advisory Committee (copy attached), and noted the significant concern that the Committee has with the number of 911 calls being received by the R.C.M.P., and the significant municipal and police resources required to respond to these calls.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Cotton that the report of the Police Services Advisory Committee be adopted. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

(a) Department of Justice re: 2003/04 Allocation

(b) Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board re: Public Hearing Notice, Parker Stone

(c) Richmond Arena Association re: Five Year Plan

Moved by Councillor Cotton, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that the funding request of the Richmond Arena Association be referred to Committee of the Whole/budget deliberations. Motion carried.

(d) Applications for Municipal Appointment on the Cape Breton Island Housing Authority:
- Rudolph Boudreau
- Gerald Campbell

Moved by Councillor Cotton, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that the application of Rudolph Boudreau, as the Richmond Municipal appointment on the Cape Breton Island Housing Authority, be accepted. Motion carried.

In discussion, it was noted that the second applicant has submitted his application by fax on April 25, 2003; and applications had closed on April 22, 2003.

(e) Strait Regional School Board re: Municipal Contribution

(f) I.W.K. re: Grant Request

(g) Requests for Tax Exemptions: (i) St. Peter's United Church Hall
(ii) South Mountain Arm of Gold Community Club

- (iii) East Richmond Health Services Association
- (iv) Island Association for Community Awareness
- (v) Lakeside Community Centre

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the I.W.K. request for a grant; and the request for tax exemptions from St. Peter's United Church Hall; South Mountain Arm of Gold Community Club; East Richmond Health Services Association; Island Association for Community Awareness and the Lakeside Community Centre be referred to the Committee of the Whole/budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

(1) CAO re: Debenture Guarantee – Village of St. Peter's STP

Municipal Council reviewed a request from the St. Peter's Village Commission, for a Municipal Council guarantee of proposed Village debt of \$333,333; for the purposes of construction of the St. Peter's wastewater treatment plant.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Deputy Warden McNamara that WHEREAS the Village Commission of the Village of St. Peter's was incorporated under the Village Service Act;

AND WHEREAS the said Village Commission has resolved to borrow by the issue and sale of debentures the sum of Three Hundred Thirty Three Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$333,333) for the purpose of paying and retiring debentures;

AND WHEREAS the said Village Commission has requested the Municipality of the County of Richmond to guarantee the principal and interest of the said debentures when sold pursuant to Section 89 of the Municipal Government Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, the Municipality of the County of Richmond do guarantee the principal and interest of debentures of the Village Commission of the Village of St. Peters, in an amount not exceeding Three Hundred Thirty Three Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$333,333) when issued and sold;

AND THAT the Warden and the Clerk are authorized to do all things and execute all documents necessary to give effect to this resolution. Motion carried.

(2) Councillor Cotton re: Nova Scotia Power – Extension of Service

Councillor Cotton explained that a resident of Petit De Grat had recently been advised that they had to pay for the extension of Nova Scotia Power services beyond 92 meters, in a local subdivision; and they would also be required to upgrade the secondary lines

which existed in the subdivision to primary service. Councillor Cotton indicated that he felt the UARB regulations regarding this issue are discretionary.

Moved by Councillor Cotton, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that a letter be written to Nova Scotia Power Inc. requesting that they defer the application of the charges to the property of Jacintha Sullivan, regarding the upgrade of the power lines in her subdivision from secondary lines to primary service, because the UARB regulations appear discretionary, and also because the applications of such charges do not appear to be a substantial revenue generator; and further moved that Nova Scotia Power be advised that this appears to be an opportunity for the Corporation to partner with Richmond County and other rural Nova Scotia communities, because of the impact that the application of such charges would have on rural Nova Scotia; and further moved that a copy of this correspondence be sent to the Premier. Motion carried.

(3) Councillor James Goyetche re: Jeux D'Acadie

Councillor Goyetche noted that Municipal Council had been approached quite some time ago, by Les Jeux de L'Acadie; which are being hosted in Richmond County during the coming week.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Bourque that Municipal Council authorize assistance to the hosting of Les Jeux de L'Acadie in Richmond County, to an amount of the lesser of \$5,000 or the actual deficit of the local group hosting the games; and that this item be approved this evening because of the urgency of the matter (games are being held in three days times). Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions.

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

There being no further business, Warden Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

CLERK