

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 9, 2009

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Warden Boudreau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Warden Boudreau asked for a moment of silence for the late Hon. Michael Baker, Mrs. Jacqueline Marie Thibault and Mrs. Theresa McNeil, before the singing of O'Canada.

The Chief Financial Officer took roll call of Councillors.

Items Added to the Agenda:

Warden Boudreau indicated that he would like to add Cape Breton Tourism Marketing Strategy.

Councillor David indicated that he was requesting unanimous consent to add the District Activity \$3,000 Fund and the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund.

Councillors' unanimously agreed to add this item to the agenda (a vote was not taken).

Review of Minutes: February 9, 2009:

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the minutes of February 9, 2009 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Presentations and/or Delegations:

- (a) Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association (LeeAnne Marchand) re: Funding Request

Warden Boudreau welcomed Mrs. LeeAnne Marchand, Executive Director of Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association.

Mrs. Marchand outlined the successes and goals of Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association and requested funding for the operations of the association.

A question period followed.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the request for funding, by the Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association, in the amount of \$30,000 be tabled to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

(b) Seaside High Speed (Adam Conter) re: Project Update

Warden Boudreau welcomed Mr. Adam Conter, Director of Communications for Seaside High-Speed.

Mr. Conter outlined the high-speed project, set forth by the Province, as well as outcomes and expectations for the remainder of 2009.

A question period followed.

Legal Advice/Solicitor (“In-Camera”)

This item was tabled to the “In-Camera” session.

Committee Reports:

(a) Committee of the Whole:

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

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor David that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and accept and adopt the Strait-Highlands Green Action Milestone 3 Report (Local Action Plan) as written. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that \$475,000 be taken from the gas tax funding; and that \$500,000 be taken from the infrastructure reserve fund, to provide funding for the St. Peter’s-Samsonville and Area Water Utility Project. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Richmond Municipal Council endorse and support the Report of the Library Funding Task Force. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following grants be approved:

- \$3,000 to St. Joseph's Parish Council, with funding to be taken from the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund, District #2;
- \$200 to Development Isle Madame Association, with funding to be taken from the Councillors' District Activity - \$3,000 Fund, District #3;
- \$7,000 to St. John the Baptist Church, with funding to be taken from the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund, District #7;
- \$2,500 to the Framboise Community Centre Association, with funding to be taken from the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund, District #10.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor David that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Computer Purchase Program for Councillors and Staff be extended indefinitely, as deemed necessary. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the contract for the Solid Waste Education/Solid Waste Support Person be renewed for a one year period. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden Johnson hereby gave notice to introduce a motion at the next regular Council Meeting to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to include the parcel of land in River Bourgeois, formally owned by the Nova Scotia Nature Trust (Account # 01459724) and to change the name on the account numbers 9026754 and 3317951 to Nova Scotia Nature Trust from the Mowatt Environmental Institute; and also to include the parcels of land in Arichat owned by the Arichat Boat Club (Accounts #3386325; #7935854 and #1644688).

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor Beaton Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and approve a grant to the Rocky Bay Irish Club in the amount of \$500, with funds to be taken from the Councillors' District Activity - \$3,000 Fund for District #3. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor David that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the grant request submitted by La Picasse Centre Communautaire Culturel, in the amount of \$34,258.24, from the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund for District #2, be rejected at this time. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden Johnson hereby gave notice to introduce a motion at the next regular Council Meeting to amend the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund and Councillors' District Activity - \$3,000 Fund applications, to ensure that the respective Councillor is notified of all requests.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor David that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that "in-kind" contributions not be accepted for the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund, the Councillors' District Activity - \$3,000 Fund and the Grants to Charitable Organizations Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Chief Financial Officer be directed to ensure that all Councillors and staff have their T-4 slips in their hands one week prior to the February 28th deadline. Motion carried.

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

(b) Planning Advisory Committee:

Councillor McNamara presented the monthly report of the Planning Advisory Committee (copy attached).

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee and that letters be written to Mr. Robert Richard, The Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Environment and the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, requesting that their unsightly properties in MacIntyre Lake, District #5, be cleaned up immediately. Motion carried.

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

Correspondence:

- (a) Hon. Brooke Taylor re: Snow Removal
- (b) Hon. David Morse re: Martin Marietta Quarry
- (c) Canada Post re: Former Petit De Grat Post Office
- (d) Emergency Management Office re: Relocation Centres Generators

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Emergency Measures Officer and Chief Financial Officer work with the Warden to move the process forward to purchase the necessary equipment to meet the budgeted amount for this fiscal year. Motion carried.

(e) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher that authorization be given to Staff and the Eastern District Planning Commission to carry out the duties of the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan process with a budgeted approval of \$20,000. Motion carried.

(f) Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities re: Lights Out Across Canada for Earth Hour, March 28, 2009

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council honour the request of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, declaring March 28, 2009 from 8:30-9:30 p.m. to be Earth Hour, and advertise to the residents of Richmond County to encourage them to turn their lights off, as long as they can, during this time period. Motion carried.

(g) Richmond Academy re: 2009 Scholarship/Bursary

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the request of Richmond Academy for 2009 Scholarship/Bursary funding be brought to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

(h) Northside Steering Committee re: Request for Financial Support/Pollution Control Study

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Staff apply for PCAP funding from Service Nova Scotia for the Pollution Control Study. Motion carried.

(i) Hon. David Morse re: “Sign Up for Safety” Campaign

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher to endorse the advertising of the “Sign Up for Safety” campaign, and ask Telile to assist in the advertising process. Motion carried.

(j) Petit De Grat Harbour Authority re: Request for Hook-up to Municipal Water and Sewer Infrastructure

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Deputy Warden Johnson that Public Works Staff provide a report, to Council, on the cost for the Petit de Grat Harbour Authority to hook-up to Municipal Water and Sewer Infrastructure. Motion carried.

(k) Buy-A-Net Malaria Prevention Group re: Proclamation of “World Malaria Day”

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the following resolution be unanimously adopted:

Whereas County Council, for the Municipality of the County of Richmond, recognizes the serious issue of loss of life due to Malaria;

And whereas Council further recognizes that a child, in Africa, dies from this disease every 30 seconds;

And whereas Council further recognizes that this disease is largely preventable, 100% treatable and curable;

Therefore be it resolved that County Council for the Municipality of the County of Richmond hereby proclaims April 25th, 2009 as World Malaria Day;

And be it further resolved that Council promotes, through this public declaration, its support for the BUY-A-NET Malaria Prevention Group in its efforts towards Malaria prevention, education and advocacy.

Motion carried.

Items Added:

1) Warden Boudreau re: Cape Breton Tourism Marketing Strategy

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Warden Boudreau write a letter requesting that a new bill be introduced to allow for a marketing levy on accommodations with ten rooms or more. Motion carried.

2) Councillor David re: the District Activity \$3,000 Fund and the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund.

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Councillor Boucher that a request for an increase in the District Activity \$3,000 Fund from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and an increase in the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund from \$17,000 to \$20,000 be brought to budget deliberations for discussion. Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period:

Warden Boudreau welcomed Mr. Doug Begg to speak before Council.

Mr. Doug Begg indicated that the high speed tower in St. George's Channel is in Richmond County and services the surrounding area well.

Mr. Doug Begg indicated that having high speed compared to dial up is an excellent service.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the meeting proceed to "In-Camera" Council session. Motion carried.

Council met "In-Camera" to discuss the sale of municipal property.

Warden Boudreau reconvened the regular Council Meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Industrial Mall be re-listed for a period of twenty-one days, with the conditions to be outlined by the Solicitor and the Chief Financial Officer, on confirmation that the current listing is expired. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Warden Boudreau adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.