

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 15, 2009

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Warden Boudreau called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

Warden Boudreau noted that Councillors McNamara and Boucher were not present at the Public Hearing, therefore could not participate in a vote.

Public Hearing re: Proposed Conveyance of Property Situated at Hwy. 247, Point Michaud, Known as PID # 75001297, to the Coastal Riders ATV Association, a Society Incorporated Under the Provisions of the Societies Act

Warden indicated that the purpose of the hearing was regarding the proposed conveyance of a property situated at Hwy. 247, Point Michaud, to the Coastal Riders ATV Association.

Warden Boudreau indicated that the purpose of the public hearing is to invite public comments, regarding the capacity of the Municipality to transfer the said property to the Coastal Riders ATV Association, and also indicating that the requirement for a public hearing is that there is request to transfer the property at a sum valued lower than regular market value.

Mr. MacDonald, CFO indicated that he had not received any written submissions regarding this matter.

(a) Receipt of Opinions/Comments from the Public

Warden Boudreau then opened the floor to public comments.

Mr. Greg Sampson, Secretary of the Coastal Riders ATV Association addressed Council, indicating that their initial proposal requested a lease or the purchase of the old dumpsite in L'Ardoise for their bike club, noting they required a place more centralized to the traveling areas in order to use it as a base for their bike club, which has approximately 52 members. He indicated they are a community based organization and work with the different organizations in the community such as the L'Ardoise Mens Club, the L'Ardoise Fire Department and the Social Action Committee, and also partner with one of those organizations, when fundraising takes place.

Mr. Sampson indicated they had approached Councillor Sampson, once they found out they could not use the old dumpsite property, requesting the property in question in order to set up their clubhouse, which would allow them to entertain other bike clubs from other regions around Cape Breton and throughout Nova Scotia, which would also be beneficial for the tourism industry.

Warden Boudreau noted that the old dumpsite was never officially closed, and also noted that the old dumpsite also contains remnants from the old Arrow oil spill, and he thanked Mr. Sampson and his Association for their cooperation and consideration in selecting another property to use for their bike club.

In response to a question from Councillor David, Mr. Sampson indicated that the intention is to make their Club multi-functional, and he indicated that he has negotiated with Mr. Darrell Taylor from Pathways Cape Breton, who negotiates with the government to obtain funding. He noted the club is looking at setting up multi-use trails from St. Peter's to Loch Lomond to be used for all-terrain vehicles, ski-doos, bikes, cross-country skiing, walkers, joggers, runners, etc. He noted these trails will be graded and 12 foot wide trails. He noted that the Sydney trail will join up with the Loch Lomond trail, and eventually the multi-purpose trail will take individuals around Cape Breton Island.

Mr. Sampson indicated that they will GPS the trail this summer, and if funding is made available, then the work can begin on the trails. He noted that the trails are all sign posted with speed limit signs.

Mr. Hughie MacDonald, President of the Coastal Riders Association noted that the property was situated at Highway 247, and not Highway 246, as mentioned earlier in the meeting.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor David that the Public Hearing be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Warden Boudreau adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:43 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

COUNCIL RECORDER:

CHAIRPERSON

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER