

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 12, 2011

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Present: Deputy Warden V. David, Councillor M. Beaton,
Councillor B. Marchand, Councillor G. Boucher,
Councillor S. MacNeil, Councillor S. Sampson.

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

The CAO took roll call of Councillors.

Deputy Warden David noted that Warden Boudreau was unable to attend due to sickness and Councillors Martell, Johnson and McNamara were away on municipal business.

Items Added to the Agenda

Deputy Warden David noted that the CAO wished to add an item regarding physician recruitment.

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

Review of Minutes: November 14, 2011

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the minutes of November 14, 2011 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Presentations and/or Delegations:

- (a) Ocean Management Research Network (Dan Lane, Chair, OMRN; Don Forbes, BIO; Sue Nichols, UNB) re: Isle Madame - C-Change Updates

Deputy Warden David welcomed Mr. Dan Lane, Chair, OMRN; Mr. Don Forbes, BIO; and Ms. Sue Nichols, UNB to the meeting.

The group presented a power point presentation providing updates on the Isle Madame C-Change Program (copy of presentation attached).

A question and answer period followed.

Deputy Warden David thanked Mr. Lane, Mr. Forbes and Ms. Nichols for their presentation.

Second Reading Approval: to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to include the property of the W.B. Kingston Memorial Clinic, Account # 10286352 (attached as Appendix "A")

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Municipal Council give Second Reading Approval to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to include the property of the W.B. Kingston Memorial Clinic, Account #10286352 (attached as Appendix "A"). Motion carried.

First Reading Approval - Councillor MacNeil: to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to delete the property of the Grand River Fire Department, Account #1776754 (attached as Appendix "B")

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Municipal Council give First Reading Approval to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to delete the property of the Grand River Fire Department, Account #1776754 (attached as Appendix "B"). Motion carried.

Referred from Committee of the Whole:

(a) Grand River Seniors' Club re: Foot Clinic/St. Peter's

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Beaton that a letter be written to the Hon. Maureen MacDonald, Minister of Health and Wellness, with a copy to our MLA, Mr. Michel Samson, expressing disappointment with the monthly foot clinic in St. Peter's being eliminated and expressing support for the reinstatement of the service as soon as possible which is a much needed service for the local residents and seniors of our county; and further moved that removal of this service would cause undue hardships to many seniors who are not able to travel the distance or cannot afford to travel to obtain this service. Motion carried.

CAO Update re: ABCO De-Watering Truck

The CAO informed Council that tomorrow ends the seven days of de-watering, noting that all municipally owned properties were done and the sewer pumping was available to non-profit organizations who wished to participate. He noted this went very well.

Committee Reports:

(a) Committee of the Whole

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

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Municipal Council agree in principle to the advancement of the integrated strategic framework for economic prosperity; provide senior level staff to be engaged and active in the advancement of the framework and with a commitment to partner on the implementation of the framework. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsanitary Premises and of the Committee of the Whole and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to the property of Doreen MacKay, 1563 Highway 206, West Arichat, Richmond County (PID #75020743; AAN #03780759) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to GASHA, with copies to the Minister of Health and Mr. Michel Samson, MLA expressing Municipal Council's displeasure and concerns with the proposed \$2.00 parking fee for every visit, due to the undue hardship that this fee would pose on the local residents. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Marchand that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following grant requests be approved:

- \$2,500 to La Picasse Centre Communautaire, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #2;
- \$100 to Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #2;
- \$500 to St. Louis Catholic Women's League, Municipal District Activity Fund,

- District #6;
- 1,000 to River Bourgeois Community Services Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #7 (\$1,000);
- \$700 to L'Ardoise Adult Recreation Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #9
- \$150, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #2;
- \$663, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3;
- \$500, West Bay Pastoral Charge, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5;
- \$500, St. John the Baptist CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #7;
- \$979.67, Bonnie Brae Seniors Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #8;
- \$1,350, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$900, Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation, Municipal District Activity Fund, Municipal Districts

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following solid waste curbside collection contracts be awarded in three zones of Richmond County, effective January 1, 2012 as follows:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Annual Price For Regular Collection</u>	<u>Estimated Annual Price for Heavy Collection</u>	<u>Total Estimated Annual Price</u>
1 (Isle Madame)	Rene Levandier	\$62,580.00	\$27,208.00	\$89,788.00
2 (West of Canal)	Gary J. Burke	\$74,823.00	\$24,487.00	\$99,310.00
3 (East of Canal)	Russell Mombourquette	\$75,730.00	\$47,978.00	\$123,708.00

Motion carried.

In response to a question from Councillor Sampson, the CAO indicated that the Municipality had done their due diligence, with all terms being fulfilled and the public procurement followed. He noted that there was a \$17,000/ year difference between the two bids.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Director of Public Works and proceed

with the next steps for the Alternative Water and Sewer Measures Committee and apply for grants and/or loans for selected project features. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Director of Economic Development and Tourism and support municipal staff in executing the 2012 tourism plan with specific attention to developing community-based tourism, developing Richmond County as an outdoor destination and building our shoulder season. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the CAO and close the office at noon on December 23, 2011 and re-open for regular business hours at 8:30 a.m., Monday, January 2, 2012. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Councillor Shirley McNamara be appointed as the municipal representative to serve on the Board of Directors of the Bras D'Or Lakes CEPI Management Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the funding request put forth by the Eastern District Planning Commission to cover a portion of the operating deficit be paid for with monies from the current fiscal budget and further moved that staff prepare a report comparing the options of continuing with services through the Eastern District Planning Commission or providing the services "in-house". Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsightly Premises and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to Carol MacInnis, 8262 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75044867; AAN #01555804), and Owner Unknown, No. 4 Highway Cannes (PID #75121590); and property of Ruth Riccitelli, Marilyn Skatzes, Deborah Ann Harris, David Harris, Edward Allan Harris, 97 Riverview Drive, River Bourgeois (PID #75136911; AAN #01904582) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsightly Premises and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to Kenneth and Lola Pettipas, 7758 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75046854; AAN #02958147) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes. Motion carried.

Councillor Beaton declared a conflict of interest regarding the next item on the report indicating the Strait Area Transit is his employer and he left his seat during voting and discussion of this item.

Councillor Sampson presented the next item from the Committee of the Whole Report, in the absence of Councillor Beaton.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and appoint Councillor Shirley McNamara as the Council representative on the Board of Directors of the Strait Area Transit. Motion carried.

Councillor Beaton returned to his seat and continued presenting the Committee of the Whole report.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Marchand that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and approve the financial request put forth by Heritage Cape Breton Connection, in the amount of \$150 for the Heritage Cape Breton Connection's Engaging Youth in Heritage Award. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Sampson that WHEREAS the Canadian economy is in its deepest downturn since the 1930's putting the retirement security of many workers at risk;

AND WHEREAS cities are key providers of social services and support programs for older workers and retirees;

AND WHEREAS the financial meltdown and a wave of employer bankruptcies have resulted in under-funded pension plans and the actual and potential loss of promised pension benefits;

AND WHEREAS only one in four private sector workers belong to an employer pension plan, the remaining 3 out of 4 workers must rely on their own personal savings to try to provide for their retirement;

AND WHEREAS our public pension system, Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) plus the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is safe but falls well short of replacing the 50% to 70% of pre-retirement income needed to maintain decent living standards;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Richmond support expansion of our public pension system

1. By increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) by 15% so no senior lives in poverty;

2. By phasing in a doubling of the proportion of average earnings replaced by Canada Pension Plan (CPP) from 25% to 50%, financed by a modest increase in premiums;
3. By protecting Canadian pensions through a federal system of pension insurance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Municipality support the call on the federal government to hold a national summit on the issue of pensions and support the expansion of the Canada Pension Plan (CPP). Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality provide funding for the consultant fees in search of a replacement for the Richmond Villa Chief Executive Officer position. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the contract for the Recycling and Compost Educator be renewed for a one year term, effective January 1, 2012. Motion carried. One nay – Councillor Boucher.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that funding in the amount of \$50,500 be awarded to the Village of St. Peter's, from the Gas Tax Fund, for their wastewater project, subject to all gas tax regulations. Motion carried.

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

(b) Pension Committee Report

Councillor MacNeil presented the Pension Committee Report (copy attached).

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Pension Committee and that the defined contribution pension plan consists of the following classes:

Class A - Elected Officials: current contribution rates will remain the same;

Class B - All employees except the CAO: contribution rates of 7% for 0-5 years; 8% for 6-10 years and 9% after 10 years (rates are matching employee and employer);

Class C - CAO: the contribution rates are currently 9%, and any changes are subject to Council approval.

And further moved that the effective date of these changes to the plan is December 1, 2011.
Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the report of the Pension Committee be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- (a) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Property of Eduard Steininger, Highway #4, Cannes, River Bourgeois

The CAO indicated this file is now closed.

- (b) Mrs. Shannon Diggdon re: Grant Requests:

- D'Escousse Civic Improvement Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3 (\$200);
- Bras D'Or Lakers Seniors Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10 (\$250);
- Grand River Seniors Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10 (\$250);
- Eastern Counties Regional Library, Municipal District Activity Fund, Municipal Districts (\$900)

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the following grant requests be approved:

- \$200 to D'Escousse Civic Improvement Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3;
- \$250 to Bras D'Or Lakers Seniors Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10;
- \$250 to Grand River Seniors Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10;
- \$900 to Eastern Counties Regional Library, Municipal District Activity Fund, Municipal Districts.

Motion carried.

- (c) Mr. Glen Sampson re: Request for Road Name Change in Rockdale, District #9

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Municipal Council give approval to the road name change from Rockdale, Highway #247 to “Island View Drive” (first choice) or “Seaside Drive” (second choice) in District #9, if it meets policy approval and receives the approval of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and the Eastern District Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

(a) CAO re: Physician Recruitment

The CAO requested that Councillor Sampson present the item regarding physician recruitment.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council approve the request from GASHA for \$150,000 for physician recruitment, based on the formula outlined in the draft contract, for deployment of funds and that the expenditure be required to be authorized by the CAO, Warden and Councillor Sampson, Chairperson of the Physician Recruitment Committee. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden David extended Christmas Greetings to staff, Council and Richmond County residents and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Mr. Tommy Bona approached Council requesting information on how the shadow bids were determined; and questioned if the individual that was awarded the contract had all the necessary equipment to carry out the work, and also questioned if he was qualified to do the work.

The CAO noted that the shadow bid is used as a mechanism to ensure that the bid fall in line with budgeted amounts. He noted the bid was compliant and noted that their bid, and all bids received, met the requirement.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the meeting move to “In-Camera” session at 8:30 p.m.

Deputy Warden David reconvened the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Marchand that Council accept the proposed salary ranges for all municipal employees, with the exception of contract employees, effective April 1, 2012. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

MUNICIPAL CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER