

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 22, 2013

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Present: Warden S. Sampson, Councillor R. Samson
Councillor B. Marchand, Councillor G. Boucher
Councillor S. MacNeil, Councillor G. Johnson
Councillor V. David

Warden Sampson 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.

Warden Sampson noted that Deputy Warden Martell, Councillor Beaton and Councillor McNamara were unable to attend.

Items Added to the Agenda:

Warden Sampson indicated that he added one item to the agenda regarding Route 4.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the agenda be approved with the item added. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes:

- (a) March 25, 2013 - Public Hearing

Councillor Marchand noted errors in the Public Hearing minutes of March 25, 2013 as follows:

- (i) Florina McDonald should read as "Florence McDonald"
- (ii) Mr. Barry Landry did not indicate that this project will continue at all costs, he stated that Mr. Barry Zwicker of Scotian Windfields indicated that this project will continue at all costs

Warden Sampson indicated that the minutes of the March 25, 2013 Public Hearing would be approved following verification of the proposed corrections and will be brought to the next Regular Council meeting for approval.

(b) March 25, 2013 – Regular Council Meeting

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Regular Council minutes of March 25, 2013 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Omission of Motion from February 25, 2013 minutes, adopted through the Committee of the Whole Report to be recorded as follows:

“Moved by Deputy Warden Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to Melford International Terminal Inc indicating that Richmond County Municipal Council is not in support of the creation of a Canadian Port Authority for the Strait Area. Motion carried.”

It was the consensus of Council that the above motion be recorded as omitted from the February 25, 2013 minutes.

Presentations and/or Delegations:

(a) Richmond County Literacy Network re: Update

Warden Sampson welcomed Mrs. Millie Hatt, Network Coordinator, Richmond County Literacy Network, to the meeting.

Mrs. Hatt presented a PowerPoint presentation.

A discussion period ensued.

Warden Sampson thanked Mrs. Hatt for her presentation.

Notice of Motion - Deputy Warden Martell: to adopt the Policy for Funding to Core Community Organizations as a Policy of the Municipality of Richmond (attached as Appendix “A”)

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council adopt the Policy for Funding to Core Community Organizations as a Policy of the Municipality of Richmond (attached as Appendix “A”). Motion carried.

First Reading Approval: Councillor Johnson - to repeal By-Law #25, Destruction of Documents (attached as Appendix “B”)

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Municipal Council give First Reading approval to repeal By-Law #25, Destruction of Documents (attached as Appendix “B”). Motion carried.

First Reading Approval: Councillor Boucher - to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to include the property of the River Bourgeois Mariner Society, Account # 10289653 (attached as Appendix “C”)

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor David that Municipal Council give First Reading approval to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to include the property of the River Bourgeois Mariner Society, Account # 10289653 (attached as Appendix “C”). Motion carried.

CAO re: Strait Area Transit:

The CAO indicated that Strait Area Transit offices had been closed as of Friday. He also indicated that a Committee had been formed consisting of representation from the municipalities of Richmond, Inverness and the Town of Port Hawkesbury with the shared goal of working collectively in negotiations with the Province. The Committee is proposing the following:

- Strait Area Transit operate for the next 3 months while an external review is completed regarding the model, viability and sustainability of a rural transit system;
- A consultant be hired to generate a report which would confirm the funding requirements for Strait Area Transit.

It was the recommendation of the CAO that the following occur:

- 1) The Municipality of Richmond would participate in a four way partnership consisting of the counties of Richmond, Inverness, Town of Port Hawkesbury and the Province to fund the cost of an external review of Strait Area Transit. The Province would absorb 50% of the cost, to a maximum of \$25,000, with the remaining 50% being split equally between the remaining three municipal units;

- 2) The Municipality would advance 50% of the 2012/2013 budgeted \$32,000 of the funding amount to Strait Area Transit for a total amount of \$16,000 which would aid in cash flow over the next three months.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Marchand that Council accept the recommendation of the CAO and that the Municipality of Richmond participate in a four way partnership consisting of the counties of Richmond, Inverness, Town of Port Hawkesbury and the Province to fund the cost of an external review of Strait Area Transit where the Province would absorb 50% of the cost with the remaining 50% being split equally between the remaining three municipal units; and further moved that the Municipality of Richmond advance 50% of the budgeted \$32,000 of funding to Strait Area Transit for a total amount of \$16,000 which would aid in cash flow over the next three months. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- (a) Committee of the Whole

Moved by Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter of support be sent to the Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development citing the concerns of Council regarding the impact that changes to Employment Insurance benefits has had on all claimants. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to Isabelle Brousseau of 4 Samsons Cove Road, Sampsons Cove, Richmond County (PID #75011700 and AAN #04127358) and that the Order indicate to the owners that the shed be demolished and all debris be removed and disposed of in the appropriate manner within thirty (30) days; and if the property owner fails to comply, the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff work with both Richmond County ATV groups to determine the impact protected lands would have on their groups and further move that a letter of support be sent to the Provincial Government indicating such impacts. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of Council that the operating hours of the Richmond County Waste Management Facility be changed to 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, Monday to Saturday, effective May 1, 2013.

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

- \$2,205.93, Bonnie Brae Seniors Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #8;
- \$10,000, Acadiaville Cemetery Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #4;
- \$2,000, Holy Guardian Angel Parish, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #9.

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter of support be sent to the Minister of Education, with a carbon copy sent to the Strait Regional School Board indicating Council's support of the West Richmond Education Centre becoming a Community Hub as per the NS Small School Initiative. Motion carried.

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

(b) Fire Protection Services Committee Report

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Fire Protection Services Committee and that a Fire Services Coordinator position and/or duties be created or assigned to meet with individual Fire Departments and provide a detailed report to the Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Marchand that Council accept the recommendation of the Fire Protection Services Committee and accept the joint-undertaking submitted by Seaside High Speed and become a Platinum Sponsor and commit \$20,000 (\$4,000 per year, over a five year period) to the "Volunteer Fire Department Support Project". Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the monthly report of the Fire Protection Services Committee be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- a) Destination Cape Breton Association re: Product Platforms Support

The CAO noted that correspondence had been received from Mary Tulle, CEO of Destination Cape Breton Association applauding Richmond County for assessments recently completed defining product platforms such as “The Isle of 100 Coves”, “Where the Ocean meets the Inland sea” and “Cape Breton Blueways”.

The CAO indicated that the Tourism report identifying primary motivators and a three year plan for Richmond County is near completion. He also indicated that the report will come to Council for discussion, review and a decision.

b) École Beau-Port re: Bursaries/Awards

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Samson that the annual bursaries/awards amounts for École Beau-Port and Richmond Academy for the 2012/2013 school year be approved, as in previous years. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda:

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Marchand that

WHEREAS Route 4 from St. Peter’s to Sydney is a major route for commercial and residential traffic between Richmond County and the Cape Breton Regional Municipality;

AND WHEREAS this road is in dangerous and unacceptable condition between St. Peter’s and the community of Johnstown where construction and repaving was carried out in 2011;

AND WHEREAS the Department of Transportation released a 5 year construction plan;

AND WHEREAS the 2012-2013 plan included a 6.1 km section of Route 4 from 0.2 km west of Campbell’s Bridge westerly to 0.2 km west of McNab’s bridge;

AND WHEREAS this 6.1 km section of Route 4 was not completed in the 2012-2013 construction season;

AND WHEREAS the 2013-2014 version of the 5 year construction plan calls for the same 6.1 km of Route 4 to be completed this summer, although a tender has yet to be called to carry out this work.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Richmond Municipal Council calls on the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to call this tender for 6.1 kms of work to Route 4 as soon as possible so that the work can be started and completed this summer. Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period:

There were no questions from the gallery.

In-Camera

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the meeting proceed to “In-Camera” session at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Councillor Samson that the meeting revert to regular session at 8:51 p.m. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Warden Sampson adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

MUNICIPAL CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER