

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 24, 2014

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Present: Warden V. David, Councillor R. Samson
Councillor M. Beaton, Councillor A. Martell
Deputy Warden McNamara, Councillor B. Marchand
Councillor G. Boucher, Councillor S. MacNeil
Councillor S. Sampson, Councillor G. Johnson

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

The C.A.O. took roll call of Councillors.

Items Added to the Agenda:

Councillor Boucher requested and received unanimous consent to add a letter from Dorothy's Cat Sanctuary.

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

Review of Minutes: October 27, 2014

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Samson that the minutes of October 27, 2014 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Presentations:

(a) Presentation re: Jennie Comeau, Community Outreach Worker

Warden David welcomed Mrs. Jennie Comeau to the meeting.

Mrs. Comeau provided a brief overview of the Community Outreach Worker program.

A discussion period ensued.

Warden David thanked Mrs. Comeau for her presentation.

CAO re:

(a) Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Review

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that Richmond Municipal Council accept the responses to the questions regarding the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Review, provided by the Director of Finance, and that responses be forwarded to the Department of Municipal Affairs. Motion carried.

(b) Canada East Pipeline

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Richmond Municipal Council adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS Trans Canada Corporation intends to construct an energy east pipeline; and

WHEREAS: Trans Canada proposes to bring this pipeline to St. John, New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS existing facilities in Point Tupper are ideally and strategically located to make this project even more successful; and

WHEREAS the Premier of Nova Scotia has expressed his desire to see the pipeline extended to Point Tupper; and

WHEREAS NuStar has expressed a desire and economic value in having the pipeline come into its facilities in Point Tupper; and

WHEREAS such an extension would better serve all of the East Coast and not end in New Brunswick: and

WHEREAS the economic development opportunities would extend to all of Cape Breton Island and the Strait Area; and

WHEREAS the economic develop opportunities would affect all of Nova Scotia,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Richmond support the Premier's efforts to work with the Province of Alberta and Trans Canada Corporation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a letter of support, along with a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Nova Scotia as well as Trans Canada Corporation along with copies to Minister Younger, Minister Samson, Minister McLellan, Federal Ministers Mackay and Raitt as well as Nustar. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

(a) Committee of the Whole:

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that all projects for Richmond County, that are ready, be submitted on the Building Canada Fund application. (Ayes: 4, Nays: 5 - Councillor Johnson, Deputy Warden McNamara, Councillor Beaton, Councillor Marchand, Councillor Boucher) Motion defeated.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the CAO and Warden negotiate with mutual aid directly regarding an alternate solution to fire protection services in Point Tupper versus relying on the Town of Port Hawkesbury and that an application be made to the UARB to ensure that fire hydrants located in Point Tupper could not be denied access by mutual aid should they be required; AND FURTHER MOVED that the current agreement be terminated and the \$25,000 be invested in mutual aid with Louisdale, Port Hastings, Inverness and Town of Port Hawkesbury fire departments.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the motion be amended, to exclude the “AND FURTHER MOVED that the current agreement be terminated and the \$25,000 be invested in mutual aid with Louisdale, Port Hastings, Inverness and Town of Port Hawkesbury fire departments.” Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the CAO and Warden negotiate with mutual aid directly regarding an alternate solution to fire protection services in Point Tupper versus relying on the Town of Port Hawkesbury and that an application be made to the UARB to ensure that fire hydrants located in Point Tupper could not be denied access by mutual aid should they be required. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality enter into negotiations with the proponent interested in the purchase and development of the Courthouse, hold a public meeting and return to Council with further information before any sign off. Motion carried.

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

- \$650 to Bras d'Or Lakers Seniors Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10;
- \$650 to Fourchu Development Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10;
- \$10,000 to Royal Canadian Legion Branch 150, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$5,000 to La Picasse Centre Communautaire Culturel, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #2;
- \$1,500 to Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3;
- \$500 to West Bay Pastoral Charge, Municipal District Activity fund, District #5.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality of Richmond County recommend to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board that Council size remain at Status Quo as it currently exists. (Ayes: 5 Nays: 5 Councillor Martell, Councillor Sampson, Councillor MacNeil, Councillor Samson, Warden David). Motion defeated.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the monthly report for the month of November 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

(b) Fire Services Committee

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Fire Protection Services Committee and approve the Richmond County Fire Protection Services Standard Operating Guidelines which will be utilized by the volunteer fire departments within Richmond County. (Attached as Appendix "A"). Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the monthly report for the month of November 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

Action Required:

- (a) Canadian Diabetes Association re: Diabetes Awareness Month;

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Richmond Municipal Council declare the month of November 2014 Diabetes Awareness Month. Motion carried.

(b) Cape Breton Small Business Development Centre re: Isle Madame Façade Program;

For information purposes.

(c) Parker Donham re: The future of internet service in rural Richmond County

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Johnson that Richmond Municipal Council adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS access to high speed internet service is as important to rural Canada today as rural electrification was in the 1940s and 1950s; and

WHEREAS Seaside Wireless Communications Inc. was the contractor selected by the Province of Nova Scotia to provide internet access to unserved portions of Richmond County under the Broadband for Rural Nova Scotia program; and

WHEREAS many Richmond County residents and businesses are now seeking internet speeds greater than the 1.5 megabit per second download standard established under the Broadband for Rural Nova Scotia program; and

WHEREAS The Government of Canada has established the Connecting Canadians program to help provide Canadians with access to internet services at speeds of at least 5 Megabits per second download; and

WHEREAS Seaside Wireless Communications Inc. intends to apply for funding from the Connecting Canadians program to increase internet speeds available to its customers in Richmond County;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Municipality of Richmond County supports Seaside's application to participate in the Connecting Canadians project. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

Councillor Boucher re: Dorothy's Cat Sanctuary

For information purposes.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business, Warden David adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

CAO/CLERK

CHAIRPERSON