

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 26, 2018

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Present: Deputy Warden James Goyetche, Councillor Alvin Martell
Warden Brian Marchand, Councillor Gilbert Boucher,
Councillor Jason MacLean

Warden Marchand called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM and asked everyone to stand for the singing of O'Canada.

Roll Call of Councillors

The CAO took roll call of Councillors.

Items Added to the Agenda

Deputy Warden Goyetche requested and received unanimous consent to add 2 items to the agenda (Relocation of Veterans Memorial Drive Sign and Congrats letter for David Dingwall – President of Cape Breton University).

Warden Marchand requested and received unanimous consent to move the “In Camera” item, “FCM”, noting that the item should be discussed during regular session.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Maclean that the agenda be accepted with the items added. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes

a) January 22, 2018 (Regular Meeting)

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the minutes of January 22, 2018 (Regular Meeting) be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Presentations

a) Cape Breton Food Hub (Jim Mustard & Alicia Lake) re: Update;

Warden Marchand welcomed Mr. Jim Mustard, Ms. Alicia Lake and Ms. Llachan Leavitt to the meeting.

Mr. Mustard, Ms. Lake and Ms. Leavitt gave a power point presentation (copy attached).

A question and answer period followed.

Warden Marchand thanked Mr. Mustard, Ms. Lake and Ms. Leavitt for the presentation.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Martell that the funding request, in the amount of \$12,000, from the Cape Breton Food Hub be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

b) Strait Area Ground Search and Rescue Association re: Update & Funding Request;

Warden Marchand welcomed Ms. Tanya Mcchesney and Mr. Tony Sampson to the meeting.

Ms. Mcchesney and Mr. Sampson gave a presentation (information attached).

A question and answer period followed.

Warden Marchand thanked Ms. Mcchesney and Mr. Sampson for the presentation.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the funding request, in the amount of \$5,000, from the Strait Area Ground Search and Rescue Association be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

c) Robert Samson re: Arichat Sidewalk Proposal

Warden Marchand welcomed Mr. Robert Samson to the meeting.

Ms. Samson gave a power point presentation (copy attached).

A question and answer period followed.

Warden Marchand thanked Mr. Samson for the presentation.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that staff explore/investigate costs, financing options and external funding opportunities available

for sidewalk construction on the high road in Arichat, from Our Lady of Assumption Church to the Charles Forest Coop, and report back to Council. Motion carried.

CAO re:

a) Point Tupper Re-Branding and Signage Project;

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Martell that Richmond County, as a member of the Point Tupper Development Committee, support the development of a brand refresh which includes signage and collateral marketing and authorizes the payment of \$5,000 as the County's 25% partner-share of the initiative. Motion carried.

b) Pension Review Update

The Chief Financial Officer, Jason Martell, provided an update regarding the Defined Benefit Pension Plan Review. He indicated after the yearly pension review is completed by Desjardins they will assess the options for the Municipality's DB Plan, come back with analysis and the impact on staff and the municipality. He also indicated that once the review is complete, it would be sent to Council and Desjardins would be scheduled to appear before Council to do a presentation (timeline March-May 2018).

It was the consensus of Council that Mr. Martell search for the pension report from 2009 and forward a copy to Council.

Committee Reports

a) Committee of the Whole

Councillor Martell declared a conflict of interest on the following two motions of the report regarding Grant Thornton, due to his wife's employment with the firm.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Grant Thornton continue to be retained to provide audit services for the Municipality of Richmond County for the current fiscal year. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Staff prepare documents for the tendering of audit services for the Municipality of Richmond County, effective Fall 2018. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following motion be supported:

Council of the Municipality of Richmond write the Premier of Nova Scotia, with copies to all members of the Legislature, indicating that, in light of the recent release of the Nova Scotia Onshore petroleum Atlas project confirming the economic potential for onshore hydrocarbon development, that we strongly urge the Province to create regulations and legislation that remove the ban on fracking in NS and design a program that provides strict guidelines and parameters under which a pilot project can be initiated to determine whether this resource can be safely developed for the benefit of all Nova Scotians.

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following grant request be approved:

- \$300 to Lochside Cemetery, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5.

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Former St. Peter's Fire Department Building, AAN 04404998, be declared as surplus property and be tendered for sale. There was no seconder for the motion.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that the motion stating that the Former St. Peter's Fire Department Building, AAN 04404998, be declared as surplus property and be tendered for sale, be tabled. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Arichat Courthouse be tendered for sale. There was no seconder for the motion.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Martell that the motion stating the Arichat Courthouse be tendered for sale, be tabled. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of February 2018 be adopted. Motion carried.

b) Audit Committee

Councillor Martell declared a conflict of interest due to his wife being employed by Grant Thornton.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Audit Committee and that the financial statements of the Municipality for the year ended March 31, 2017 be accepted as presented by the Auditors and the Chief Financial Officer. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Audit Committee Report for the month of February 2018 be adopted. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

For Information Purposes:

- a) ROC Society re: Thank you

Action Required:

- a) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Revised Appointments (2018-2019);

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Martell that Municipal Council approve the Eastern District Planning Commission revised appointments for 2018-2019 as follows:

Administrator – Dangerous and Unsightly Premises: Sean Donovan
Alternate: John Bain

Building Inspectors: Harry Martell and Leon Leblanc
Alternates: Cyril Leblanc; David Mackenzie and Sean Donovan

Special Constable: Sean Donovan

Development Officer: Andrew Jones
Alternates: John Bain, Wanda Ryan; and Paul Dec

Fire Inspector: Leon Leblanc
Sean Donavan; Harry Martell; David Mackenzie and Cyril Leblanc.

Motion carried.

- b) Jason Martell, Chief Financial Officer re: Village of St. Peter's, Infrastructure Grant, District #4;

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that a grant application, dated January 2016, from the Village of St. Peter's, in the amount of \$30,000, for the purchase of a new tractor, be dealt with as follows:

\$15,000 to be paid to the Village of St. Peter's from Richmond Municipal Infrastructure Fund, District #4 with the remaining balance of \$15,000 expiring as of March 31, 2018 if no paid invoices are submitted by that date. Motion carried.

c) Grant Requests:

- St. Joseph's CWL Petit de Grat, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #1 (\$2,000);
- Isle Madame Garden Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, Districts #1 & 2 (\$300);
- (Recreation) Development Isle Madame Association (\$250).

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor MacLean that the following grant requests be approved:

- \$2,000 to St. Joseph's CWL Petit de Grat, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #1;
- \$300 to Isle Madame Garden Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, Districts #1 & 2;
- \$250 (Recreation Budget Grant) Development Isle Madame Association.

Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

Deputy Warden Goyetche indicated that the Veterans Memorial Drive sign located near the Legion in Arichat would be re-located to the beginning of Veterans Memorial Drive.

Deputy Warden Goyetche indicated that former MP for Richmond County, David Dingwall was appointed as the President at Cape Breton University.

It was the consensus of Council that a letter of congratulations be sent to Mr. Dingwall on his appointment as President of Cape Breton University.

Warden Marchand indicated that the CAO, Kent MacIntyre and Councillor Alvin Martell would be attending the FCM Conference in Halifax from May 31st to June 4th.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

"In Camera" Session (Municipal Property/Legal)

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that the meeting move to an "In Camera" session at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that the meeting reconvene to regular session at 10:24 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council accept the recommendation of the Revenue Manager and sell the property located at the Richmond

Industrial Park to Green Seaweed Inc., subject to the terms outlined in the Option Agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that the inter-municipal agreement between the Municipality of Richmond and the Town of Port Hawkesbury be signed, resulting in a joint project to establish a water utility in Richmond County. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that correspondence be sent to the Department of Transportation indicating that the Municipality of Richmond County has no interest in acquiring a surplus parcel of land, adjacent to PID #'s 75207340, 75010843, 75054874, 75207654 and 75054817, at or near Little Anse, South Petit de Grat, Richmond County. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON
