

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

FEBRUARY 10, 2014

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

Warden Sampson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Sampson indicated that five items were previously submitted as items added. Councillor Beaton wished to add a grant request from Rocky Bay Irish Club, Councillor David wished to add a grant request from Telile Community TV, Councillor MacNeil and Councillor Boucher wished to add a grant request from East Coast ATV Riders Association and the CAO wished to add correspondence regarding Bear Head Tax Agreement and the 2014 Heavy Garbage Pickup.

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

Review of Minutes: January 13, 2014

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor David that the minutes of January 13, 2014 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Councillor MacNeil re:

- a) Cell Service for Framboise/Fourchu/Grand River areas

Councillor MacNeil noted the following:

- A discussion took place at the last Fire Protection Services Committee meeting which focused on the lack of cell and radio service in Framboise-Fourchu and surrounding areas
- The Committee would like a letter of support to be sent to the Province and all involved partners to revisit this concern

The Following points were brought forth during discussion:

- Rogers Communication approached the Municipality regarding property in Point Tupper and a discussion also took place regarding the potential to provide service to the outlining areas of the County that currently do not have cell coverage
- Council will be updated once further information has been obtained

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Deputy Warden Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that a letter of support be sent to the Province and involved partners expressing concern regarding the lack of adequate cell and radio coverage in Framboise-Fourchu and surrounding areas. Motion carried.

b) Lakeside Community Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #8, Amended Grant Request

Councillor MacNeil noted that the Lakeside Community Association encountered additional expenditures during their project and requested that the initial grant request be amended to assist with the associated costs.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that the original grant request in the amount of \$1,000, by the Lakeside Community Association, District #8 Infrastructure Fund, approved at the June 25, 2012 Regular Council Meeting, be increased to \$2,744.12 due to additional expenditures during the project. Motion carried.

Councillor Beaton re: Lennox Passage Yacht Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3, Amended Grant Request

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council that the original grant request in the amount of \$10,000 by the Lennox Passage Yacht Club, District #3 Infrastructure Fund, approved at the May 27, 2013 Regular Council Meeting, be increased to \$30,000. Motion carried.

Warden Sampson re:

a) Anadarko

Warden Sampson noted the following:

- There has been no progression with the property in the last 10 years;
- Travels to Houston were made to discuss potential future developments for this property;

- A meeting took place last week with the Vice President of Marketing, as well as a Nova Scotia representative, and the message relayed was that there was no foreseeable movement of the property in the upcoming future;
- Taxation revenue was discussed and the outcome was a request that the Municipality put it in writing and wait for a response;
- At a Mayors and Wardens meeting, held this week, information of the complete opposite nature was shared;
- Discussions have been held with the Province regarding Anadarko tax legislation.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It was noted that discussions, taking place with Anadarko, are a positive thing;
- Updates will be provided to Council as they become available

b) Strait Area

Warden Sampson noted the following:

- The SAT board has agreed to continue service until the end of the month;
- There is commitment from the Province to support a new model for alternative transportation;
- Correspondence has been sent to neighboring Mayors and Wardens to honor their initial commitment to SAT.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It appears positive that at least one neighboring municipality will honor their commitment

CAO re:

a) Strategic Plan

The CAO presented a Power Point presentation to the Committee (Copy attached), which highlighted the goals of the Municipality's strategic plan and an update on each of those goals.

More information will be provided at the March Committee of the Whole for discussion.

It was noted that the Tourism Strategy will affect all departments within the Municipality.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- The federal budget will be available tomorrow, along with information on the Building Canada Fund;
- Protection services statistics should be part of the RCMP presentation to Council;
- Staff will provide a list of businesses that accessed the advertising coop program to Council;
- Discussions need to continue on this document to ensure goals are met.

b) Capital Projects re:

1) Louisdale Water

The CAO noted the following:

- The attached correspondence provided an overview of the activities and probable timeline involved in proceeding with the Louisdale Water Plant capital project;
- The Building Canada Fund project will determine the steps required to carry out capital projects;
- The attached memo outlines the requirement of Council's input in order to determine the direction to take;
- There are current policies in place to assist with funding of such capital projects.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- Staff will take all measures to reduce costs when completing this project;
- Studies required by the UARB are to be done by those who specialize in said areas.

2) Landfill

The Director of Public Works noted the following:

- Given the financial pressures to the operating budget and tax rate, consideration should be made to use capital monies to replace the backhoe instead of repairing it;
- Facts that lead to this consideration were provided to the Committee for consideration

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- The backhoe is not that old and should not require replacement;
- The maintenance package purchased for the backhoe in the past was for fluids only;
- The price of tires for the equipment seems high;

- The Director of Public Works provided an explanation on the type of tires that are used on the machine and the work completed with the machine at the landfill;
- Further information on repairs and purchase costs may be beneficial prior to making any decisions.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council that the existing backhoe, at the Richmond Waste Management Facility, be repaired. (Ayes: 3, Nays: 5) Motion defeated.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Deputy Warden Johnson that Staff obtain additional information on the repair of the existing backhoe and the cost to purchase a new backhoe at the Richmond Waste Management Facility, and report back to Council before a decision is made. (Ayes: 6, Nays: 2 Councillor Boucher, Councillor David) Motion carried.

Correspondence:

For Information Purposes

- a) Port Hawkesbury Food Bank Society re: Thank You
- b) Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations re: Submission of the final copy of the Municipal Climate Action Plan (MCCAP) for the Municipality of the County of Richmond;
- c) Gusborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority re: Update

Action Required

- a) Village of St. Peter's re: Request for Funding

The CAO noted the following:

- The Village of St. Peter's is requesting funding under the Federal Gas Tax Distribution Program to assist with an emergency repair to their sewer main on Pepperell Street;
- The cost of the repairs were just under \$30,000 plus applicable taxes.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that funding, under the Federal Gas Tax Distribution Program, in the amount of \$20,000, be awarded to the Village of St. Peter's for repairs to the sewer main on Pepperell Street. Motion carried.

- b) Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal re: Traffic Count Program for the 2014 Season;

The CAO noted the following:

- The Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal is in the planning stages of their Traffic Count Program for the 2014 season;
- Attached are examples of a speed report, an axle report, a class volume report, a simple traffic count report and a traffic count request form;
- For requests of counts in various districts, an attached request form must be completed and submitted for consideration

It was a consensus of the Committee that the Municipality of Richmond not participate in the Traffic Count Program for the 2014 season.

- c) Richmond Education Centre/Academy re: Graduation Bursary/Scholarship Fund Contribution

The CAO noted the following:

- Each year Richmond County contributes to the Graduation Bursary/Scholarship Fund for Richmond Academy, Ecole Beau Port and the Potlotek School;

It was a consensus of the Committee that the Annual Bursary/Scholarship amounts for École Beau-Port, Richmond Academy and the Potlotek School for the 2013/2014 school year be approved, as in previous years.

- d) Residents of Janvrin Harbour re: Road Name Change

The CAO noted the following:

- A request to name an unnamed road in Janvrin's Island has been submitted
- There is only one resident on that road; they are trying to obtain a 911 number

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council that the road name change from "Unnamed Road" to Old Sadies Road in Janvrin's Island (District #4) be approved, if it meets policy approval and receives the approval of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and the Eastern District Planning Commission; and further moved that this change be recognized for 911 purposes only and without responsibility on the Municipality's part to provide or maintain services. Motion carried.

- d) Shannon Mury re: Grant Requests

- River Bourgeois Seniors, Municipal District Activity Fund, District # 7 (\$500);
- Immaculate Conception Parish Council, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$200);
- Acadiaville Community Center Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$2,000);
- Isle Madame ATV Riders, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3 (\$300);
- D'Escousse Civic Improvement Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3 (\$3,162);
- Coastal Riders ATV Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #9 (\$2,462.69);
- Our Lady of Assumption CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #1 (\$300);
- St. Peter's Scottish Dance Group, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts (\$1,150);

It was a consensus of the Committee to add the grants from the "Items Added".

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the following grants be approved:

- \$500 to River Bourgeois Seniors, Municipal District Activity Fund, District # 7;
- \$200 to Immaculate Conception Parish Council, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4;
- \$2,000 to Acadiaville Community Center Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4;
- \$300 to Isle Madame ATV Riders, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3;
- \$3,162 to D'Escousse Civic Improvement Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3;
- \$2,462.69 to Coastal Riders ATV Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #9;
- \$300 to Our Lady of Assumption CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #1;
- \$1,150 to St. Peter's Scottish Dance Group, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$469 to Rocky Bay Irish Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3;
- \$5,000 to Telile Community TV, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #1;
- \$10,000 to East Coast Riders Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, Multiple Districts.

Motion carried.

Approval of Cheques Issued: December 2013

Councillor David declared a conflict because there were cheques written to his business and removed himself from discussion.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Deputy Warden Johnson that the list of cheques issued in the amount of \$964,315.58 for the month of December 2013 be approved. Motion carried.

Review of Cheques Issued: January 2014

For information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda

1. CAO re: Bear Head Tax Agreement

For information purposes.

2. CAO re: 2014 Heavy Garbage Pickup

The Director of Public Works indicated that this service is typically provided twice a year at a cost of approximately \$100,000 per year. Haulers are paid by the tonnage.

Direction on dates and times is required to set the 2014 Heavy Garbage Pick schedule.

It was noted that one pick up a year, during the spring, would be sufficient.

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council that the 2014 Heavy Garbage Pickup consist of only one scheduled pickup and that it be from May 5th to May 30th, 2014. Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

MUNICIPAL CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER