

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 29, 2016

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

Warden David 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:

Warden David noted that two items were added to the agenda, Isle Madame Trade and Tourism regarding a request for funding; Eastern District Planning Commission (Second Reading) regarding rezoning of five (5) properties in Louisdale.

Councillor McNamara requested and received unanimous consent to add an explanation of her absence from meetings for the past three months.

Councillor Marchand requested and received unanimous consent to add the Financial Reform Package, Tourism Discussion, Forensic Audit and a Personnel Issue (In Camera).

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

Review of Minutes: February 29, 2016 (Regular Council)

Councillor Marchand noted that the minutes of February 29, 2016 stated that regrets were received by Councillor Sampson; the Chair indicated that he would be late, not absent.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the minutes of February 29, 2016 be approved as amended. Motion carried.

Presentations re:

a) Strait Area Transit (SAT) re: Requested Support

Warden David welcomed Mr. Mustard to the meeting.

Mr. Mustard provided a power point presentation regarding Strait Area Transit's request for support (copy attached).

A discussion period ensued.

Warden David thanked Mr. Mustard for his presentation.

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the request for financial support by Strait Area Transit, be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

b) Petit de Grat Beautification

Warden David welcomed Mr. Robert Samson to the meeting.

Mr. Samson provided a power point presentation regarding the Petit de Grat Beautification sidewalk proposal (copy attached).

A discussion period ensued.

Warden David thanked Mr. Samson for his presentation.

Moved by Councillor Samson, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Council approve the implementation of the sidewalk projects in Districts # 1 & #2 as outlined in the presentation (copy attached), subject to senior staff reviewing the financial information provided in the proposal; AND FURTHER MOVED that council accept the recommendation of the Petit de Grat Beautification Committee and pay out the remaining debt on the Louisdale Sidewalks.

(Ayes: 4; Nays: 5 Councillor Marchand, Councillor Boucher, Councillor Johnson, Councillor MacNeil, Councillor McNamara) Motion defeated.

Warden David indicated that he would request staff to explore options for financing sidewalks in Arichat and report back to Council with a recommendation.

Chris Boudreau re: Heavy Collection

Mr. Boudreau was seeking direction on picking a date for the spring heavy garbage collection.

Moved by Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the spring heavy garbage collection take place from May 28 – June 26, 2016; AND FURTHER MOVED that the fall heavy garbage collection be discussed during budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

a) Planning Advisory

This item was referred back to the Planning Advisory Committee for review.

b) Fire Services

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that the Municipality's Street Light Policy be amended to include other areas, in addition to streets, which may require extra lighting, for emergency purposes (such as fire departments), as deemed beneficial by the district Councillor. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council that Raymond Ferguson be re-appointed as the Director for the Fire Services Association of Nova Scotia for Richmond County and Shannon Mury be re-appointed as the Alternate; AND FURTHER MOVED that Raymond Ferguson be re-appointed as the Fire School Director for Richmond County. Motion carried.

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

Correspondence

For Information Purposes:

- a) Town of Port Hawkesbury re: Letter of Support – Bear Paw Pipeline Corporation Inc.;
- b) Municipality of the County of Victoria re: Bear Paw Pipeline Corporation Inc.;
- c) Nova Scotia Justice re: RCMP Costs 2016/17;
- d) Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board re: Bear Paw Pipeline Construction Inc. – Application;
- e) Strait Area Ground Search and Rescue Association re: Funding Request Information;
- f) Community Services re: Cape Breton Island Housing Authority Representative.

Action Required:

- a) Chris Boudreau, Director of Public Works re: Staff Report on Sewer Extension for Toulouse Street, St. Peter's;

For information purposes.

- b) Chris Boudreau re: Compost Availability;

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil that Council accept the recommendation of the Public Works Director and that compost pricing for 2016 remain at the rates approved by Council in October, 2015. The approved rates were as follows:

- Residential / Commercial Customers \$30 / Tonne (Minimum \$5 charge)
- Loading Fee \$10 Flat Fee
- Tandem Truck Load (screened) \$200 including loading fee (approximately 8 tonnes)
- Tandem Truck Load (un-screened) \$125 including loading fee (approximately 8 tonnes)

Motion carried.

- c) Richmond County Literacy Network re: Request for Support;

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the request for financial support by the Richmond County Literacy Network be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

- d) Eastern Counties Regional Library re: Request for Support

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the request for financial support by Eastern Counties Regional Library, be moved to budget deliberations; AND FURTHER MOVED that a letter of support regarding an increase in the Eastern Counties Regional Library's Equity Grant, be sent to Minister Ince, Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage. Motion carried.

- e) Shannon Mury re: Grant Requests

- Le Comité Provincial de Jeux de L'Acadie Région NÉ, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts (\$1,000);
- Basin River Inhabitants, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5 (\$3,500).

Moved by Councillor Samson, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the following grants be approved:

- \$1,000 to Le Comité Provincial de Jeux de L'Acadie Région NÉ, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$3,500 to Basin River Inhabitants, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5.

Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

Isle Madame Trade and Tourism re: Funding Request

Moved by Councillor Samson, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the funding request submitted by Isle Madame Trade and Tourism Association, in the amount of \$10,000, to complete the consultant's work to design a façade program for Isle Madame, be approved. Motion carried.

Second Reading: To approve the rezoning of five (5) properties in Louisdale, Richmond County from Watershed Protection (WSP) to Wellhead Protection (WHP) to carry out the intent of the Shannon Lake Wellhead Protection Area Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS).(Attached as Appendix "A").

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council give Second Reading to approve the rezoning of five (5) properties in Louisdale, Richmond County (PIDs 75202523, 75202531, 75202556, 75202549, 75114660) from Watershed Protection (WSP) to Wellhead Protection (WHP) as shown on the distributed rezoning map. Motion carried.

Councillor Marchand re: Financial Reform Package

It was the consensus of Council that a meeting of the Financial Reform Committee be scheduled to discuss the proposed package.

Councillor Marchand re: Tourism Discussion

This item will be discussed at the next Committee of Whole meeting.

Councillor Marchand re: Personnel Issue

This item was discussed in-camera.

Councillor Marchand re: Forensic Audit

In light of new information, this item was moved to be discussed in-camera.

Councillor McNamara re: explanation of her absence from meetings for the past several months.

For information purposes.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Mr. Richard Cotton approached Council regarding an item on the agenda.

Mrs. Lisa Boudreau approached Council regarding an item on the agenda.

“In Camera” session

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Samson that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 9:11 p.m.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Samson that the meeting reconvene to regular session at 9:43 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Council direct a forensic audit of municipal travel/expenses and credit cards for the CAO and Councillors for five (5) fiscal years (April 1, 2011-March 31, 2016). Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor Boucher that Council approve Councillor Martell’s request for an extended leave of absence. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

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

There being no further business, Warden David adjourned the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

CAO/CLERK

CHAIRPERSON