

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

### Items Added to the Agenda

Items added that were submitted before the deadline included two items from Warden Boudreau regarding a Report on Rural Caucus Meeting and Request to Add Little Anse Lighthouse Centre to Tax Exemption By-Law, as well as two items from the CAO regarding Tenders for McNamara Bend Subdivision Road Asphalt Paving and Dangerous and Unsightly Premise (to be discussed “In-Camera”).

**Moved by** Councillor Sampson, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the items added be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### Review of Minutes: September 8, 2009

**Moved by** Councillor McNamara, **seconded by** Councillor MacNeil that the minutes of September 8, 2009 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

### Staff Reports:

(a) Physical Activity Coordinator re: Physical Activity Strategy

The Committee welcomed Mr. Clifford Boudreau, Director of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Mrs. Colette Sampson-MacLean, Physical Activity Coordinator and Mr. Larry Maxwell, Dept of Health Promotion and Protection – Physical Activity, Sport & Recreation Responsibility Centre.

Mrs. Sampson-MacLean and Mr. Maxwell continued with a Power Point Presentation.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- There are 17 municipal units in Nova Scotia that are in various stages of their Physical Activity Strategies.
- There are 11 other municipal units that are interested in pursuing a Physical Activity strategy but are on a waiting list.

- Richmond is one of the leaders in this initiative.
- There is a significant problem with lack of volunteers and volunteer burnout.
- The provincial government now has a volunteer sector/initiative and have provincial staff whose job is to address these problems.
- There is provincial money available and the province is prepared to come to the table and provide assistance in implementing the strategy, as well as training and support for volunteers.
- The Recreation Department has been doing more work with community groups, providing some assistance, noting that a formal update will be provided at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.
- The Physical Activity Strategy is a great plan and hopefully will not be left to collect dust and will be implemented.
- The IBSIS survey did not provide a breakdown by age but was conducted using individuals over the age of 16 and participants were 50% male and 50% female.
- It was noted that of the 300 participants in the survey that there would be a balance of all age groups.
- Physical Activity should be incorporated in as many of the Recreation Programs as possible.
- The Martell race held this past weekend had approximately 100 participants and when it began a few years back there were only about 20.
- Council must become more forward thinking in regards to Physical Activeness in the Community.
- The use of schools for after hours activities is a problem and is subject to School Board Policy.
- Access to the schools has been made more affordable and perhaps if the demand for the use of schools on evenings and weekends is made known then things could change.
- The next step would be to sit down with school board officials and discuss their policy regarding after hours use.
- Changes in administration can mean changes in the interpretation and implementation of the community use of schools policy.

Warden Boudreau thanked Mrs. Sampson-MacLean and Mr. Maxwell for their presentation.

Correspondence:

(a) Mr. Richard Burt re: Development of Serviced Lots

The CAO reviewed correspondence from Mr. Richard Burt.

It was noted that issues regarding contracts must be dealt with “In-Camera”.

(b) Johnstown Community Development Co-Operative/Director of Public Works  
re: Waiver of Refuse Tipping Fees for JCDC

The CAO reviewed the document.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The Department of Environment received complaints that there was asbestos in the former Johnstown School, noting that they have yet to find evidence of this.
- The JCDC have discovered that the concrete panels that were to be buried on-site are made using sandwich core construction and contain vermiculite.
- The concrete panels must be disposed of properly at the Solid Waste Facility and would result in significant tipping fees.
- The increased costs may force the JCDC to sell this land to recover costs.
- Information from Dr. Theresa MacNeil indicates that the tipping fees would be in the range of \$3,000.
- It was noted that there may also have been lead paint in the former school; however this is not a concern if disposed of properly in the Solid Waste Facility.
- Concern was expressed regarding setting precedence with waiving tipping fees for community groups.
- Questions were posed regarding who would receive money for the steel removed from the site, the money generated from the sale of a portion of the property and the value of the property remaining.
- It was noted that the contract with the firm who demolished the building did not foresee tipping fees for the concrete, noting that they are asking Council to consider assistance with the tipping fees and will bear the costs of trucking.

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Johnson, **seconded by** Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council that tipping fees for the Johnstown Community Development Cooperative for disposal of the concrete panels from the former Johnstown School be waived to a maximum of \$5,000. Motion carried.

(c) CFO re: Tax Exemption By-Law

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the CFO and the following changes be made under the Tax Exemption By-Law #56:

- Under Schedule C property number 4011937 in the name of the municipality should be added. This account represents property relating to the Arichat Water Treatment Plant

- Under Schedule B the following properties should be removed as they no longer qualify for the exemption: number 9140972, 9141006, and 9141030. These properties are now owned by a private company.

Motion carried.

(d) Warden Boudreau re: Recommendation to Council re: Salary Scale Adjustments

To be discussed “In-Camera”.

(e) Richmond Academy re: Request for Financial Support

The CAO reviewed correspondence and noted that there was no amount requested.

**Moved by** Councillor Martell, **seconded by** Deputy Warden Johnson that the request for financial support from Richmond Academy be referred to the Director of Tourism, Culture and Recreation. Motion carried.

(f) Mrs. Tracy Randall re: Grant Requests:

**Moved by** Councillor Beaton, **seconded by** Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that the following grant requests be approved:

- \$300 to the Lennox Passage Yacht Club with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity - \$5,000 Fund for District #3;
- \$300 to the Rocky Bay Irish Club with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity - \$5,000 Fund for District #3;
- \$2,000 to St. Hyacinth’s Parish with funds to be taken from the Municipal District \$20,000 Fund for District #3;
- \$5,000 to the Rocky Bay Irish Club with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity - \$20,000 Fund for District #3

Motion carried.

List of Cheques Issued – August, 2009

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor David that the list of cheques issued for the month of August 2009 in the amount of \$521,383.44 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

(1) Warden Boudreau re:

- (i) Report on Rural Caucus Meeting

Warden Boudreau presented his report of the recent Rural Caucus Meeting

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The cost of RCMP services in the province has increased.
- The Federal Gas Tax Agreement Capacity Building Clause is being taken out, however there is a request to have this clause remain and use these funds to roll-out the ICSP plan. Everyone is encouraged to make representation to the UNSM.
- In regards to the taxation of wind energy assets, the cost of taxes would overshadow making these feasible at this time.
- Many municipalities are scrambling to get their ICSP studies completed in light of the Sept 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- The Rural Caucus is requesting to the UNSM Board to have the Economic Development in Rural Communities System reviewed.
- Other items addressed were rural mail delivery and coastal management.
- Emergency room closures and recruitment were significant topics, noting that Yarmouth has taken some initiatives in regards to recruitment that Richmond should really examine.
- A request to Council will be introduced to form a Committee of Council working with a member of staff to view some of the models around the province and to start developing a plan for recruitment of medical professionals.
- St. Anne's Centre Board would like to assist in a physician recruitment plan for Richmond.
- Recruitment has proven effective with obtaining an x-ray technician for the Strait Richmond Hospital.
- The Municipality must work with local residents (students), who are pursuing education to become medical health professionals, to come back to Richmond.
- Recruitment in medical schools should be pursued.
- Recruitment of nurse practitioners, not only doctors, should be pursued.
- There were only five responses to the Rural Caucus Priorities Survey and if there are any councilors who may wish to take this survey please contact Tracy or Karen.

**Moved by** Warden Boudreau, **seconded by** Councillor McNamara that the Committee accept Warden Boudreau's report as presented. Motion carried.

- (ii) Request to add Little Anse Lighthouse Centre to Tax Exemption By-Law

Warden Boudreau gave notice that he will be asking for first reading approval to amend By-Law #56, Tax Exemption By-Law, to include the Little Anse Lighthouse Centre , at the next Regular Council Meeting.

(2) CAO re:

- (i) Tender for McNamara Bend Subdivision Road Asphalt Paving

To be addressed “In-Camera”.

- (ii) Dangerous and Unsightly Premise (to be discussed “In- Camera”)

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Mr. Richard Burt addressed the Committee.

Mr. Burt wished to thank Council for entertaining his request.

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Johnson, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the meeting proceed “In-Camera”. Motion carried.

The “In-Camera” meeting discussed development of serviced lots, salary scale adjustments, review of a policy, a tender and a dangerous and unsightly premise.

Warden Boudreau re-convened the Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:10 p.m.

**Moved by** Councillor Marchand, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council to enter into a partnership to develop serviced lots on a 50% cost sharing basis, to a maximum of \$82,000. (In Favor: Councillor Marchand, Councillor Sampson, Councillor Boucher, Opposed: Councillor David, Councillor MacNeil, Councillor Martell, Councillor Beaton, Councillor McNamara, Deputy Warden Johnson). Motion defeated.

**Moved by** Councillor McNamara, **seconded by** Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and award the paving of the McNamara Bend subdivision to Ocean Paving Ltd., in the amount of \$55,280 plus applicable taxes, with work to begin as soon as possible. Motion carried.

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued from the Municipality’s Solicitor in accordance with the Municipality’s Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Policy and Procedure in regards to the property of Saveway Auto Salvage Ltd.(PID:75040352/Assessment Account: 02424894). Motion carried.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.