

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8, 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 requests from Councillor David regarding Dr. Laurie MacNeil being named Rural Physician of the Year, a water issue in Barrachois and a cross walk and light below Ecole Beauport.

Other Items Added that were accepted by unanimous consent included:

- Councillor David re: Isle Madame Historical Society
- Councillor Beaton re: "In-Camera" item
- Councillor MacNeil – SPEDO grant

Moved by Deputy Warden Johnson, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the Items Added be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes: June 15, 2009

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, **seconded by** Councillor David that the minutes of June 15, 2009 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

(a) Chief Financial Officer re:

(i) Capital Investment Plan

Moved by Councillor Martell, **seconded by** Councillor Beaton that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the CFO and approve the five year Capital Investment Plan as follows:

Evanston Sewer Project	\$2,225,000
Arichat Sewer Project	\$ 750,000
West Arichat Sewer Project	\$7,400,000

Motion carried.

(ii) Borrowing Resolutions

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The borrowing resolutions for the Arichat Sewer Project and the Evanston Sewer project represent roughly 1/3 of the total cost of the projects.

Moved by Councillor McNamara, **seconded by** Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the CFO and to approve borrowing resolutions for the Arichat Sewer Project to a maximum of \$450,000 and the Evanston Sewer Project to a maximum of \$1,000,000. Motion carried.

(b) Director of Public Works re:

(i) Richmond Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP)

Mr. McLean and Mr. Karl Grenke presented the draft Richmond Integrated Community Sustainability Plan to Council, which included the key issues that are required to be addressed by the ICSP, the organizational framework, the recent activity including the community consultation process that has taken place, the draft table of contents and the next steps that are required in the process (copy attached).

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Community well being should include addressing the issue of physician recruitment.
- The issues presented seem to accurately reflect Richmond.
- An expanded version of the draft outline will be completed by Mr. Grenke and submitted to the province by September 30, 2009 for review.
- The issue of cultural sustainability in regards to the arts/performing arts must be addressed in this document, noting that venues such as Celtic Colors and community concerts such as Codstock and Grou Tyme are becoming more popular and it is important to encourage youth to become active in these activities.
- It was suggested that ICSP team speak with the Director of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, as well as Mr. Jim St. Clair as resources when it comes to the issue of performing arts.
- It was noted that Section 2.2 be renamed to Preserving and “Developing” Richmond’s Cultural Heritage.
- This document will not be etched in stone and will require yearly reviews and updates as required.
- Transportation networks such as the Strait Area Transit are very important in rural areas.
- In regards to the proposed “Community Sustainability Vision” it was noted that this seems like more of a goal for Richmond and the statement should reflect this.

(ii) Update on Capital Projects

Mr. McLean indicated that a tender package has been prepared for the Arichat Sewage Pumping Station Project and it has been advertised. The closing is on Friday, September 18th at which time there will be a public tender opening at 2:30 p.m. at the Municipal Office with a recommendation to Council to follow shortly after this date.

Mr. McLean indicated that design work is being carried out and tender packages are being prepared for the Evanston Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade Project, noting that the tender package will be ready sometime in October. The issue of the best time to carry out this type of work is being explored, noting that winter work is sometimes more expensive.

Mr. McLean indicated that Louisdale/Evanston/Whiteside Water Treatment Plant Pre-Design is progressing and the consultant is flushing out the design criteria and working on the makeup and costs of the new system, noting that the next logical process is the preparation of the tender document. Mr. McLean noted that once the pre-design report is completed (draft scheduled to be received by October) then external funding will be sought for this project.

Mr. McLean indicated that C.J. MacLellan is busy with the analysis of the District #4 Wastewater System Pre-Design which will serve 270 households and he expects a draft by the end of the month.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The Arichat Pumping Stations will stay online while the new system is being constructed, then once the new system is online the old infrastructure will be removed.
- There has been no news regarding the application for a Wastewater Management Study for District #3 however staff will follow-up.

Correspondence:

(a) Evans, MacIsaac, MacMillan/CAO re: Torus County Lands Inc. - Cape George Estates (CAO recommends further review “In-Camera”)

To be addressed “In-Camera”

(b) Mr. Warren Zwicker, Coordinator, Department of Community Services/Warden Boudreau/Ms. Judith Ferguson, Deputy Minister of Community Services re: Housing Authority Board Appointment

It was noted that since Mr. Rudolph Boudreau has served two consecutive terms on the Housing Authority Board that he is not eligible for a third term and would only be considered if effort was made to find another individual unsuccessfully.

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that staff prepare a public advertisement requesting that individuals who are interested in serving on the Housing Authority Board submit their names to the County for consideration. Motion carried

(c) Duff Montgomerie, Deputy Minister, Health Promotion & Protection re: Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program

For information.

(d) Mr. Jack Beaton, Superintendent of Schools re: Student Discipline and Suspension Policies

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The School Board has a policy framework regarding student discipline and suspension and staff have been designated to follow these policies when dealing with student discipline issues, noting that they cannot comment on a particular case.
- The School Board is not very responsible in reporting to the parents of children what is happening in the schools.

(e) Clerk/Solicitor re: Amendment to By-Law #56 - Nova Scotia Nature Trust

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The solicitor needs to be consulted further regarding this issue.
- The land owners would have to provide the Municipality with a letter of affidavit indicating the land use.
- It was noted that there are two dwellings on the property, Farley Mowat has been residing in one dwelling for six months of the year for the past 25 years and the other dwelling is a guest house.
- The land should be changes from resource to residential
- It was noted that this land be withheld from being included in the by-law until the solicitor is consulted.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor David that amendment to By-Law #56 be tabled to allow for further review regarding the lands of Nova Scotia Nature Trust. Motion carried.

(f) Tracy Randall re: Grant Requests

- (i) Isle Madame Boat Club/Municipal District Activity - \$20,000, District #1
- (ii) DIMA/Municipal District Activity - \$5,000 Fund, Districts #1, 2, 3 and 4
- (iii) Riverdale Community Services Society/Municipal District \$20,000 Fund, Dist #5
- (iv) River Bourgeois Community Services Society/Municipal District \$20,000 Fund, District #7

It was noted that the Item Added regarding the grant request from SPEDO should also be addressed at this time.

Moved by Councillor Martell, **seconded by** Councillor MacNeil that the Committee recommend to Council that the following grant request be approved:

- Isle Madame Boat Club/Municipal District Activity - \$20,000, District #1 in the amount of \$9,300
- DIMA/Municipal District Activity - \$5,000 Fund, Districts #1, 2, 3 and 4 in the amount of \$400 (\$100 per district)
- Riverdale Community Services Society/Municipal District \$20,000 Fund, Dist #5 in the amount of \$3711.33
- River Bourgeois Community Services Society/Municipal District \$20,000 Fund, District #7 in the amount of \$1875.00
- St. Peter's Economic Development Organization/Municipal District \$20,000 Fund, District #8 in the amount of \$3,000

Motion carried

Lists of Cheques Issued: June and July, 2009

Councillor David declared a conflict in interest indicating that his business is listed as receiving a cheque and removed himself from discussions.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the list of cheques for the month of June 2009 in the amount of \$918,439.68 and for the month of July 2009 in the amount of \$1,592,426.65 be approved. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

- (a) Councillor David re: Dr. Laurie MacNeil being named Rural Physician of the Year

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded by** Councillor Martell that Council present Dr. Laurie MacNeil with a certificate congratulating him on being named Rural Physician of the Year in appreciation for his work over the past 26 years. Motion carried.

Councillor David agreed to approach Dr. MacNeil to invite him to attend the next Council meeting where he will be presented with this certificate.

(b) Councillor David re: Water Issue in Barachois – District #1

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The area experiencing water problems is .7 km in length
- There are 8 houses affected
- Three well drillers were unable to find water and one did at 425 feet however it was salt water.

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded by** Councillor Beaton that staff be directed to investigate the issue of lack of access to water for the residents of Barrachois in District #1 and report back to Council with recommendations. Motion carried

(c) Councillor David re: Crosswalk and Light below Ecole Beau Port

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- There was a similar safety concern in St. Peter's and were informed by the Department of Transportation that this was the responsibility of the School Board.
- The previous councilor for Arichat, Councillor Boudreau, investigated this issue as well and it as also determine that it was a school board responsibility.
- It was suggested that the School Board representative for the area bring this issue forth on behalf of Council.

It was the consensus of the Committee that staff approach the school board and begin discussions regarding the safety concerns at the roadway in front of the school.

(d) Councillor David re: Historical Society Grant

It was suggested that the grant from the Isle Madame Historical Society requesting funding for a plaque displaying the names of 220 past councilors be formally submitted and that staff consult the CAO and CFO to address the funding of this grant.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Mr. Ralph Boudreau addressed the Committee regarding the water issue in Barrachois.

Mrs. Amanda Boudreau addressed the Committee regarding the water issue in Barrachois.

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded by** Councillor MacNeil that the meeting proceed "In-Camera". Motion carried.

The "In-Camera" meeting discussed a policy, subdivision roads and sale of municipal property.

Warden Boudreau re-convened the Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that the Municipality not take over subdivision roads at this time. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, **seconded by** Councillor David that the CFO be requested to draft a Request for Proposals regarding the former St. Peter's School and that this document have a defined "out clause" in order to discover if there are projects that would be positive for the village of St. Peter's. Motion carried.

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 9:28 p.m.