

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

JUNE 7, 2010

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

Items Added to the Agenda

Deputy Warden MacNeil indicated that Warden Boudreau wished to add items regarding a proposal for council participation in un-owned infrastructure project, and fire protection, Councillor Martell wished to add Richmond County Transfer Station hours of operation and Janvrin's Fest grant request and Councillor Johnson wished to add a grant request from the Salmon River Community Association.

Councillor David requested and received unanimous consent to add a grant request for DIMA in the amount of \$1,500 from his District Infrastructure Fund.

Councillor Martell noted that the grant requests added should be addressed at the same time that all other grant requests are brought forward.

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

Review of Minutes: May 3, 2010

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor Johnson that the minutes of May 3, 2010 be adopted as presented. **Motion carried.**

Official Naming of Acting CAO

Moved by Warden Boudreau, **seconded by** Councillor McNamara that Mrs. Karen Doyle, Municipal Clerk, be officially appointed to the position of Acting CAO until the position is filled. **Motion carried.**

Recorded Presentation: Arichat Recreation Commission re: Wellness Centre

The Committee observed a recorded presentation made by Mr. Bruce Joshua regarding the proposed Wellness Centre.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The ARC is proposing that the facility be attached to the school, which some councillors indicated they could not support.
- The facility cannot be constructed on land owned by a school board, noting that when school's close the land and building is often conveyed to the municipality
- It is great to see the technology used in the presentation.
- This is a very worthwhile project and the ARC is seeking moral support or a letter of support that will enable them to secure external funding.
- Concern was expressed regarding the location of the proposed facility, noting that it should be something that is centrally located in the county where all residents can benefit.
- The Recreation Department should be involved in the process.
- The ARC is looking for an expression of interest from the Municipality.
- There should be senior staff and Council involvement in the task force.
- Council must make it clear if they wish to provide the organization with a letter of support or expression of interest, that there is a limit to the support and it does not involve any financial commitment from the Municipality.
- There are so many centers and community halls, existing infrastructure, that is underutilized in Richmond and it may be wiser to use existing facilities rather than constructing a new facility.
- The best scenario with how the proposed facility will be able to sustain itself must be determined.
- It should be clarified what the organization is requesting, noting that an expression of interest can mean many things and the level of involvement must be made clear before proceeding.
- It was noted that it must be made clear that Council is not in support of the recommendations in the study but rather the principles of the project.
- If ARC can get \$1.7 million in outside funding for infrastructure then they should take advantage of this opportunity.
- Concern was expressed regarding the business case and if it would be able to sustain itself.

Moved by Councillor Martell, **seconded by** Councillor Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council to issue a letter of support to the Arichat Recreation Commission for the Wellness Centre Project, however before any further financial commitment can be considered by Council to this project the organization must approach council with a sound business case. **Motion carried.**

Chief Financial Officer re:

- (i) 2010/11 Budget

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council to approve an expenditure of \$100,000 for physician recruitment to be recorded in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010. **Motion carried.**

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The municipal budget has been adjusted to produce a residential rate of .75 cents per \$100 of assessment, an increase of three cents from last year's rate, and a commercial rate of \$2.01 per \$100 of assessment, increased due to recover the loss of the business occupancy assessment.
- A note will be circulated in all commercial tax bills to explain the increase.
- Mr. MacDonald was commended for his work on the budget.

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council to approve the Municipal Budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year as presented by the Chief Financial Officer. **Motion carried.**

(ii) Area Rates

Moved by Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer and that the following area rates, per \$100 of assessment, be approved for the 2010-2011 fiscal year:

St. Peter's Fire Dept.	0.09
West Bay Road Fire Dept.	0.10
L'Ardoise Fire Dept.	0.16
Grand River Fire Dept.	0.15
Loch Lomond Fire Dept.	0.12
Louisdale Fire Dept.	0.10
Framboise Fourchu Fire Dept.	0.15
Isle Madame Fire Dept.	0.11
District #10 Fire Dept.	0.15
Louisdale Sidewalks	0.10
District #2 Community Rate	0.04
District #4 Community Rate	0.05

And Further Move that the St. Peter's VSA rate be approved conditional on them providing the Municipality with the rate by July 31, 2010. **Motion carried.**

(iii) Capital Investment Plan

Mr. MacDonald indicated that establishing a Capital Investment Plan is an important gas tax reporting requirement, requiring Council to approve a five year investment plan. This plan is not written in stone and is used as more of a guideline.

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer and that the following Capital Investment Plan for the year ending March 31, 2011 be approved:

<u>Project:</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Inf.</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Gas Tx.</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Other Mun.</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>LT</u> <u>Debt</u>	<u>Total</u>
Arichat Sewer	1,120,136	500,000	125,000	-	495,136	1,120,136
Evanston Sewer	2,322,388	1,505,000	376,250	-	441,138	2,322,388
West Arichat Sewer	7,400,000	-	-	-	-	-
Louisdale WTP	2,200,000	-	-	-	-	-
Louis. Water Main	50,000	-	32,605	17,395	-	50,000
Little Barac. Extens.	159,300	-	131,300	28,000	-	159,300

Motion carried.

Appointment to St. Anne’s Community and Nursing Care Centre Board

Moved by Warden Boudreau, seconded by Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that Councillor Malcolm Beaton be appointed as municipal representative on the St. Anne’s Community and Nursing Care Centre Board. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence:

(a) Solicitor re:

- (i) Draft By-Law #58, Burning By-Law

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Council referred this by-law back to the Solicitor for review
- The Solicitor is recommending that it prohibits not only grass fires but also include brush fires and “standing” be removed from references.
- The Solicitor has suggested to review the penalties and enforcement provisions in the document
- The input from the Solicitor brings things one step further.

It was the consensus of the Committee that this by-law be further reviewed by the new CAO, to work forward on this project with the Solicitor.

- (ii) Policy for Participation in Private and Public Infrastructure Projects

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Such a policy would be for those infrastructure projects that do not fall within the parameters of existing funding policies
- The Solicitor is recommending keeping the policy as simple and flexible as possible and not imposing unnecessary restrictions.
- It was noted that the Municipality currently has \$47,000 set aside as a budget item for such projects.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Warden Boudreau that the Committee recommend to Council that notice be given to adopt the Policy for Participation in Private and Public Infrastructure Projects. **Motion carried.**

(b) Eastern District Planning Commission re:

- Raymond O’Toole Property, Evanston
- Poirier Garage, D’Escousse

Moved by Councillor McNamara, **seconded by** Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued and that the order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to Mr. Raymond O’Toole for property PID #75101493 and AAN #09081445, instructing that the structure be demolished and all debris from the property be removed within 30 days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover costs through property taxes. **Motion carried.**

Moved by Councillor Beaton, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued and that the order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to Mr. Russell Poirier and Mr. Claude Poirier for property PID# 75017822, AAN# 03778983, instructing that the structure be demolished and all debris from the property be removed within 30 days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover costs through property taxes. **Motion carried.**

(c) Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office re: Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) Project

For information.

(d) FEED Nova Scotia re: Hunger Awareness Day

Moved by Councillor Johnson, **seconded by** Councillor McNamara that the Committee proclaim June 7, 2010 as “Hunger Awareness Day” in Richmond County. **Motion carried.**

It was noted that the proclamation has already been prepared, signed and sent to FEED Nova Scotia.

(e) Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities re: Proposed Federal Wastewater Regulations

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The Department of the Environment did an excellent presentation regarding Federal Wastewater Management and drinking water, suggesting that perhaps they be requested to make a similar presentation to Council.
- Concern was expressed regarding the costs associated with such downloading from the province.
- This issue was addressed at the FCM conference, noting that there must be a cost sharing arrangement in place before municipalities can support these new regulations

Moved by Councillor Sampson, **seconded by** Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that a letter be written to the Federal Minister of the Environment, The Honourable Jim Prentice, the Provincial Minister of the Environment, The Honourable Sterling Belliveau, as well as their local Members of Parliament and Members of the Legislative Assembly outlining the municipality's concerns with the regulations and asking that a tri-party funding agreement be put in place to share in the cost of implementing the new Federal regulations. **Motion carried.**

(f) Vested Property Clerk re: Allan & Ruth Savoury

Moved by Councillor Beaton, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Vested Property Clerk and that a tax reduction due to fire be approved in the amount of \$198.16 for the property of Allan and Ruth Savoury, account #4160614 for the period January 1, 2010 to March 31, 2010. **Motion carried.**

(g) Mrs. Tracy Randall re:

- Arichat Recreation Commission, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #1 (\$5,000);
- Our Lady of Assumption Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #1 (\$7,000);
- Our Lady of Assumption CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #1 (\$300);
- Arichat Community Development Association, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #1 (\$1,500);
- Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 150 Ladies Auxiliary, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #1 (\$1,500);
- Petit De Grat CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2 (\$250);
- Université Sainte Anne, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #2 (\$5,000);

- Festival Acadien de Petit De Grat, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2 (\$250);
- Société Petit De Grat Beautification Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #2 (\$5,000);
- Société Petit De Grat Beautification Society, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2 (\$700);
- Little Anse Social Action Club, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2 (\$250);
- Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 150 Ladies Auxiliary, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2 (\$400);
- Rocky Bay Irish Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #3 (\$5,000);
- Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund – District #3 (\$1,700);
- Louisdale Girl Guides, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #6 (\$500);
- St. Louis Parish Baraco Days Festival, Municipal District Activity Fund - District #6 (\$500);
- Calvin Presbyterian Church, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #10 (\$5,441.58).

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council that the following grant requests be approved:

- \$5,000 to the Arichat Recreation Commission with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #1;
- \$7,000 Our Lady of Assumption Parish with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #1;
- \$300 to Our Lady of Assumption CWL with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #1 (\$300);
- \$1,500 to the Arichat Community Development Association with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #1;
- \$1,500 to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 150 Ladies Auxiliary with funds to be taken from Municipal District Activity Fund - District #1 (\$1,500);
- \$250 to the Petit De Grat CWL with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2;
- \$5,000 to Université Sainte Anne with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #2;
- \$250 to the Festival Acadien de Petit De Grat with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2;
- \$5,000 to the Société Petit De Grat Beautification Society with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #2;
- \$700 to the Société Petit De Grat Beautification Society with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2;
- \$250 to the Little Anse Social Action Club with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2;

- \$400 to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 150 Ladies Auxiliary with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #2;
- \$5,000 to the Rocky Bay Irish Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #3 conditional on the organization providing the Municipality with their Registry of Joint Stock renewal and verification of “Active “ status;
- \$1,700 to the Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund – District #3;
- \$500 to the Louisdale Girl Guides with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #6;
- \$500 to the St. Louis Parish Baraco Days Festival with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund - District #6;
- \$5,441.58 to the Calvin Presbyterian Church with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund - District #10;
- \$1,500 to DIMA with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund for District #1;
- \$600 to the Janvrin’s Island Community Centre with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund for District #4;
- \$5,000 to the Salmon River Community Association with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund for District #10.

Motion carried.

List of Cheques Issued: April and May 2010

Councillor David declared a conflict of interest with regards to the list of cheques issued, noting that his business is listed as receiving cheques.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, **seconded by** Boucher that the list of Cheques for the month of April 2010 in the amount of \$1,986,173.82 and May 2010 in the amount of \$1,145,172.52 be accepted as presented. **Motion carried.**

Items Added to the Agenda

(1) Warden Boudreau re:

(i) Proposal for Council Participation in Un-Owned Infrastructure Project

Warden Boudreau indicated that Councillor Marchand requested that he bring this item forward to the Committee.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Mr. David Landry is requesting municipal participation with the development of 8 lots in the amount of \$13,500.
- Mr. Landry has applied to the District Planning Commission and has gotten plans drawn up by Strait Engineering.

- The Director of Public Works has also approved Mr. Landry's project, noting that the Director is requesting that Strait Engineering signs off on the plans first.
- It was noted that Mr. Landry sent a letter to Council on May 14th requesting a contribution to the project, noting that no amounts are indicted in his correspondence.
- It was noted that \$47,500 has been budgeted for such projects.
- It was noted that something should be requested from the developer formally requesting an amount from Council.
- It was noted that the developer be requested to his business case, including a formal request, plans and financial information before moving forward.
- It was suggested that the Director of Public Works be requested to provide a report to Council on this development project for Monday's Council meeting.
- It was noted that these types of projects would be examined on a case by case basis.
- Additional information has been requested from the developer on several occasions in order to facilitate a formal request to Council, however nothing was received.
- It was noted that individual councillors cannot request reports from staff, this request must come from Council and that is why there has been no report from the Director of Public Works regarding this project.
- It was noted that the original request was in the area of \$7,000-\$10,000.

Moved by Councillor Marchand, **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council to support the principles of the draft Policy for Participation in Private and Public Infrastructure Projects and that a municipal contribution in the amount of \$13,500 to Mr. David Landry be approved for the development of eight serviced lots located in Louisdale. **Motion carried.**

(ii) Fire Protection

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The Village pays \$80,000 per year to the St. Peter's Sampsonville Water Utility for fire protections and they also pay the same amount to the Municipality for fire protection.
- It was noted that the Village Commission has significant operations and responsibilities.
- It was suggested that council consider in the next two fiscal years to include \$40,000 in the budget to eliminate the double taxing.
- It was agreed that this was a very fair way of approaching this issue.
- It is amazing that they can maintain operations in consideration of their budget.
- The dynamics of this option will have to be further examined.

(2) Councillor Martell re:

(i) Richmond County Transfer Station Hours of Operation

Moved by Councillor Martell, **seconded by** Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that the Richmond County Transfer Station Hours of Operation be Monday to Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from April to September inclusive and further move that Council direct the Director of Public Works to start this process immediately. **Motion carried.**

(ii) Janvrin's Fest Grant Request

Previously addressed.

(3) Councillor Johnson re: Salmon River Community Association Grant Request

Previously addressed.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions.

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

An "In-Camera" session was held to discuss a personnel issue and water and sewer issue involving a legal opinion.

Deputy Warden MacNeil re-convened the regular session at 9:12 p.m.

Moved by Warden Boudreau, **seconded by** Councillor Marchand that Councillor Marchand, the Director of Public Works and Warden Boudreau meet with the proponents to see if they are interested in finding a solution for installation of water service from the end of Duncan Rd. to the Louisdale Sewage Treatment Plant on Island View Drive. **Motion carried.**

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded by** Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council that those staff that have capacity for lateral movement on their salary scale be provided with an average increase of 2.5% merit increase for the current year; and further moved that an additional 3% salary increase be approved for Mrs. Karen Doyle and Mrs. Tracy Randall, as compensation for additional duties being assigned to them. **Motion carried.**

Adjournment

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.