

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 7, 2010

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Boudreau indicated that he wished to add an item regarding a grant request from La Picasse, Municipal District Activity Fund (District #2); Councillor David wished to add an item regarding a grant request for the Kavanaugh Columbus Club.

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

Review of Minutes:

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded** by Councillor McNamara that the minutes of June 7, 2010 be adopted as presented. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence:

Warden Boudreau moved an agenda item to be discussed prior to the Staff Reports.

- a) Solicitors/Eastern District Planning Commission re: (i) Demolition Order - Raymond B. O'Toole

Warden Boudreau indicated that information was obtained late this afternoon regarding the demolition order for the Raymond B. O'Toole property.

Warden Boudreau indicated that a request has been made to have this item postponed to a later date in order to give the parties involved the opportunity to discuss the new information with their solicitor.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It was noted that our solicitor received the correspondence and concurs that the other parties involved should be given the opportunity to review the information received today.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded** by Councillor Martell that the Demolition Order for the property of Raymond B. O’Toole be postponed until the last Committee of the Whole meeting in September 2010. **Motion carried.**

Staff Reports:

(a) Director of Public Works re: Status Report

Warden Boudreau welcomed Mr. McLean to the meeting.

Mr. McLean provided an overview on the on-going projects taking place with the Public Works department. (Copy attached)

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It was noted that the wastewater project for District #4 is on the Capital Project list and to date no funding program has been made available for a project of that nature.
- Mr. McLean was praised for his work in completing the Barrachois water extension project.
- It was noted that staff is confident that the ice surface at the Richmond Arena will be ready for mid-October 2010.
- It was noted that there is great work being done at the Arena.
- It was noted that the new zamboni will arrive on time for the upcoming season; staff have put in a lot of work and dedication to ensuring the Arena is ready and over the course of the next several years more work will be completed to help sustain the day-to-day operation of the building.
- It was noted that given the limited time frame to prepare for the upcoming ice season, a short term plan has been devised; however, a long term plan will be made available to Council for the Richmond Arena.
- It was noted that the heavy garbage is put out too early and the scavengers make a mess of the items, prior to the haulers picking it up.
- It was noted that the haulers are taking much longer to be pick up the heavy garbage, which goes beyond what is noted in the schedule.
- Mr. McLean will review the contract with the heavy garbage collectors and discuss the importance of having the items picked up as soon as possible.
- It was noted that the patch of pavement in front of Sporty’s Take Out needs to be repaired.
- Mr. McLean will contact the contractor and review the contract with them as there are stipulations and deadlines regarding that project.

Warden Boudreau thanked Mr. McLean for his presentation.

Director of Tourism, Culture and Recreation/C.A.O. re: Retirement Notice:

The CAO reported that the Director of Tourism, Culture and Recreation has submitted his resignation. (Copy attached)

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded** by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the retirement of Mr. Clifford Boudreau, Director of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, effective April 1, 2011. **Motion carried.**

Warden Boudreau re: (i) Staff Training

Warden Boudreau indicated he would like to have a formal policy developed.

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded** by Councillor Martell that the CAO prepare a list of all the staff training and bring forward, to Council, a policy that would address future request. **Motion carried.**

(ii) Proposed Veterans Memorial Monument

Warden Boudreau indicated that in a previous meeting all Councillors agreed to fund fifty percent of the proposed Veterans Memorial Monument project via their Municipal District Infrastructure Fund with the remaining funds to be taken from general revenue.

Moved by Councillor Martell, **seconded** by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that the proposed Veterans Memorial Monument Project move forward, with 50% of the funding to be taken equally from all Councillors' Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, and 50% to be taken from general revenue. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence:

- a) Solicitors/Eastern District Planning Commission re: (i) Demolition Order - Raymond B. O'Toole

Previously dealt with in the meeting.

- b) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Property of Peter Berrett

The CAO indicated that a request has been submitted by the Eastern District Planning Commission that the Municipality consider applying a court of competent jurisdiction for a declaration that the property is unsightly and a request be made to the Court for an order to remedy the condition by removal be made, in accordance with Section 347(1) of the Municipal Government Act.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It was noted that there have been issues with the property for some time now and it is time to act and have the property cleaned.
- It was noted that the Department of Environment should be involved due to substance leaking from derelict vehicles.
- It was noted that when the property appears to be cleaned up, the items are in fact taken from the front of the property and moved to the back.

Moved by Councillor Martell, **seconded** by Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Chief Administrative Officer and further investigate this matter to ensure that all avenues have been considered regarding the removal of materials from the unsightly property of Peter Berrett in District #9. **Motion carried.**

- c) Department of the Environment re: Arrow/Kurdistan Project Update

The CAO received correspondence regarding the Arrow/Kurdistan Project and reported the following:

- The consultants started at the site in Richmond County on July 26, 2010
- A description of the project and sites is available at www.gov.ns.ca/nse/contaminatedsites/arrow.kurdistan.asp

d) Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency re: Request for Funding/Permission Regarding Proposed District Energy System

Councillor Beaton declared a conflict of interested because his son is an employee of the Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency and removed himself from discussions.

The CAO indicated that the Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency is seeking permission from all participating municipalities to explore the energy source model for the district energy system.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- In addition, this organization is also seeking a funding request in the amount of \$12,000, which is 9.64% of the project cost.
- It was noted that this is a worthwhile project.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded** by Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Chief Administrative Officer and that funding in the amount of \$12,000 be provided to the Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency for the proposed District Energy System Study, with funding to be taken from economic development. **Motion carried.**

e) Citizenship and Immigration Canada re: Canada's New Multicultural Grants and Contributions Program

The CAO reported that information is available regarding the Canada's New Multicultural grants and contributions program and this will be discussed at the executive level.

f) Chief Financial Officer re: Deed Transfer Tax By-Law

The CAO reported that the CFO provided a summary of the deed transfer tax rates for all municipal units in the province.

In order to be more consistent with rates charged across the province, the CFO is recommending an increase from one-half to one percent; which will generate additional revenue of approximately \$40,000 per year.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded** by Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer and that By-Law #43, Deed Transfer Tax By-Law be amended to increase the deed transfer tax rate from the current one half of one percent to one percent. **Motion carried.**

g) Mrs. Tracy Randall re: Grant Requests:

- (i) St. Hyacinth's Parish Council, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3 (\$250);
- (ii) Rocky Bay Irish Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3 (\$250);
- (iii) St. John The Baptist Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #7 (\$5,000);
- (iv) Camp Rankin, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, Multiple Districts (\$10,000).

It was consensus to include the grant request submitted via items added.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded** by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council the approval of the following grant requests:

- \$250, St. Hyacinth's Parish Council, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3;
- \$250, Rocky Bay Irish Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3;
- \$5,000, St. John The Baptist Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #7;
- \$10,000, Camp Rankin, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$400, La Picasse, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #2;
- \$316, Kavanaugh Columbus Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #1.

Motion carried.

Lists of Cheques Issued: June, July and August, 2010:

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded** by Councillor Johnson that list of cheques issued for June, in the amount of \$1,071,832.99; July in the amount of \$1,101,291.71; and August in the amount of \$1,028,945.63 be approved. **Motion carried.**

Items Added to the Agenda:

The items added have already been dealt with.

Fifteen Minute Question Period:

There were no questions from the gallery.

In Camera:

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded** by Councillor David that the meeting proceed to “In-Camera” session. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, **seconded** by Councillor McNamara that the meeting reconvene to regular session. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, **seconded** by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that a Committee be established, consisting of three Council members (Warden and two Councillors) and three senior staff persons, to discuss and review the Municipality’s defined benefits pension plan. **Motion carried.**

Moved by Councillor Boucher, **seconded** by Councillor McNamara that the policy for Participation in Private and Public Infrastructure Projects, as outlined by the Solicitor and reviewed by the Committee of the Whole be adopted. **Motion carried.**

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded** by Councillor Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Chief Administrative Officer and implement the short-term plan for staffing the Richmond Arena. **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 8:59 p.m.