

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

OCTOBER 4, 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 there were two items added to tonight's agenda; Warden Boudreau wished to add Extended Opening of Battery Park and Councillor Marchand wished to add the Withdrawal of \$1,000 donation to Veteran's Memorial Park.

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

Review of Minutes: September 27, 2010

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the minutes of September 27, 2010 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

(a) C.A.O. re: Status Report

The CAO presented a Power Point Presentation summarizing the work that he has been involved in since he took over as CAO on August 16th, also presenting some short term and long term initiatives (copy of presentation attached).

Councillors were very thankful for the update, commending Mr. Olsen on what he has accomplished in such a short time.

Warden Boudreau re:

(i) Hours of Work

Warden Boudreau requested that Council consider the concept of changing hours of operation of the Municipal Office so that there will be extended hours on Wednesday and Thursday and the office will close at noon on Friday.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Extended work hours would make services at the Municipal Office more accessible to the working public.
- These extended hours would also have to work for staff.
- It should be determined how the public will perceive the office being closed on Friday afternoon.

(ii) Additional Representative from Isle Madame for Police Services Advisory Committee

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Councillor Johnson and Councillor Sampson were the current members of Council serving on the Police Services Advisory Committee.
- The Committee is requesting that one additional Council member be appointed, preferably from Isle Madame.
- Councillor Martell volunteered to serve as the member of Council from Isle Madame on the Police Services Advisory Committee.

Warden Boudreau indicated that he will notify the Committee that Councillor Martell will be the additional member from Isle Madame.

(iii) Additional RCMP Officer

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The Committee is requesting funding to pay for an additional Community Services Officer.
- The additional request comes after issues that have arisen with the school in St. Peter's, noting that the additional officer will be a school/community liaison position.
- This is a large budget item and until the details of the new 2012 contract are determined, no commitment should be made.
- It was suggested that the RCMP make a presentation to Council to justify the additional position being requested.
- The per capita representation of RCMP officers in Richmond is already quite significant and Richmond is not a high crime area.
- Such funds would be better spent on physician recruitment because of Richmond's aging population.

- There will be additional financial demands placed upon the Municipality for education as well.
- It was agreed that a response be sent to the Police Services Advisory Committee indicating that no decisions regarding the additional officer will be made until after the 2012 proposed RCMP budget is reviewed.
- Preparing reports poses a great demand on officer's time.

Report from Physician Recruitment Committee Chair Councillor Sampson

Councillor Sampson presented a report on the efforts and progress of the Physician Recruitment Committee.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Efforts are headed in a very positive direction
- Council has dedicated funds towards physician/health care provider professional recruitment.
- There are several students from Richmond County that are approaching their time to practice (4 doctors and 1 x-ray technician) and have shown a keen interest to return to Richmond.
- Councillor Sampson and Warden Boudreau met with GASHA Chief of Staff who has indicated that he is very pleased to hear the initiatives/incentives that are being put into recruiting.
- The Physician Recruitment Committee had a very productive meeting with key stakeholders.
- In order to be successful there must be a collaborative effort from all stakeholders.
- It is imperative to develop a template/incentive package to attract these health care professionals to Richmond.
- The Committee will be requesting some legal advice from the Solicitor regarding the incentive packages to recruits.

Deputy Warden MacNeil re: Request for Alternate Member on the Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia

Deputy Warden MacNeil indicated that the Fire Chief in St. Peter's is the current member for Richmond serving on the Fire Services Association of Nova Scotia, noting that an alternate was never chosen.

It was requested that Councillors speak with their local fire departments to determine if there is anyone that would be interested in serving as alternate and submit the name to Mrs. Doyle.

Correspondence:

(a) Arichat Recreation Commission/Warden Boudreau re: Health and Wellness Centre Project

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The Arichat Recreation Commission is currently looking at a concept design to see if they can find something that will fit their budget for the new facility.
- They are seeking \$2,000 from the Municipality towards final touches on the package that will be presented to stakeholders.
- This money is available in the Recreation Budget.
- The remaining \$8,000 will be obtained from funding agencies.
- The Municipality has already put \$15,000 towards this project.

Moved by Warden Boudreau, seconded by Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that funding in the amount of \$2,000 be approved for the Arichat Recreation Commission towards the preparation of a concept design package that will be presented to stakeholders with the funding to be taken from the Tourism, Culture and Recreation Budget. Motion carried.

(b) Mrs. Tracy Randall re: Grant Request -Destination Richmond Tourism Cooperative - Municipal District Activity Fund, District #8 (\$500)

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council to approve the grant request from Destination Richmond Tourism Co-operative in the amount of \$500 and that funds be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund for District #8. Motion carried.

List of Cheques Issued: September, 2010

Councillor David declared a conflict of interest with regards to the List of Cheques Issued for the month of September 2010, indicating that his business is listed as receiving cheques.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the List of Cheques Issued for the month of September 2010, in the amount of \$1,445,853.00, be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

(1) Warden Boudreau re: Extended Opening for Battery Park

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Councillors have been sent correspondence requesting support to extend the opening of Battery Park in St. Peter's.
- Celtic Colours bring a lot of tourists to the area and many of them have RV's.
- There has been a major investment in park facilities over the past few years.
- A letter from Council as a whole may have more influence.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that a letter be sent to the Department of Natural Resources expressing Council's support to extend the opening of Battery Park in St. Peter's. Motion carried.

(2) Councillor Marchand re: Withdrawal of \$1,000 donation to Veteran's Memorial Park

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- It was noted that withdrawal of the \$1,000 contribution may reflect badly on Councillor Marchand.
- It was noted that these funds are required for projects in District #6.
- Since there has been no action taken on the original approval, then changes can still be made.

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

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions

"In-Camera" Session, if required

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

Deputy Warden MacNeil re-convened the regular meeting at 8:10 PM

Adjournment

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 8:11 PM.