

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 27, 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 the C.A.O. wished to add Legislative Review of the Province's Heritage Property Act; Councillor McNamara requested unanimous consent to add the Raise A Reader Program from the Richmond County Literacy Network.

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

Warden Boudreau requested and received unanimous consent to move correspondence (a) to the top of the agenda.

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

Mr. Brunt, solicitor for Mr. Mark and Mrs. Theresa Cavanaugh, was present via teleconference and made the following points:

- Mr. Brunt indicated that Mr. and Mrs. Cavanaugh have possessory interest with a lease to purchase agreement for the Raymond B. O'Toole property being discussed this evening.
- Mr. Brunt indicated that Mr. and Mrs. Cavanaugh have made renovations to the interior of the structure on the property in question, upon being made aware of the demolition order and have provided a copy of the photos to the Committee. (Copy attached)

Warden Boudreau invited Mr. John Bain of the Eastern District Planning Commission to speak.

Mr. Bain presented the following:

- The property listed on the demolition order is owned by Mr. Raymond B. O'Toole.
- The mobile home situated on the property is in serious state of disrepair.

- The only repair made, to the knowledge of the Eastern District Planning Commission, to the exterior of the structure is a step built on the front of the mobile home.
- Mr. Bain visited the property on September 14, 2010 to post the order.
- Concerns with the property are vastly beyond being addressed by building a step.
- In 2007, 90 plus residents signed a complaint regarding the property, in which Mr. O'Toole indicated that the building was abandoned.
- The state of the structure does appear to be abandoned (i.e.: oil tanks on their side, appears to be infested by rodents, etc).
- The building inspector is present.
- There is no demolition order that has been issued, rather a recommendation by the Eastern District Planning Commission to proceed with the order.

Warden Boudreau thanked Mr. Bain for his presentation and provided an opportunity for any further presentation of material only.

Warden Boudreau welcomed Mr. Leon LeBlanc, Building Inspector to the meeting.

Mr. LeBlanc presented the following:

- Prior to issuing a building permit for repairs to a structure of this sort he would require a report from a certified engineer on the structural state of the building, a report from a certified electrical engineer, a report from a certified burner technician.
- Upon receipt of such reports, he would review and determine if such a building is repairable.
- The cost to repair this building out ways the value of the structure.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It was noted that the Committee of the Whole objective is to make a decision on the recommendation of the Eastern District Planning Commission.
- The property has been a file of the Eastern District Planning Commission since 2007.

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded** by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Eastern District Planning Commission and proceed with the remedial order for demolition of the Raymond B. O'Toole property, 989 Evanston Road, Evanston, Lot 6, Richmond County, Nova Scotia, being identified by PID 75101493 and AAN 09081445. **Motion carried.**

Review of Minutes: September 7, 2010

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

Presentations:

Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations (Patti MacAulay) re: BizPaL Update Session:

Warden Boudreau welcomed Ms. Patti MacAulay, Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations to the meeting.

Ms. MacAulay made a presentation regarding BizPal Update Session. (Copy attached).

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It was noted that it would be great to promote the benefits available to small business in Richmond County.
- It was noted that there is no cost for this service.
- It was noted that this program does not interfere with local organizations that offer similar services, but is used to compliment such groups.
- It was noted that this is valuable tool for all groups involved.
- It was noted that Ms. MacAulay should speak with the Communications and Economic Activity Coordinator to discuss this program further and how Richmond County can become involved.

Warden Boudreau thanked Ms. MacAulay for her presentation.

Staff Reports:

- (a) Director of Public Works/Chief Financial Officer re: Update Regarding Sewer Line for Western End of Hospital Road, Evanston

The C.A.O. indicated that this project can only move forward if PCAP funding is available.

Moved by Councillor McNamara, **seconded** by Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council that the Director of Public Works complete the PCAP application for the sewer line extension for the western end of Hospital Road and request 50 percent funding for the project. **Motion carried.**

(b) Director of Tourism, Culture and Recreation re: Status Report
Warden Boudreau welcomed Mr. Clifford Boudreau to the meeting.

Mr. Boudreau provided a status report on the activities of the Tourism, Culture and Recreation Department.

Mr. Boudreau noted the following:

- Lifeguard services for Point Michaud Beach were established successfully, the partnership with Department of Natural Resources and Nova Scotia Lifeguard Service worked well.
- Seven students were employed for various activities.
- Three organizations were assisted with project applications.
- Advertising has begun for interested members to apply to sit on the Recreation Advisory Committee.
- The fall newsletter has been sent to all households and posted on the County website.
- Work on the Arena is on schedule for mid-October opening, the new zamboni has been ordered and scheduled to arrive October 1, 2010. An official opening will take place on October 17, 2010.
- The department will continue to work with the community on the physical activity strategy. Training has been organized for instructors which will enable the County to provide more opportunities for residents to become more physically active.
- Tourism visitation, as of the end of August, is on par with last year.
- The department is working with the solicitor to develop a policy to screen instructors and volunteers that work with youth.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- It was noted that if the lifeguard service is to be provided again next year, preparation should begin earlier. (ie: January 2011)
- Mr. Boudreau and his staff were thanked for their assistance with the St. Peter's Lions Club project.
- Mr. Boudreau and his staff were thanked for all their great work and efforts in providing excellent activities this summer.
- It was noted that staff will be approached to attend the Trails workshop.
- It was noted that the Municipality should inquire about providing sponsorship for lifeguard training for the beaches to ensure qualified persons are available for the summer months.

- Mr. Boudreau will obtain tourism numbers from the Causeway Visitation Centre for a more accurate picture of the visitation to Cape Breton.

Warden Boudreau thanked Mr. Boudreau from his report.

(c) C.A.O. re: Council/Staff Representative on Council External Boards

The C.A.O. indicated that there currently is no policy to deal with Staff/Council who are members on external boards.

The C.A.O. is seeking the support of the Council to draft such a policy.

Moved by Councillor David, **seconded** by Councillor Boucher that the C.A.O. be given a mandate to move forward with drafting a policy for Staff/Council who are members of external boards. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence:

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

Previously dealt with.

- (b) Property Innovation Council re: Single Address Initiative – Phase I Report

The C.A.O. reviewed the initiative phase I. (Copy attached)

The C.A.O. will meet with the Eastern District Planning Commission staff and report on the phase II of the Single Address Initiative.

- (c) Jon Kommes re: Formal Complaint/Mr. Pettipas – Pettipas Market

The C.A.O. received a formal complaint regarding Pettipas Market.

The C.A.O. indicated that this item will be placed on the Mayors and Wardens agenda for discussion at their next meeting.

- (d) Jill Kirby/Dorothy's Pets in Need re: Request for Funding under the Councillors' District Activity Fund

The C.A.O. indicated that a request for funding has been put forth and those Councillors who are interested can inform Mrs. Tracy Randall.

- (e) Mrs. Tracy Randall re: Grant Requests
- D'Escousse Civic Improvement Society, Municipal District Infrastructure

- Fund, District #3 (\$5,000);
- L'Ardoise Men's Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #9 (\$500);
- Sacred Heart Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #10 (\$14,000)

Moved by Councillor Beaton, **seconded** by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that the following grants be approved:

- D'Escousse Civic Improvement Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3 (\$5,000);
- L'Ardoise Men's Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #9 (\$500);
- Sacred Heart Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #10 (\$14,000)

Motion carried.

- (f) Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities re: Wind Energy Development questionnaire

The C.A.O. received this information and will forward to the Communications and Economic Activities Coordinator to complete.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, **seconded** by Councillor David that the Communications and Economic Activities Coordinator complete the Wind Energy Development questionnaire, with the assistance of the Director of Public Works, if required. **Motion carried.**

Items Added to the Agenda

1. C.A.O. re: Legislative Review of the Province's Heritage Property Act

The C.A.O. indicated that there are three meetings with the closest taking place in Sydney on Wednesday September 29, 2010; however, the information can be provided via the web.

It was the consensus to have the information completed online.

2. Councillor McNamara re: Raise a Reader Campaign

Councillor McNamara indicated that the Richmond County Literacy Network is participating in the Raise a Reader campaign. All funds raised by the Richmond County Literacy Network will be matched.

Councillor McNamara is seeking support for all Councillors who are interested in committing a donation from the Municipal Activity Fund. If interested, Councillors can contact Councillor McNamara or Mrs. Millie Hatt.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

Adjournment

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 8:14 p.m.