

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

NOVEMBER 29, 2010

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Deputy Warden Martell 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 a request from the Strait Area Curling Club, a DIMA grant request that went into the wrong category and the creation of a committee to review the “Grants to Charitable and Not-for-Profit Groups” and that Councillor MacNeil wished to add the “Man in Motion” 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour.

**Moved by** Councillor MacNeil and **seconded by** Councillor Boucher that the items added be accepted as presented. **Motion carried.**

### Review of Minutes: November 1, 2010

**Moved by** Councillor McNamara, **seconded by** Councillor MacNeil that the minutes of November 1, 2010 be adopted as presented. **Motion carried.**

### Presentation: Joint Occupational Health & Safety Program

Mr. Darrin McLean presented a Power Point Presentation (copy attached).

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- “Due diligence” should also be emphasized
- The program attempts to actively seek out hazards before they become a problem.
- It is everyone’s responsibility for safety in the workplace.
- The Municipality’s SOP #14 Contracting Out outlines the roles of depended and non-dependent contractors regarding OH&S, noting that smaller contractors fall under the Municipality’s OH&S program where larger contractors have their own program, but the Municipality still carries out compliance inspections.
- The Municipality is responsible for OH&S no matter who they contract with.

- The Municipality has stopped work on sites where they feel that contractors are not complying.
- Municipal staff will also be required to attend a similar presentation on OH&S.
- The site of the new Evanston Sewage Treatment Plant is visited approximately once per week to carry out workplace compliance inspections.
- Department of Labor enforces the OH&S Act but will not act as a consultant. The majority of their involvement happens when there is an accident/incident.

The Committee thanked Mr. MacLean for his presentation.

Chief Financial Officer re: Review of Projected Financial Statement

Mr. Stewart MacDonald reviewed the Municipality's projected financial results to October 31, 2010.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The one time revenue item in the amount of \$800,000 as a result from the New Page/NSP deal has been transferred within the projection to general revenue.
- Mr. MacDonald reviewed the surpluses and variances.
- As a result of the purchase of assets by NSPI from New Page their assessment will increase, however that number cannot yet be determined as it will be a portion of the overall percentage of NSP assets in the province.
- The assessment of New Page will not change as there is a tax agreement in place.
- It was noted that only the land and building are taxable, not the machinery and equipment.
- It was noted that the project tax income for the windmills in Point Tupper is \$19,000 for 2 ½ months and that for the full year is will be approximately \$140,000.
- The Province has set the tax rates for windmills, as set in legislation which is based on the potential power output of the windmill.

The Committee thanked Mr. MacDonald for his presentation.

C.A.O. re: New Richmond Logo

The CAO presented a brief Power Point Presentation regarding the proposed new Richmond Logo (copy attached).

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Most people are unaware of the meaning of the symbols within the logo and perhaps these elements should be expanded upon.
- It would be nice to have new vision/thoughts on the logo.

- Richmond is a fishing and forestry region and these elements should be incorporated.
- If too many elements are incorporated then the logo would be too busy.
- The current logo has been used since the 1970's.
- Perhaps other counties be approached on how they developed their logos.

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor Beaton that the Committee recommend to Council that the proposed New Richmond Logo be approved as presented. **Motion carried.** (3 nays – Councillor Sampson, Councillor McNamara and Councillor David)

Correspondence:

(a) Director of Public Works re: Louisdale/Evanston/Whiteside Water Treatment Plant Pilot Testing/Pre-Design Report Update

Mr. Darrin McLean, Director of Public Works, summarized the Report.

The following points were brought forward during discussions:

- Two different treatment plant supplier companies did tests on the system to address the iron and manganese levels and both treatments processes worked to a satisfactory level.
- PCAP funding was received to do the study and costs of both systems were similar at approximately \$2.25 million plus applicable taxes.
- To meet future capacity it was suggested that an additional well be drilled at an additional cost of \$440,000 plus applicable taxes.
- This project is already on the Municipality's Capital Priority List.
- The additional well is not mandatory at this phase but should be seriously considered because of long term flow requirements, however it could be phased.
- Costs include the building, treatment system, piping and disposal systems.
- It was noted that there is a contractor doing some harvesting in the watershed area and it was suggested that this be investigated.

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor Marchand that the Louisdale/Evanston/Whiteside Water Treatment Plant Pilot Testing/Pre-Design Report Update be accepted as presented by the Director of Public Works and that the CFO be requested to examine possible funding scenarios for this project. **Motion carried.**

(b) Doctors Nova Scotia re: Golden Apple Community Award

It was noted that this correspondence be forwarded to Mrs. Colette Sampson-MacLean, Physical Activity Coordinator to promote.

(c) Kids Help Phone re: Request for Financial Assistance

**Moved by** Councillor Marchand, **seconded by** Councillor David that the Committee recommend to Council to approve a contribution in the amount of \$500 to the Kids Help Phone and that these funds be taken from general revenue. **Motion carried.**

(d) Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 47 re: Veterans Memorial Highway Designation

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor McNamara that that Council send correspondence to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal in support of the re-naming of Rte. 104 from Port Hawkesbury to St. Peter's as the Veteran's Memorial Highway.

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- There may be a possible conflict with another section of highway in Nova Scotia being of the same name.
- It was believed that Rte. 104 is part of Hwy 104 and that it is already named the Minor's Memorial Highway.

With the permission of the seconder, Councillor Boucher withdrawn his motion.

It was the consensus of the Committee that the CAO approach Mr. Jackie Hopkins, President of Branch #47 of the Royal Canadian Legion and determine if there is any possible conflicts with the naming of Rte. 104 from Port Hawkesbury to St. Peter's as the Veteran's Memorial Highway.

(e) Mrs. Tracy Randall re: Grant Requests:

**Moved by** Councillor David, **seconded by** Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council that the following grant requests be approved:

- \$1,350 to the Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund from Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8 and #9 (\$150 per district)
- \$1,800 to St. Anne Community and Nursing Care Centre with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund for Districts #2, #3, #4, #7 and #9;
- \$200 to the Rocky Bay Irish Club with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3;
- \$1,000 to the Louisdale Lions Club with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund for District #6;
- \$500 to the St. Peter's 824 Silver Dart Squadron, Air Cadets with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund, District #7;

- \$500 to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 110 with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund, District #9;
- \$150 to the Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10;
- \$500 to the Sacred Heart Ladies Group with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10;
- \$150 to the Grand River Seniors Club with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10;
- \$2,337.50 to the Salmon River Community Association with funds to be taken from the Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #10.

**Motion carried.**

List of Cheques Issued: October, 2010

Councillor David declared a conflict of interest with regards to the list of Cheques Issued for October 2010.

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor MacNeil that the list of cheques issued for the month of October 2010 be adopted as presented. **Motion carried.**

Items Added to the Agenda

(1) Warden Boudreau re:

(i) Request from Strait Area Curling Club

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- Money should be spent within Richmond rather than going to organizations outside the county.
- This facility is used by Richmond residents as there is no such facility in Richmond.
- The school system should be taking advantage of this facility.
- It would be good to know what other municipalities are contributing.

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor MacNeil that the funding request from the Strait Area Curling Club be tabled to budget deliberations. **Motion carried.** (1 nay – Councillor David)

(ii) DIMA Grant Request that went into the wrong category

It was the consensus of the Committee that this item be discussed at the December 6<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole Meeting.

(iii) Creation of a Committee to review the “Grants to Charitable and Not-for Profit Groups”

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- The agenda of the Committee is to eliminate the application process and to determine what organizations should be funded on an annual basis.

**Moved by** Councillor Boucher, **seconded by** Councillor Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council to create a Committee to review the “Grants to Charitable and Not-for Profit Groups” and that Councillor McNamara and Councillor David be appointed as the Council representatives on the Committee and that Karen Doyle and Tracy Randall be the appointed as staff representatives. **Motion carried.**

(2) Councillor MacNeil re: “Man in Motion” 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour (Rick Hanson)

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- This is a nationwide celebration and St. Peter’s has been chosen as one of the locations for the end of the day celebrations.
- There will be over 7,000 participants in this event.
- Councillor MacNeil will provide further information to the Cao and Warden Boudreau on this event.

#### Fifteen Minute Question Period

Mr. Doug Begg from the South Mountain Arm of Gold Community Association addressed the Committee.

In response to a question from Mr. Begg, Councillor McNamara noted that the Charitable Grants Fund has gotten out of hand and the funds are not being eliminated but rather restructured.

If Mr. Begg wishes to make representation to the Committee he should forward correspondence to the CAO.

It was noted that community organizations that are tax exempt will not be affected in this manner as this is provided through a municipal by-law.

#### Adjournment

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm