

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

DECEMBER 5, 2011

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Present: Deputy Warden V. David, Councillor M. Beaton  
Councillor A. Martell, Councillor S. McNamara  
Councillor B. Marchand, Councillor G. Boucher  
Councillor S. MacNeil, Councillor S. Sampson  
Councillor G. Johnson

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

### Items Added to the Agenda

Deputy Warden David indicated that two items were previously submitted; the CAO wish to add Richmond Villa; and Councillor MacNeil wish to add office & library space in St. Peter's.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the agenda be approved with the items added. Motion carried.

### Review of Minutes: November 28, 2011

Councillor McNamara indicated she had voted nay on the motion to recommend the awarding of the curbside collection contracts, and she wished to have this recorded in the minutes.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the minutes of November 28, 2011 be adopted with the corrections. Motion carried.

### Q & A's re: New Page (Jim Meek, Principal, Public Affairs Atlantic Inc.)

Deputy Warden David welcomed Mr. Jim Meek, Principal of Public Affairs Atlantic Inc. to the meeting.

Mr. Meek provided an update on the New Page process.

A question period ensued.

Staff Reports:

- (a) Director of Public Works re: Update on Richmond Environmental Management Project

Deputy Warden David welcomed Mr. McLean to the meeting.

Mr. McLean made a power point presentation on an update on the Richmond Environmental Management Project (Copy attached).

A discussion period ensued.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and proceed with the next steps for the Alternative Water and Sewer Measures Committee and apply for grants and/or loans for selected project features. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden David thanked Mr. McLean for his presentation.

- (b) Director of Economic Development/Tourism re: Tourism 2012

Deputy Warden David welcomed Mr. Stanley to the meeting.

Mr. Stanley made a power point presentation highlighting the updates for the Economic Development/Tourism department and what to expect in 2012 (Copy attached).

A question period ensued.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the Director of Economic Development and Tourism and support Municipal staff in executing the 2012 tourism plan with specific attention to developing community-based tourism, developing Richmond County as a outdoor destination and building our shoulder season. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden David thanked Mr. Stanley for his presentation.

CAO re: Christmas Hours

The CAO indicated that typically the Administration office is closed the week between Christmas and New Years.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council to accept the recommendation of the CAO and close the office at noon on December 23, 2011 and re-open for regular business hours at 8:30 a.m., Monday, January 2, 2012. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- (a) Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI Management Committee re: Municipal Representative

The CAO indicated that the CEPI Management Committee is seeking a municipal representative for their board of directors.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that Councillor McNamara be appointed as the municipal representative to serve on the Board of Directors of the Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI Management Committee. Motion carried.

- (b) The Grand River Seniors Club re: Foot Clinic/St. Peter's

This item has been tabled to the December Council meeting.

- (c) Hon. Ross Landry, Justice Minister re: 911 Cost Recovery Fund

For information purposes.

- (d) Atlantic Institute for Market Studies re: Annual Report Card on Atlantic Canadian High Schools

For information purposes.

- (e) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Funding Request

The CAO indicated that the Eastern District Planning Commission is operating with a \$51,000 deficit and is seeking funding which is calculated so that all Counties pay the same base amount.

The CAO indicated that there is monies available in the current budget or the County can pay through next year's budget.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that the funding request put forth by the Eastern District Planning Commission to cover a portion of the operating deficit be paid for with monies from the current fiscal budget and FURTHER MOVED that staff prepare a report comparing the options of continuing with services through the Eastern District Planning Commission or providing the services "in-house". Motion carried.

(f) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Dangerous and Unsightly Premises:

- Property of Carol MacInnis, 8262 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75044867; AAN #01555804);
- Property of Kenneth and Lola Pettipas, 7758 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75046854; AAN #02958147);
- Owner Unknown, No. 4 Highway Cannes (PID #75121590);
- Property of Ruth Riccitelli, Marilyn Skatzes, Deborah Ann Harris, David Harris, Edward Allan Harris, 97 Riverview Drive, River Bourgeois (PID #75136911; AAN #01904582)

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council accept the recommendation of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsightly Premises and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to Carol MacInnis, 8262 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75044867; AAN #01555804), and Owner Unknown, No. 4 Highway Cannes (PID #75121590); and Property of Ruth Riccitelli, Marilyn Skatzes, Deborah Ann Harris, David Harris, Edward Allan Harris, 97 Riverview Drive, River Bourgeois (PID #75136911; AAN #01904582) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council accept the recommendation of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsanitary Premises and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to Kenneth and Lola Pettipas, 7758 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75046854; AAN #02958147) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes. Motion carried.

(g) Doctors Nova Scotia re: Strive Award

For information purposes.

(h) Strait Area Transit re: Request for Appointment of Council Representative on Board of Directors

Councillor Beaton declared a conflict of interest because he is employed by the Strait Area Transit and removed himself from discussion.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that Councillor McNamara be appointed as the municipal representative on the Board of Directors of the Strait Area Transit. Motion carried.

(i) Heritage Cape Breton Connection re: Financial Request

The CAO indicated that Heritage Cape Breton Connection is seeking financial assistance of \$150 for Heritage Cape Breton Connection's Engaging Youth in Heritage Award.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council that Richmond Municipal Council approve the financial request put forth by Heritage Cape Breton Connection, in the amount of \$150 for the Heritage Cape Breton Connection's Engaging Youth in Heritage Award. Motion carried.

(j) Strait Area District Labour Council re: Canada's Retirement Security System

The CAO indicated that the Strait Area District Labour Council is seeking Municipal support in adopting the Canada's Retirement Security System resolution.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council that WHEREAS the Canadian economy is in its deepest downturn since the 1930's putting the retirement security of many workers at risk;

AND WHEREAS cities are key providers of social services and support programs for older workers and retirees;

AND WHEREAS the financial meltdown and a wave of employer bankruptcies have resulted in under-funded pension plans and the actual and potential loss of promised pension benefits;

AND WHEREAS only one in four private sector workers belong to an employer pension plan, the remaining 3 out of 4 workers must rely on their own personal savings to try to provide for their retirement;

AND WHEREAS our public pension system, Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) plus the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is safe but falls well short of replacing the 50% to 70% of pre-retirement income needed to maintain decent living standards;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Richmond support expansion of our public pension system

1. By increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) by 15% so no senior lives in poverty;
2. By phasing in a doubling of the proportion of average earnings replaced by Canada Pension Plan (CPP) from 25% to 50%, financed by a modest increase in premiums;
3. By protecting Canadian pensions through a federal system of pension insurance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Municipality support the call on the federal government to hold a national summit on the issue of pensions and support the expansion of the Canada Pension Plan (CPP). Motion carried.

(k) Mrs. Shannon Diggdon re: Grant Requests:

- Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #2 (\$150);
- Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3 (\$663);

- West Bay Pastoral Charge, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5 (\$500);
- St. John the Baptist CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #7 (\$500);
- Bonnie Brae Seniors Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #8 (\$979.67);
- Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts (\$1,350);
- Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation, Municipal District Activity Fund, Municipal Districts (\$900).

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council that the following grants be approved:

- \$150, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #2;
- \$663, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3;
- \$500, West Bay Pastoral Charge, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5;
- \$500, St. John the Baptist CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #7;
- \$979.67, Bonnie Brae Seniors Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #8;
- \$1,350, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$900, Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation, Municipal District Activity Fund, Municipal Districts

Motion carried.

#### Approval of Cheques Issued: October, 2011

Deputy Warden David declared a conflict of interest because there are cheques written to his business and removed himself from discussion.

The CAO indicated that the cheques issued for October 2011 will be approved at the last Committee of the Whole meeting in January 2012.

#### Items Added to the Agenda

1. CAO re: Richmond Villa

The CAO indicated that the Richmond Villa is in the process of replacing the CEO, Mrs. Margaret Morrison, who has put in her retirement notice. The Board of Directors has since posted and interviewed for a replacement and has not had any success.

Given the time constraints, the CAO is suggesting that the County hire a consultant to complete the hiring process for the replacement of the current CEO for the Richmond Villa and recommends Gerry Walsh.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the Committee recommend to Council that the County provide funding for the consultant fees in search for a replacement for the Richmond Villa Chief Executive Officer position. Motion carried.

## 2. Councillor MacNeil re: Office & Library Space in St. Peter's

Councillor MacNeil indicated that since the closure of office space in St. Peter's the County no longer has a presence in St. Peter's. The building inspector has been completing permit applications at Tim Horton's in St. Peter's. Office space is available through the Richmond County Literacy Network Association for a nominal fee. Also, St. Peter's has also been in line to have library space provided, in which the Eastern County Regional Library is prepared to staff three days a week.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor McNamara that staff be directed to research the option of providing library services in the St. Peter's area. Motion carried.

### Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

### In-Camera

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

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

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council that the contract for the Recycling and Compost Educator be renewed for a one year term, effective January 1, 2012. (Ayes: 7, Nays: 1 Councillor Boucher) Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Marchand that the Committee recommend to Council that funding in the amount of \$50,500 be awarded to the Village of St. Peter's, from the Gas Tax Fund, for their wastewater project, subject to all gas tax regulations. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Committee that staff provide Council with outline of options to distribute future gas tax funding to the Village of St. Peter's.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

MUNICIPAL CLERK:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER