

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MARCH 4, 2013

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

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

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Sampson indicated that the CAO wished to add a request for funding and the repeal of By-Law #25 and Deputy Warden Martell wished to add a grant request.

Warden Sampson requested and received unanimous consent to add one item to the agenda which would be discussed "In Camera".

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

Review of Minutes: February 12, 2013

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor McNamara that the minutes of February 12, 2013 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Solicitors/Eastern District Planning Commission re: Proposed Demolition:

- Property of Gregory and Mary Rude, 3661 Highway 206, Haut De Le Baie, NS, (PID #75011015; AAN # 01415298;

(i) Mr. John Bain re: Update on Property

Mr. Sean Donovan provided a power point presentation update on the property of Gregory and Mary Rude, 3661 Highway 206, Haut De Le Baie, NS, (PID #75011015; AAN # 01415298) noting that the property was in a state of non-repair. He also noted that it was his recommendation that the building be removed from the property and disposed of in the appropriate manner.

(ii) Opportunity for Above Property Owner to Address the Committee

The CAO noted that correspondence had been received from the property owners indicating that they were unable to attend the meeting and that their intention was to remove the building in August 2013 and eventually open a business on the property and contribute to the economic development of Richmond County.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- There has been no communication between the Director of Tourism and Economic Development and the property owners;
- Property assessments of Dangerous and Unightly premises should be reduced to reflect the true value of the property;
- The onus is on the property owner;
- The property owner is in agreement regarding the current state of the property;
- There have been numerous calls from surrounding residents in support of the demolition of this property;
- The property is assessed at approximately \$27,300.

Moved by Councillor Samson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to Gregory and Mary Rude, 3661 Highway 206, Haut De Le Baie, NS, (PID #75011015; AAN # 01415298), and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to the owners instructing that the house 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.

Policy for Funding to Core Community Organizations:

A discussion took place and the following points were brought forth:

- In previous years, the requests for funding were much higher than the available funding;
- Some organizations were red circled;
- Council chose groups that were important to them;
- The purpose of this policy was to avoid the repeated formal applications by these groups;
- This policy is in "draft" form only;
- Some areas of the "draft" Policy for Funding to Core Community Organizations need to be re-worded;
- There are some legal issues with the wording of the "draft" policy that need to be investigated further by our solicitor;
- Organizations still need to go through the application process and demonstrate their need;
- The list of organizations may change from year to year;
- The door is always open for new groups to apply;
- Organizations must submit yearly financial statements and be listed under Joint Stocks;
- Fire Departments should be considered for this funding;
- The Policy has not been adopted yet;

- Due to the link with Tourism in Richmond County, museums are important organizations to be considered for funding under this policy;
- Local Food Banks could be considered as good recipients for this funding;
- 4-H Clubs would be a very worthy project;
- The language in the Policy needs to reflect the intentions of Council;

The CAO indicated that he would assemble a package regarding the “draft” Funding to Core Community Organizations Policy and forward to Council for review.

Deputy Warden Martell gave notice that he will introduce a motion at the next Regular Council Meeting to adopt the Policy for Funding to Core Community Organizations, as redrafted by our Solicitor.

Strategic Plan:

The CAO indicated that a decision was required regarding the direction of set priorities as a result of the Strategic Planning Session.

A discussion took place and the following points were brought forth:

- There is a need to focus on certain areas with timelines;
- Two major projects in queue are Branding Richmond County and Shop Right/Buy Local Campaigns;
- The County is making headway regarding fire services, wind energy and wastewater;
- There needs to be some focus on affordable housing;
- Timelines need to be set.

The CAO indicated that staff would be willing to implement a work plan in order to achieve the eight goals identified by Council and turn the performance measures into action plans to be given to Council before the beginning of the fiscal year in April. He also indicated that he would like to have the vision and mission statements, identified at the Priority Setting Workshop, placed on plaques and displayed on the walls throughout the Municipal building.

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that the CAO and staff translate and implement Council’s priorities through:

- a. Annual Budget and Business Plan
- b. Annual CAO Performance Plan & Staff Performance Plans

and that the Department of Economic Development and Tourism’s two current strategies, Tourism Strategy and Shop Right Campaign be added to the priorities list; and further moved that the Port Authority be removed from the set priorities. Motion carried.

PVSC 2013/2014 Municipal Unit Budget:

The CAO indicated that a copy of the PVSC 2013/2014 budget would be forwarded to Council for review.

Correspondence:

- a) Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations re: Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Progress Report;

The CAO noted that correspondence had been received from Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations regarding the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. He also noted that the ICSP update for the Municipality of Richmond and the information submitted met all the requirements set out by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations; with respect to the report and the terms and conditions of the Municipal Funding Agreement.

- b) Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association re: Thank You

For information purposes.

- c) The Town of Port Hawkesbury (Mayor Billy Joe MacLean) re: Municipal Action Committee

The CAO indicated that correspondence had been received from the Town of Port Hawkesbury (Mayor Billy Joe MacLean) regarding the Municipal Action Committee. He also indicated that a thank you was extended to Councillor David for his dedication to the Committee and that the Strait Area Mayors and Wardens Committee would assume most, if not all, initiatives that may otherwise fall under the auspices of the Municipal Action Committee.

- d) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Revised Appointments (2013-2014)

The CAO indicated that correspondence had been received from the Eastern District Planning Commission regarding Revised Appointments for 2013-2014.

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

- Administrator – Dangerous and Unsightly Premises: John Bain
Alternate: Sean Donovan
- Building Inspector: Leon Leblanc
Alternates: Harry Martell, Cyril Leblanc, David MacKenzie and Alfred Fougere

- Development Officer: Andrew Jones
Alternates: John Bain, Wanda Ryan and Beth Schumacher
- Fire Inspector: Leon Leblanc
Alternates: Sean Donovan, Harry Martell and Cyril Leblanc

Motion carried.

e) Shannon Mury re: Grant Requests

- Richmond Skate Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts (\$600);
- Acadiaville Community Centre Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$1,800);

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

- \$600 to Richmond Skate Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$1,800 to Acadiaville Community Centre Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4.

Motion carried.

Approval of Cheques Issued: January 2013

Councillor David declared a conflict of interest because there were cheques written to his business, and removed himself from discussion and voting.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the list of cheques for the month of January 2013 in the amount of \$1,388,905.36 be approved. Motion carried.

Review of Cheques Issued: February 2013

For information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda:

1. CAO re:
 - a) Request for funding

The CAO indicated that correspondence had been received via the Richmond County website from Mr. Waddie Long requesting a cash donation in the amount of \$1,500 to help pay for the signage in the Veterans Memorial Park in Port Hawkesbury.

The CAO noted that he would follow up with Mr. Long in order to acquire further information.

b) Repeal of By-Law #25, Destruction of Documents

Councillor Johnson gave notice that she will introduce a motion at the next Regular Council Meeting to repeal By-Law #25, Destruction of Documents.

2. Deputy Warden Martell re: Acadiaville Community Centre Society Grant Request

This item was previously dealt with.

Fifteen Minute Question Period:

There were no questions from the gallery

“In Camera” Session:

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Samson that the meeting proceed to “In-Camera” session at 7:54 pm. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor David, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the meeting reconvene to regular session at 8:13 pm. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Moved by Councillor David that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

MUNICIPAL CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER