

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

APRIL 13, 2015

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

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

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden David indicated that three items had previously been added to the agenda by CAO, Warden David and Councillor Samson.

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

Review of Minutes: March 2, 2015

Moved by Councillor Samson, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the minutes of March 2, 2015 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Presentation

- a) Strait Area Transit re: Update

Warden David welcome Mr. Dwayne MacDonald, Mr. Jim Mustard and Mr. Andre Bissonnette to the meeting.

Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Mustard and Mr. Bissonnette gave a power point presentation.

The following points were brought forth during presentation:

- The SAT fleet has been increased by 63% since November 2014;
- Currently, 3 buses, 5 vans with a 4th bus expected to arrive within a month;
- Staffing levels increased by 60% since October 2014 (Four full time – three from Richmond, one from Inverness) and 6 part time workers (Five from Inverness, one from Richmond and one from Town of Port Hawkesbury);
- SAT has moved 3944 passengers in the past 6 months in Richmond County;

Administration costs, Expenditures and Vehicle Expenditures were reviewed.

It was noted that the requested contribution by Richmond County in order to serve the residents in the county, would be \$142,378.10 or \$11,864.84/month.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- A lot of good work was done;
- Mr. Bernard, Potlotek has joined the Strait Area Transit Board;
- There are less administrative costs with every partner involved;
- The number of the required contribution seems quite high;
- Subsidy in Richmond County would be approximately \$18/passenger;
- Strait Area Transit is only being continued, not in startup;
- The request is a big increase from the \$32,500 which represents the yearly contribution;
- SAT has no funds to operate in Richmond County at this time;
- The CTAP goes to SAT, not individual counties;

Warden David thanked Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Mustard and Mr. Bissonnette for their presentation.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that the amount of \$16,250, half of the yearly contribution, be advanced to Strait Area Transit. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Warden strike a committee consisting of Councillors and Staff to review the information presented by Strait Area Transit and report back to Council regarding budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Solicitors/Eastern District Planning Commission re: Proposed Demolition

- Property of Pauline Walsh, 8338 Highway 4, River Bourgeois, NS, (PID 75045526, AAN 00549762)

(i) Mr. Sean Donovan re: Update on Property

- The property was posted with a notice of proposed demolition on March 27, 2015;
- Dwelling appears to be abandoned and is not being maintained;
- Serious signs of wood rot and the roof has collapsed;
- Dwelling is in a ruinous and dilapidated condition;
- Dwelling is no longer suitable for human habitation or business purposes;
- Dwelling is unsightly and beyond repair;
- Dwelling meets the Municipal Government Act definition as “dangerous and unsightly”;

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

There was no property owner in attendance or correspondence received.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Committee recommend to Council that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued to Pauline Walsh, 8338 Highway 4, River Bourgeois, NS, (PID #75045526, AAN #00549762) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to the owners. The Order should state to the owners that the buildings are to be demolished and all debris be removed and disposed of in the appropriate manner within thirty (30) days. If the property owner fails to comply, the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs. Motion carried.

Warden David

a) Core Community Organization Funding Policy;

Warden David indicated that the Core Community Organization Funding Committee consisted of the following members:

- Warden Victor David
- Deputy Warden Shirley McNamara
- Councillor Rod Samson
- Councillor Malcolm Beaton
- Shannon Mury
- Jason Martell

b) The Town of Port Hawkesbury re: Strait of Canso – Harbour Bed

The CAO noted that correspondence had been received from The Town of Port Hawkesbury regarding the Strait of Canso Harbour Bed. The following points were brought forth:

- This issue was on the agenda at the Mayors and Wardens Meeting;
- There is not enough input from industry in Point Tupper;
- Richie Mann and Melford are not in support of this;
- There would be no representation from Richmond County or from First Nations;
- There could be great liability with municipalities taking on the divestiture of the Harbour bed;
- There have been communication issues;
- A Harbour Authority is not wanted;
- Promotion of the port is already taking place with NSBI, ACOA and others;
- There is a need to be cautious as to not devastate the industry in Point Tupper;
- There are 5 municipalities involved;

There was unanimous consent to table the request from The Town of Port Hawkesbury to provide an opportunity for the CAO and Council to meet with representatives from Industry in Point Tupper in order to acquire additional input and information regarding the Strait of Canso Harbour Bed.

Correspondence

For Information Purposes

- a) IWK Foundation re: Thank You;
- b) Municipality of the District of Guysborough re: Indexing of tip fee at Guysborough Waste Management Facility for 2nd Generation waste;
- c) Municipality of the County of Antigonish re: Planning Services Review;
- d) Alicia Lake, Coordinator, Pan Cape Breton Local Food Hub re: Reports;

Action Required

- a) Blaire Martell re: Little Harbour Capital Improvements Project;

The CAO indicated that correspondence had been received from Blaire Martell regarding the Little Harbour Capital Improvements Project. He also indicated that Mr. Martell was requesting a further \$20,000 in funding from Richmond Municipality to apply against the Harbour Authority membership's portion of the project which presently stands at \$51,234.79.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the funding request received by the Harbour Authority of Little Harbour in the amount of \$20,000 to apply against the Harbour Authority membership's portion of the project which presently stands at \$51,234.79, be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

b) Shannon Mury re: Grant Requests

- Riverdale Community Services Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #5 (\$10,253.25);
- West Bay United Church, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #5 (\$12,500);
- D'Escousse Civic Improvement, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3 (\$2,500);
- West Bay Community Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #5 (\$2,000);
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The CAO indicated that notification regarding amended grant amounts had been received from Deputy Warden McNamara. He also noted that the two grants included in the items added could be approved at the same time as the grants previously included in the agenda.

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

- \$7,430.63 to Riverdale Community Services Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #5;
- \$9,677.75 to West Bay United Church, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #5;
- \$2,500 to D'Escousse Civic Improvement, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3;
- \$1,000 to West Bay Community Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #5;
- \$650 to Isle Madame Minor Baseball Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts;

- \$7,500 to Stella Maris Pastoral Center c/o Immaculate Conception Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #1.

Motion carried.

Approval of Cheques Issued - February 2015

Warden David declared a conflict of interest because there were cheques written to his personal business and asked Deputy Warden McNamara to Chair the meeting in his absence and removed himself from discussion.

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Martell that the list of cheques issued for the month of February 2015 in the amount of \$884,482.30 (General Account) and \$15,525.49 (Water Account) be approved. Motion carried.

Review of Cheques – March 2015

For Information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda

Correspondence

Director of Public Works re: Arichat Courthouse

The CAO noted that the recommendation from the Director of Public Works was to proceed with a formal tender for divestiture of the Arichat Courthouse. He also noted that the tender would be subject to Council review and approval, including public consultation.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that the recommendation from the Director of Works to proceed with a tender for divestiture regarding the Arichat Courthouse, subject to Council review and approval, be approved. Motion carried.

Councillor Samson – Grant Request/Warden David – Grant Request

Items were previously dealt with.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

In-Camera

There was no “In Camera” Session required.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Boucher that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

CAO/MUNICIPAL CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON