

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

JUNE 15, 2015

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

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

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden David indicated that there was one item previously added to the agenda regarding a funding request from Prayer Shawl Ministry.

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

Review of Minutes: May 11, 2015

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the minutes of May 11, 2015 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Presentation

- a) Helen Smith, Department of Environment re: Protected Areas and Ecosystems

Warden David welcomed Ms. Helen Smith and Mr. David Williams to the meeting.

Ms. Smith and Mr. Williams gave a power point presentation (Copy attached).

The following points were brought forth during the presentation:

- A brief overview of the history of the project was provided;
- Several public consultations have taken place;
- The responses to the consultations were generally positive;

- Next step is to address outstanding considerations for individual sites and finalize boundary surveys and legal documents to advance lands for designation under the appropriate legislation;
- There are three types of protection
 - o Wilderness Areas
 - o Nature Reserves
 - o Provincial Parks and Reserves
- Fourchu Coast Wilderness Area has been identified as a pending wilderness area in the 2013 Parks and Protected Areas plan;
- Changes to the conceptual plan are based on public comments;
- Moving forward will consist of addressing the concerns of the public that were brought up during public consultation through a series of questions;
- More information can be obtained through the following link
www.novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas
- If Council is interested in being involved and supporting this project they can submit a written letter of support indicating how they wish to be involved

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- The consultation process is important;
- ATV Riders Association and other groups that have an interest in developing trails should be kept in the loop

Warden David thanked Ms. Helen Smith and Mr. David Williams for their presentation.

b) Louisdale Water System

Warden David welcomed Mr. Mike Chaulk to the meeting.

Mr. Chaulk noted the following:

- A technical briefing was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting;
- The ground water supply for Louisdale is provided using a single well PW #1 with, PW #2 used solely as a back-up well;
- There are approximately 400 accounts; Bills were sent to 553 active water accounts last quarterly billing period in Louisdale/Evanston/Whiteside
- There were periodic events of water discoloration due to the presence of iron and manganese;
- This is a natural and common occurrence; Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines for Iron and Manganese are Aesthetic Objectives (AO's), not necessarily health risk related guidelines.
- When chlorine is added to the water supply it causes the particles to oxidize from solution and eventually get stirred up creating brown water with various types of staining;

- The best way to filter is with a new water treatment plant, which is more manageable but more costly; other options considered but not in wide spread use are to provide whole house filters to the users or the use of sequestering chemicals;

The following points were brought forth during presentation:

- There has been an issue with this utility for some time; users are most likely used to the issue; the best technical solution would be to treat the issue at the source;
- There are not many plants in Nova Scotia;
- No one in Nova Scotia is providing treatment other than a plant;
- The cost of the building infrastructure is the most expensive portion of the solution;
- Periodic flushing is expensive; with a plant there would be regular scheduled back washing, hence the savings from flushing would equate to back washing;
- Previous engineering studies have shown that a third well may be required; this requirements was challenged however the consultant could not comment;
- A prior consultant's report indicated that the ground water wells are non-gudi which is less expensive to treat;
- A water rate study has not been carried out;
- There are many utilities operating under similar conditions;

Warden David thanked Mr. Chaulk for his presentation.

c) Strait Area Ground Search and Rescue re: Funding Request

Warden David welcomed Mr. Ken McChesney and Mrs. Tanya McChesney to the meeting.

Mr. McChesney and Mrs. McChesney gave a presentation on the Strait Area Search and Rescue.

Mr. McChesney and Mrs. McChesney noted the following:

- Strait Area Ground Search and Rescue Association is 100% volunteer based and receives minimum funding from the government to run the operation;
- The Port Hastings Fire Hall is used to hold their meetings;
- Training occurs at various fire halls throughout the four counties;
- This group covers the largest area in Nova Scotia;
- The Province recognizes the group as an Emergency Service Provider;
- There is an opportunity to purchase a building, which would be more suitable because all equipment is stored at various volunteers homes;
- A request is being made to all counties and towns that benefit from this service;

- The funding request is for \$10,500 from all four counties, three towns and one district to be disbursed in June 2016. This funding would be used to purchase a building and supplies and to serve as a home base for the association;
- In addition, a yearly \$3,000 tax levy is being requested for maintenance and operation of the building.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- Currently the County does not provide any funding to the association;
- The last time funding was provided was in 1992;
- Other levels of government have not been approached for funding for the purchase of this building;
- The Provincial and Federal Governments will be approached for funding to do renovations to the building if it is purchased.

Warden David thanked Mr. Ken McChesney and Mrs. Tanya McChesney for their presentation.

Solicitors/Eastern District Planning Commission re: Proposed Demolition:

- Property of Terrance Kelly Turner, 111 MacEachern Road, Port Royal, NS, PID 75023887, AAN 05931002;

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

- The property was posted with a notice of proposed demolition on May 19, 2015;
- The dwelling and shed appear to be abandoned. The exterior of the dwelling and shed are not being maintained;
- Serious signs of wood rot on the eaves and roof;
- Serious signs of wood rot on the exterior walls and roof. You can see the side of the shed has begun to buckle;
- The dwelling and shed are in a ruinous and dilapidated condition;
- The dwelling and shed are in such a state of non-repair as to be no longer suitable for human habitation or business purposes;
- The dwelling and shed are unsightly in relation to neighbouring properties due to the exterior finish of the building and the landscape not being maintained;
- The dwelling and shed appear to be abandoned;
- The dwelling and shed meets the *Municipal Government Act* definition as “dangerous and unsightly”;
- It is therefore our recommendation that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to the owners. The Order should state to the owners that

the dwelling and shed 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.

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

There was no property owner in attendance or correspondence received.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued to Terrance Kelly Turner, 111 MacEachern Road, Port Royal, NS, PID 75023887, AAN 05931002 and notice having been given, that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to the owners. The Order should state to the owners that the dwelling and shed 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.

Municipality of the County of Richmond, Heritage Advisory Committee/Municipal Registry of Heritage Property re: Property Commonly known as Former Stella Maris Pastoral Office, Arichat;

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

Warden David welcomed Father Angus MacDougall and Mr. Paul Boudreau to the meeting.

A discussion period ensued.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- If the building, commonly known as Former Stella Maris Pastoral Office, Arichat, is designated Heritage Status the maintenance will be the responsibility of the Parish;
- The Parish would like the building to either be removed from the property or demolished;
- Heritage status would prevent demolition;
- If there is an interested person that would like to have the building, the Parish would work with them and agree on a reasonable timeframe;
- It is upsetting that the building is in such a condition;
- The Parish advertised the willingness to give the building away, there were no serious inquiries that came forward;

- The request for heritage status was brought to the Municipality from the community; the County does not go out seeking said applications;

Warden David indicated that the comments from this presentation would be forwarded to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

Warden David thanked Father Angus MacDougall and Mr. Paul Boudreau for their presentation.

Budget – CAO: Options to Consider:

The CAO indicated the following:

- As a result of the last budget deliberation meeting, staff was asked to prepare a report and options for council to consider;
- The options presented included a 0.03 cent tax rate increase, a 0.01 tax rate increase or no tax increase;
- An explanation for increasing the arena's ice rental hourly rate was provided;
- Recommendations for changes to the Core Community Organization Funding was presented for consideration.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- Another budget meeting would allow council to discuss the budget in more detail;
- It would have been beneficial to have the budget report sooner to review before the meeting;
- It was decided that a Special Committee of the Whole Meeting would take place on Monday June 22, 2015 at 6:00pm to debate the budget further.

Notice of Motion – To amend the Core Funding to Community Organizations Policy to amended to reflect the following changes:

- Financial statements submitted must include a balance sheet and income & Expense sheet;
- Section 6 - Add a section to include proof of need, cost projections, available capital, other funding applications and funding available or received from other sources;
- All organizations be required to submit an annual application;
- Enforcement of Section 19 with the intent that any organizations receiving core funding would not be eligible for any Municipal Grant funding other than Infrastructure Grants;
- Add Section 22 dealing with release of funds (Attached as Appendix "A").

Councillor Beaton gave notice of motion to amend the Core Funding to Community Organizations Policy to reflect the following changes:

- Financial statements submitted must include a balance sheet and income & Expense sheet;
- Section 6 - Add a section to include proof of need, cost projections, available capital, other funding applications and funding available or received from other sources;
- All organizations be required to submit an annual application;
- Enforcement of Section 19 with the intent that any organizations receiving core funding would not be eligible for any Municipal Grant funding other than Infrastructure Grants;
- Add Section 22 dealing with release of funds (Attached as Appendix “A”).

Correspondence

For Your Information

- a) MGM & Associates re: Eastern Counties Regional Library Board – Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2015;

For information purposes.

- b) Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs re: Cost Sharing and Grant Programs;

For information purposes.

- c) Nova Scotia Justice re: RCMP Budget;

For information purposes.

- d) Ville de Québec re: Francophone and Francophile Cities Network;

For information purposes.

- e) Nova Scotia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy re: Annual Report 2014-15 (Press Release)

For information purposes.

Action Required

- a) Strait Superport re: Richmond County Nomination to the Strait of Canso Superport Corporation Board of Directors;

The CAO noted that Mr. Tony Pierce is currently the nominee for the Municipality of the County of Richmond serving on the Strait of Canso Superport Corporation Limited’s Board of Directors. He also noted that his current three year term is due to expire and

Mr. Pierce has agreed to continue as a member, representing Richmond County, on the Board.

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that Mr. Tony Pierce be appointed to the Strait of Canso Superport Corporation Limited's Board of Directors as a nominee for the Municipality of Richmond County. Motion carried.

- b) New Horizon Senior Citizens Club re: Designation of the New Horizon Senior Citizens Club as a Comfort Centre;

The CAO indicated that there was funding available in the Public Works budget through Emergency Measures. There is also an opportunity for funding through the District #1 Municipal Infrastructure Fund.

- c) Shannon Mury re: Grant Requests

- Framboise Community Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10 (\$400);
- River Bourgeois Mariners Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #7 (\$5,000);
- River Bourgeois Mariners Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #7 (\$606);
- Rocky Bay Irish Club, Festival Committee, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts (\$1,000)
- Isle Madame Minor Baseball Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5 (\$200);
- St. Louis Parish-Baracos Days Festival Committee, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #6 (\$1,000);
- St. Louis Parish-Canada Day Committee, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #6 (\$1,000);
- Sacred Heart Ladies Group, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10 (\$500);
- Canadian Cancer Society – Relay for Life Arichat, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #1 (\$287.50);
- L'Archeveque Wharf Preservation Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #10 (\$12,000);
- Acadiaville Community Centre Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$400);
- Lennox Passage Yacht Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3 (\$481.85);

- Javrin’s Island Community Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$250);
- Development Isle Madame Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$500);
- Louisdale Lions Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #6 (\$500);
- Sacred Heart Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #10 (\$2,516.05).

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council the approval of the following grant requests:

- Framboise Community Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10 (\$400);
- River Bourgeois Mariners Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #7 (\$5,000);
- River Bourgeois Mariners Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #7 (\$606);
- Rocky Bay Irish Club, Festival Committee, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts (\$1,000)
- Isle Madame Minor Baseball Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5 (\$200);
- St. Louis Parish-Baracos Days Festival Committee, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #6 (\$1,000);
- St. Louis Parish-Canada Day Committee, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #6 (\$1,000);
- Sacred Heart Ladies Group, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #10 (\$500);
- Canadian Cancer Society – Relay for Life Arichat, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #1 (\$287.50);
- L’Archeveque Wharf Preservation Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #10 (\$12,000);
- Acadiaville Community Centre Society, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$400);
- Lennox Passage Yacht Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #3 (\$481.85);
- Javrin’s Island Community Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$250);
- Development Isle Madame Association, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #4 (\$500);
- Louisdale Lions Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #6 (\$500);

- Sacred Heart Parish, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #10 (\$2,516.05).

Motion carried.

Review of Cheques – April & May 2015

For Information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda

1. Prayer Shawl Ministry re: Funding Request

For information purposes.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

In-Camera

Moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Deputy Warden McNamara that the meeting move to an “In-Camera” session at 9:06 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Boucher that the meeting reconvene to regular session at 9:27 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council that taxes, in the amount of \$88 which represent taxes on the trailer for April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016, for K&D Equipment Services Limited, located in Poulamond, be written off, due to a fire. Motion carried.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

CAO/MUNICIPAL CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON