

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

NOVEMBER 14, 2017

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Present: Warden Brian Marchand, Councillor Gilbert Boucher
Councillor Jason MacLean, Councillor Alvin Martell
Deputy Warden James Goyetche, CAO, Louis Digout

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

Review of Minutes: October 10, 2017

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the minutes of October 10, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda (Request)

There were 4 items previously added to the agenda.

Warden Marchand requested and received unanimous consent to add arena rentals and organizational review documents to the agenda.

Deputy Warden Goyetche requested and received unanimous consent to add an Infrastructure grant request to the agenda.

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

Solicitors/Eastern District Planning Commission re: Proposed Demolition Orders:

Property of Julia MacDonald, 3601 Loch Lomond Rd, Loch Lomond NS,
Property Identifiers (PID) 75073353, Assessment Account (AAN) 02129299

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

Mr. Donovan provided an update on the property of Property of Julia MacDonald, 3601 Loch Lomond Rd, Loch Lomond NS, Property Identifiers (PID) 75073353, Assessment Account (AAN) 02129299 and the following points were brought forth:

- The property owner was notified of the Proposed Demolition on November 2, 2017. (Registered Letter returned unclaimed);
- The dwelling appears to be abandoned. It is open and accessible. The exterior of the dwelling is not being maintained with serious signs of wood rot on the exterior walls, eaves and floor system;
- The dwelling is in a ruinous and dilapidated condition;
- The dwelling is allurement to children who may play there to their danger;
- The dwelling is unsightly in relation to neighbouring properties due to the exterior finish of the building not being maintained;
- The dwelling appears to be abandoned;
- The dwelling meets the *Municipal Government Act* definition as “dangerous and unsightly”;
- Recommendation of the Eastern District Planning Commission is 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 is 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.

Moved by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued to Julia MacDonald, 3601 Loch Lomond Rd, Loch Lomond NS, Property Identifiers (PID) 75073353, Assessment Account (AAN) 02129299 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 is to be demolished and all debris be removed and disposed of in the appropriate manner immediately because the property is a danger to the public.

There was no seconder for the motion, therefore the motion was lost.

Mr. Donovan explained that the property was not an immediate danger to the public.

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor MacLean that the Committee recommend to Council that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued to Julia MacDonald, 3601 Loch Lomond Rd, Loch Lomond NS, Property Identifiers (PID) 75073353, Assessment Account (AAN) 02129299 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 is 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.

Opportunity for the Above Property Owner to Address the Committee

Warden Marchand indicated that the property owners were not present.

Property of Darlene Dorey, Shore Road West Arichat NS, Property Identifiers (PID) 75085985, Assessment Account (AAN) 09249087

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

Mr. Donovan indicated that there had been compliance from the owner, Darlene Dorey, regarding the property located on Shore Road West Arichat NS, Property Identifiers (PID) 75085985, Assessment Account (AAN) 09249087 and that the condition had been remedied and the property owner had complied with the recommendations of the Eastern District Planning Commission.

Opportunity for the Above Property Owner to Address the Committee

Property owner was not present.

Property of Elias and Cathie Dorey, 117 Lower Road West Arichat NS, Property Identifiers (PID) 75025767, Assessment Account (AAN) 06091997

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

Mr. Donovan provided an update on the property and the following points were brought forth:

- The property owner was notified of the Proposed Demolition on November 2, 2017. (Registered Letter received);
- The shed appears to be abandoned. It is open and accessible. The exterior of the dwelling is not being maintained and there
- The shed is in a ruinous and dilapidated condition.
- The shed is allurement to children who may play there to their danger.
- The shed is unsightly in relation to neighbouring properties due to the exterior finish of the building not being maintained
- The building appears to be abandoned.
- The building meets the *Municipal Government Act* definition as “dangerous and unsightly”.
- The recommendation of the Eastern District Planning Commission is 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 building

is 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.

It was the consensus of the Committee that no “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued to Elias and Cathie Dorey, 117 Lower Road West Arichat NS, Property Identifiers (PID) 75025767, Assessment Account (AAN) 06091997, based on information provided by Mr. Donovan indicating that the owner had commenced the work removing and replacing the building.

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

Property owners were not present.

Presentation (Jason Martell, CFO) re: Review of Grants Policy

Mr. Jason Martell, CFO presented the proposed New Grant Structure for the Municipality of Richmond including the application process, application requirement, release of funds requirements, reporting and communication (attached).

Mr. Martell also noted the breakdown of the types of grants as follows:

- Type 1-Infrastructure (50% dollars)
- Type 2-Start Up - Activity (50% dollars)
- Type 3-Recreation/Sponsorship
- Type 4-Regional/Health/General

Type 1- Infrastructure \$150,000
Type 2- Activity \$ 25,000
Type 3- Rec/Sponsorships \$ 45,000
Type 4 –Regional/Health/General \$150,000
Total \$370,000

Further recommendations by staff were:

- Eliminate Core Funding Policy
- Phase out By Law 56 by 50% over two years
- 75% Exempt Yr 1, 50% Exempt Yr 2
- Reassess By Law 56 in year two

A breakdown in savings was also provided as follows:

Year 1:

- 2017/2018 Budgeted - \$957,500
- 2018/2019 Budget - \$717,500
- Dollar Savings - \$240,000
- Percentage Savings - 25.07%

Year 2:

- 2018/2019 Budgeted - \$717,500
- 2019/2020 Budget - \$635,000
- Dollar Savings - \$ 82,500
- Percentage Savings - 11.50%

Overall Savings:

- 2017/2018 Budgeted - \$957,500
- 2019/2020 Budget - \$635,000
- Dollar Savings - \$322,500
- Percentage Savings - 33.68%

The next steps were presented as follows:

- Agree on Framework
- Staff to draft policy and master application for Council approval
- Staff to advertise and communicate new structure
- Budget for 2018/2019 to incorporate new framework
- Process to start April 1, 2018

The following points were brought forth during discussions:

- It was noted that there would be a more precise presentation in approximately a month, depending on feedback;
- The halls would be transitioning from no taxes to half taxes;
- District funds would be eliminated;
- Maximum infrastructure grant amount would be \$5,000, would require 3 quotes and work would have to be completed in that year;
- There would be no carryover of funds;
- These changes would have an effect on volunteer groups;

- Louisdale sidewalks (infrastructure already in place) should not be funded through the general tax rate;
- Staff would return in the future with a Draft Policy.

Correspondence

For Information Purposes

- a) Cheques Issued: October 2017;

Items Added to the Agenda

1. Warden Marchand re: Organizational Review

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor MacLean that the Committee recommend to Council that confidentiality be removed on all eligible documents relating to the organizational review, following the approval of the municipal solicitor. Motion carried.

2. Warden Marchand re: Arena Rentals

Warden Marchand noted that ice time had been taken away from the Richmond Figure Skating Club and inquired on a Municipal policy for ice rentals.

The following points were brought forth during discussion:

- The figure skating coach was unavailable for the same ice time as last year;
- An extra hour, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM on Friday evenings, was requested by the Club;
- The club was told they could have the extra hour during the month of October but not moving forward due to Gentlemen Hockey;
- Staff went above and beyond in an attempt to accommodate the Skate Club by contacting Gentlemen Hockey reps, minor hockey, the high school hockey team and moving the weekly public skating from Sunday to Saturday;
- Minor Hockey moved their time up on Saturday mornings and gave the extra hour to the Richmond Figure Skating Club;

The CAO indicated that he had a copy of the email that was sent to the Figure Skating Club confirming that they could have the Friday evening ice time from 7:00 – 8:00; however this would only be for the month of October 2017. He also has an email from the Richmond Figure Skating Club, thanking staff for the remedy of the problem.

3. Deputy Warden Goyetche re: Grant Request

Moved by Deputy Warden Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that the following grant request be approved:

-\$3,726 to Friends of St. John's Arichat Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #1.

Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

"In Camera" Session (Personnel/Negotiations)

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Martell that the meeting move to an "In Camera Session" at 8:47 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Deputy Warden Goyetche that the meeting reconvene to regular session at 10:08 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor MacLean that the Committee recommend to Council that all outstanding unpaid travel claims up to November 14, 2017 be paid out and that moving forward the travel policy would be followed. Motion defeated. (Nays: Councillor Martell, Deputy Warden Goyetche).

Councillor MacLean seconded the motion for discussion purposed and immediately declared a conflict of interest due to having a travel claim submitted past the time period.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

CHAIRPERSON