

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MAY 13, 2019

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

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

Call to Order

Warden Marchand called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Marchand requested and received unanimous consent to add an item to the agenda regarding Giving Notice to amend By Law #62 Wastewater Management District By-Law.

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

Review of Minutes: April 8, 2019

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the minutes of the April 8, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Presentations:

a) Seniors Take Action Coalition

Warden Marchand welcomed Mary Lou Bedford and Cynthia Blackmore to the meeting.

Mrs. Bedford and Mrs. Blackmore gave a presentation to the Committee.

A question and answer period followed.

Warden Marchand thanked Mrs. Bedford and Mrs. Blackmore for the presentation.

b) Pan Cape Breton Food Hub

Warden Marchand welcomed Alicia Lake and Kerry Easthouse to the meeting.

Ms. Lake and Mr. Easthouse gave a presentation to the Committee.

A question and answer period followed.

Warden Marchand thanked Ms. Lake and Mr. Easthouse for the presentation.

c) Nova Scotia Association of Realtors re: Deed Transfer Tax Policies

Warden Marchand indicated that the presentation from the Nova Scotia Association of Realtors would be postponed until the June 10th Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted

Amend the motion adopted at the March 25, 2019 Regular Council Meeting by adding the words “PID 75209700”. The amended motion becomes:

That the Committee recommend to Council that notice of registration of properties (PID 75033100) & (PID 75209700) be placed on the Municipal Registry of Heritage Property and notice of such registration shall be sent to the Diocese of Antigonish and to the Whiteside Church Preservation Society and that a copy of the registration shall be deposited in the Registry of Deeds for the district in which the municipal heritage properties are located.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council that notice of registration of properties (PID 75033100) & (PID 75209700) be placed on the Municipal Registry of Heritage Property and notice of such registration shall be sent to the Diocese of Antigonish and to the Whiteside Church Preservation Society and that a copy of the registration shall be deposited in the Registry of Deeds for the district in which the municipal heritage properties are located. Motion carried.

CAO re: Low Income Tax Exemption Policy re: Information

The CAO indicated that the Council may, by policy (Low Income Tax Exemption Policy), grant an exemption from taxation, in the amount or to the extent set out in a policy, for a person whose income is below the amount set out in the policy. He also indicated that he had received information regarding other municipal units and it appeared that only 3 units did not currently have a policy.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor MacLean that Staff investigate further details on a Low Income Tax Exemption Policy in respect to taxable property in the Municipality of Richmond County and report back to Council with the findings. Motion carried.

Correspondence
For Information Purposes

- a) Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation re: Thank you

For information purposes

Action Required

- a) CAO re: Property Destroyed by Fire (Alfred McNamara)

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that taxes in the amount of \$343.82 be written off on the property owned by Alfred McNamara, located at 292 Hospital Road, which was completely destroyed by fire on February 11, 2019. Motion carried.

- b) CAO re: Property Destroyed by Fire (Boyd Babin)

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that taxes in the amount of \$202.84 be written off on the property owned by Boyd Babin, located at 137 Cove Road, which was completely destroyed by fire on January 13, 2018. Motion carried.

- c) Director of Public Works, Chris Boudreau re: Landrie Lake Water Utility Board and Advisory Committee Appointments

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Martell that the Committee recommend to Council that Warden Marchand and Councillor Goyetche be the two elected officials from the municipality to serve on the Landrie Lake Water Utility Board of Directors. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that Councillor Martell be the elected official from the municipality appointed to The Landrie Lake Watershed Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor Martell that Staff advertise the vacancy for a Richmond County resident to serve on the Strait of Canso Superport Corporation Board of Directors. Motion carried.

- e) CAO re: Trucker Association Proposed Rate Increase for Hauling Municipal Solid Waste (Discussed at Budget Meeting on March 8, 2019)

Moved by Councillor MacLean, seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee recommend to Council that a 10% rate increase, applied for a 5 year period, beginning April 1, 2019, for the Richmond County Truckers Association for trucking services related to trucking of solid waste and recycling to Guysborough and Sydport. Motion carried.

f) Gloria Hill re: Roads on Janvrin's Island (Letter of Support)

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that Staff write a letter to the Minister of the Department of Transportation requesting that, in addition to the paving scheduled to take place to the roads on Janvrin's Island, that the department investigate the need for guard rails, road repair due to erosion, bridge repair and shoulders built indicating that the conditions are a serious safety concern. Motion carried.

g) Request from Nova Scotia Community College re: Joint Industrial Park

Moved by Councillor Goyetche, seconded by Councillor MacLean that the Committee recommend to Council that the request received from the Nova Scotia Community College Heavy Equipment Operator Program for the provision a work site at the Joint Industrial Park in Port Hawkesbury to deliver the practical component of the program be approved pending investigation by the CAO into liability issues in addition to ensuring that the site would remain in good condition after use. Motion carried.

Review of Cheques Issued: April 2019

For information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Marchand indicated that the Committee hereby gives notice to amend By-Law #62, Wastewater Management District By-Law in order to accommodate the following changes:

- Redefining the geographic area for the wastewater management district to include all of Richmond County (excluding Chapel Island Mi'kmaq reserve) to allow for expansion of the project;
- Changes to the charges for new participants to reflect true construction costs;
- Changes to the payment terms for new participants to require a deposit in advance of the Municipality incurring engineering expenses and payment in full in advance of construction related activities;

- Implement a term of seven years after which systems installed under the program will cease to be registered as “municipal” systems and the systems will become the full responsibility of the Owner;
- Addition of an appeals process within the By-law for Owners having concerns regarding the replacement work being undertaken on their property;
- Other administrative changes and clarifications as noted in the proposed amended By-law.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Ellen Pollegato and Gina Stanley approached the Committee.

“In Camera” Session (Personnel/Legal)

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor MacLean that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 8:15 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor MacLean that the meeting revert to “Regular Session” at 9:15 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Boucher, seconded by Councillor Goyetche that the Committee recommend to Council that Don Marchand be appointed, for a one year term, as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality of Richmond County. Motion carried.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON:

CLERK:
