

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2010

The Committee has met twice since the last Council Meeting.

The Committee reviewed the District #3 Wastewater Management Study Project.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a municipal contribution in the amount of 75% of the net costs of the District #3 Wastewater Management Study after provincial funding, be approved; and further moved that the remaining portion of the project cost be recovered through a contribution from the Municipal District Fund - \$20,000 from District #3.

The Committee reviewed the matter of the surplus Government of Canada Building in Arichat.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and direct the CAO to write to the Federal Government indicating that the Municipality has no interest in the Surplus Government of Canada Building located in Arichat.

The Committee reviewed the request from the Richmond County Truckers Association, regarding an increase in rates for trucking of waste to Guysborough and Sydport.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the most recent pricing arrangement between the Municipality of Richmond and the Richmond County Truckers Association as outlined in their correspondence of January 8, 2010 is accepted

and further moved that municipal staff investigate alternative means of cost-effectively delivering this service.

The Committee reviewed the proposed project of the Little Harbour Authority to supply three phase power to Little Harbour.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and the CAO and implement the principles of the draft policy for participation in private and public infrastructure projects, with regards to the Little Harbour Authority three phase power project.

The Committee reviewed a memo from the Chief Financial Officer requesting that Municipal Council approve the pandemic contingency plan, for inclusion in the emergency plan.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Chief Financial Officer and that the Pandemic Contingency Plan be added to the Municipality's Emergency Measures Plan.

The Committee reviewed correspondence received from the Town of Yarmouth regarding a recent announcement to end ferry service between Yarmouth and New England.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and have the CAO write a letter to the MLA with copies to the MP and Regional Minister Peter MacKay expressing Council's support for the continuation of the ferry service between Yarmouth and New England.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Department of Canadian Heritage requesting that Municipal Council proclaim February 15, 2010 as "National Flag of Canada" Day.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that February 15, 2010 be proclaimed as “National Flag of Canada Day” in Richmond County.

The Committee reviewed a funding request from the Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency for their Green Action Project.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Strait-Highlands Green Action municipal funding request be approved in the amount of \$4,900.

The Committee reviewed the vacancy on the Board of Directors of the St. Peter’s, Samsonville & Area Water Utility, and staff have advertised for a municipal appointment to replace Deputy Warden MacNeil on the Board.

I move that Council give the Committee of the Whole authority to appoint a municipal representative at their February 22, 2010 Meeting, in order to fill the vacancy that currently exists on the Board of Directors of the St. Peter’s, Samsonville & Area Water Utility.

The Committee reviewed the matter of the Municipality acquiring a surplus property at Charles Forest Cove, from Public Works & Government Services Canada, PID # 75201459.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and proceed with the acquisition of the property at Charles Forest Cove.

The Committee reviewed the existing Physical Fitness Activities Policy, which requires an annual review.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Physical Fitness Activities Policy be recommended for continuation under the budget.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Eastern Counties Regional Library for upgrades to the Petit De Grat Library Branch.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff be directed to take all necessary actions to remedy the issue with the floor at the Petit de Grat library and ensure the space is fully functional and safe to use.

The Committee reviewed correspondence from Environment Canada regarding proposed amendment to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act (SARA): the list of Wildlife Species at Risk.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to Environment Canada expressing Municipal Council's support for the recommendation of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada to move the Cobblestone Tiger Beetle; the Whip-poor-will; Pygmy Snaketail and the Snapping Turtle, on the list of Wildlife Species at Risk, as outlined by Environment Canada.

The Committee reviewed correspondence from Caregiver Nova Scotia regarding the Annual Port Hawkesbury Caregiver Dinner that will be held on May 7, 2010 at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre; and I wish to report that each Councillor has been requested to provide staff with the name of a caregiver within their district that they wish to send to this function.

The Committee reviewed the matter of Area Advisory Committees.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the makeup of the Planning Advisory Committee be changed; and further moved that the Planning Advisory Committee become the Committee to review all plans in Richmond County.

Warden Boudreau advised the Committee that the ongoing issue with GASHA regarding fire protection charges for the Strait Richmond Hospital had been resolved, and noted that he was pleased to announce that \$85,000 has been received by GASHA, with a 20 year agreement signed whereby that they will pay the Municipality \$8,200 per year.

The Committee reviewed the Arichat Lift Station Project.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole AND WHEREAS the ratepayers have been consulted in 2008 and agreed to upgrade the Arichat sewer pumping stations at an estimated cost of \$423 per household per year based on a 15 year amortization period;

AND WHEREAS staff have reviewed tenders for upgrades to Arichat sewer pumping stations;

AND WHEREAS Superior Contracting submitted the lowest tender;

AND WHEREAS staff and consulting engineers negotiated a scope of work with Superior Contracting that respects the engagement of ratepayers as per the 2008 public meeting with estimated cost to ratepayers being \$414 per household per year based on a 15 year amortization period;

THEREFORE BE IS RESOLVED that staff be authorized to enter into a contractual agreement with Superior Contracting based on a tender price of \$837,000 plus applicable taxes.

The Committee also reviewed the matter of a temporary borrowing resolution for the Arichat Lift Station Project.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and the Chief Financial Officer and approve a borrowing resolution for the Arichat sewer project to a maximum of \$600,000, with the loan being amortized over fifteen years.

The Committee reviewed grant requests from the Riverdale Community Services Society, the River Bourgeois Community Services Society, the L'Ardoise Adult Recreation Club and the Bras D'Or Lakers Seniors Association.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following grants be approved:

- \$250 to the Riverdale Community Services Society - Municipal District Activity - \$5,000 Fund; District #5;
- \$90.25 to the River Bourgeois Community Services Society - Municipal District Activity - \$5,000 Fund; District #7;
- \$25,000 to the L'Ardoise Adult Recreation Club - Municipal District \$20,000 Fund; District #9;
- \$506.66 to the Bras D'Or Lakers Seniors Association – Municipal District Activity - \$5,000 Fund; District #10.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Isle Madame New Horizons Senior Citizens Club requesting a letter of support with regards to their funding application for an expansion to their Arichat facility.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter of support be provided to the Isle Madame New Horizons Senior Citizens Club regarding their funding application for an expansion to their Arichat facility.

The Committee reviewed the matter of making a monetary donation to the Haiti Relief Fund.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Richmond County Council make a contribution of \$1,500 via Red Cross to the Haiti Relief Fund, with the funding to be taken from general revenue.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Town of Port Hawkesbury, requesting a municipal contribution for the NewPage Invitational Minor Hockey Tournament, and requesting an increase in funding from \$1,200 to \$2,000.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a municipal contribution in the amount of \$2,000 be approved for the NewPage Invitational Minor Hockey Tournament.

The Committee reviewed the biosphere designation of the Bras D'Or Lakes.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and give approval to the biosphere designation of the Bras D'Or Lakes.

The Committee reviewed the matter of upgrading a section of the watermain on the Ferry Road in District #6.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that municipal staff be directed to proceed with making arrangements for upgrade of an approximately 200 metre long section of water main on Ferry Road in Louisdale to accommodate proposed developments in that area and that the Chief Financial Officer be consulted with respect to how this capital expenditure should be funded.

This concludes the monthly report of the Committee of the Whole, and I move its adoption.

