

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 12, 2007

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Office

Warden Boudreau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the singing of O'Canada.

The Clerk took roll call of Councillors.

Items Added to the Agenda:

Warden Boudreau indicated that the CAO wished to add a request to give First Reading approval to Amendments to the Land Use By-Law regarding the St. Peter's Plan; and establish a Public Hearing date and also Council appointment to the Planning Advisory Committee.

Moved by Martell, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Items Added be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes: February 12, 2007

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Beaton that the minutes of February 12, 2007 be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Notices of Motion:

- (a) Deputy Warden McNamara: to amend the Grants to Charitable Organizations Policy (attached as Appendix "A")

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the Grants to Charitable Organizations Policy be amended, as attached in Appendix "A".

The CAO noted that Committee of the Whole was recommending a further amendment.

Moved by Councillor Cotton, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the motion be amended to reflect that the Grants to Charitable Organizations Policy be further amended by deleting the first phrase in Section 2 that reads "In accordance with the Municipal Government Act". Amendment carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the motion to adopt the amended Grants to Charitable Organizations Policy be adopted, as amended. Motion carried.

- (b) Deputy Warden McNamara: to adopt the New Capital Water Projects Policy, as a policy of the Municipality (attached as Appendix “B”)

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Council adopt the New Capital Water Projects Policy, as a policy of the Municipality (attached as Appendix “B”). Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Deputy Warden McNamara presented the monthly report of the Committee of the Whole.

The Committee met three times since the last Council Meeting.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the “Grants to Charitable Organizations” Policy be amended in Section 2 to reflect that the 1% maximum will remain, but clarify that it is a municipal requirement; and further moved that the Committee recommend to Council that a policy be established to the effect that grant requests for major infrastructure projects that affect the whole or most of the county be dealt with separately from the three existing grant policies. Motion carried

Deputy Warden McNamara gave notice that she will introduce a motion at the next regular Council Meeting to amend the Policy “Municipal District Fund - \$17,000” by deleting the second paragraph of Section 1.4 that reads: “the funding request shall be the only one made by the organization or project to the Municipality, within the fiscal year, excluding the “Municipal Infrastructure Fund (Councillors District Activity Fund - \$3,000)” Policy” (copy of proposed amended policy is attached as Appendix “D”).

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Johnson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Warden be given authority to chose who will present the District Boundary Review final report to Council, the public and to the UARB. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that members of the Police Advisory Board be remunerated for mileage and for training/conferences attended, in the same manner as Councillors, or other Committee Members. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Warden be

authorized to select a panel to conduct interviews for the members at large for the Police Advisory Board. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Beaton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff be authorized to prepare a draft policy on assisting communities with studies for potential water and wastewater projects, to include legal advice regarding the municipal laws and policies that have to be amended or created. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Johnson that Council accept the recommendation of the Deputy Clerk and that the insurance tender for the Municipality be awarded to Fraser and Hoyt at the low tender bid of \$67,950. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to the Department of Transportation indicating that the Municipality is not interested in acquiring the surplus property located behind the NSLC property in Arichat. Motion carried

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality approve a loan guarantee of approximately \$63,000 for the St. Peter's Village Commission as required by the Municipal Finance Corporation for funding for purposes of the St. Peter's Groundwater Well field Development. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden McNamara reported that the Committee had received a very positive report from municipal staff, regarding substantial decreases in solid waste being collected; and she requested that Municipal Engineer Darrin McLean provide a summary for Council.

Mr. McLean reported that approximately one half of the solid waste in Richmond County is collected by municipal contractors at curbside, and this decreased in 2006 by approximately 50%. The remaining 50% of our solid waste is delivered directly to our West Arichat facility, and this also decreased by approximately 50% in 2006.

In discussion, Councillors unanimously commended the community of Richmond County, for their efforts in achieving such dramatic reductions in solid waste disposal.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and authorize funding of 75% of the estimated \$10,000 net cost of the Dundee Water System Pre-Design Study; and further moved that the residents of the community be advised that the Municipality will recover the remaining estimated \$2,500 in net costs from the community, either through water rates or an area rate (if the project does not proceed). Motion carried.

Deputy Warden McNamara gave notice that she will introduce a motion at the next regular Council Meeting to amend the Tax Exemption By-Law, to include the Isle Madame Welcome Plaza located at the Lennox Passage Bridge, which is owned and operated by the Isle Madame Tourism & Trade Association.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Johnson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Municipal Council move forward as soon as possible in making broadband one of our priorities for our strategic projects to be accomplished this year; and further moved that the CAO forward the information submitted by Councillors on the portions of the County that is not presently served; to the Strait Highlands RDA on Friday, March 9, 2007. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden McNamara reported that the Committee of the Whole had requested that an Adhoc Committee on Strategic Planning present terms of reference for a strategic planning initiative, and also the names of firms to be approached, at this March 12th Council Meeting.

The consensus of Council was that this presentation be postponed, because the Chair of the Committee was not present at the meeting.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of March 2007. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- (a) Hon. Chris d'Entremont re: Additional Nursing Home Beds, Richmond Villa
- (b) Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations re:
 - (i) 2007/08 Assessment Cost Recovery
 - (ii) Assessment Capping Program
- (c) Municipality of the District of Guysborough re: Indexing of Tip Fee at Guysborough Waste Management Facility for 2nd Generation Waste
- (d) Veterans Affairs Canada re: 90th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge

Warden Boudreau indicated that he will contact his local Legion to determine if there are any activities already planned to commemorate this occasion and suggests that other Councillors who have a Legion in their district also do the same.

The CAO noted that the correspondence refers to a war memorial in Richmond County that is dedicated to Vimy Ridge, but it does not provide information on which memorial is referred to (there are a number of war memorials in Richmond County).

(e) Richmond Academy re: Scholarship Fund

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Deputy Warden McNamara that Council provide two scholarships in the amount of \$750 each to Richmond Academy 2007 graduates and that the students that will be receiving the scholarships be determined by the school. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda:

(1) CAO re:

- (i) Request to give First Reading Approvals to Amendments to the Land Use By-Law Regarding the St. Peter's Plan; and establish a Public Hearing Date, followed by a Special Council Meeting.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council give First Reading approval to the amendments to the St. Peter's Land Use By-Law and Development Plan, as requested by Joe Rankin and Michael Sampson, and as recommended by District Planning Commission staff, in their reports attached with the item added; and further moved that Municipal Council establish a Public Hearing date of 6:30 p.m., April 2, 2007, followed by a Special Council Meeting. Motion carried.

- (ii) Council appointment to the Planning Advisory Committee.

Moved by Deputy Warden McNamara, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Council give authority to the Warden to consult Councillors and determine who will be appointed to the Planning Advisory Committee, after Deputy Warden McNamara consults members of the Planning Advisory Committee regarding meeting date changes and provides a report. Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period:

There were no questions.

Adjournment:

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.