

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 9, 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 Councillor.

Warden Boudreau indicated that Councillor Boudreau was unable to attend tonight's meeting because of work commitments.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Boudreau indicated that Councillor Cotton wished to add an item regarding Brian Marchand's water and sewer billings and Councillor MacPhee wished to add three items including the Sporting Mountain Plan, Veterans Independence Program and the Samsonville St. Peter's Water System construction.

Deputy Warden McNamara requested the unanimous consent of Council to add an item concerning recognition on an individual.

With unanimous consent of Council, Deputy Warden McNamara was permitted to add this item to tonight's agenda.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the items added be accepted as amended. Motion carried (unanimous).

Review of Minutes: (a) September 10, 2007 (Public Hearing)
(b) September 10, 2007 (Regular Meeting)

Moved by Councillor Beaton, seconded by Councillor Rankin that the minutes of the September 10th, 2007 Public Hearing and the September 10th, 2007 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Council Election: Deputy Warden

Warden Boudreau opened the floor for nominations.

Deputy Warden McNamara nominated Councillor Rankin for the position of Deputy Warden.

There were no further nominations.

Moved by Councillor MacPhee seconded by Councillor Cotton that nominations cease. Motion carried.

Councillor Rankin thus becomes the Deputy Warden.

Committee Reports:

Deputy Warden Rankin presented the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of October 2007.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and authorize a one year lease agreement with MLA Michel Samson for the two spaces that he is occupying at the Industrial Mall (bigger office upstairs, and downstairs space formerly occupied by InRich), at the rate of \$505 per month, which was previously determined by Municipal Council when the Industrial Mall ownership was assumed by the Municipality; and further moved that the appropriate municipal signing officers be authorized to execute the necessary documents. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that a letter be sent to Mr. Michel Samson, MLA, indicating that Council is pleased that he has wished to keep the current location of his office at the Industrial Mall and that Council is looking forward to a positive working relationship with him in the future. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that outside resources be engaged to assist Council with the difficulties being experienced in Council/staff relationships. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff be directed to draft a policy for new wastewater projects, for Council consideration. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff be authorized to prepare an outline of a review of the existing water and sewer systems in the county, and a strategy for prioritizing capital expenditures for municipal water and sewer, and that the report include an estimate of the external resources required. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff utilize the assistance of the District Planning Commission to carry out an analysis and review of procedures in other municipal units, with respect to public roads in subdivisions; and

further moved that staff be authorized to hire external resources if necessary. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Warden Boudreau be the representative mandated to represent Municipal Council on the Management Team for the E-Commerce Project. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden Rankin give notice that he will introduce a motion at the next regular Council Meeting to adopt a By-Law Enforcement Policy, as a policy of the Municipality.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff prepare a protocol for Council consideration, regarding water and sewer main extensions, with staff being authorized to access external resources if necessary, and further moved that requests by developers for water and sewer extensions be handled on a case by case basis, until a formal protocol is adopted. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that staff be authorized to work with the subdivision proponents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis White, to carry out an extension of municipal water services to their proposed subdivision, conditional on the developers installing the infrastructure to specifications approved by the Director of Public Works, and also providing a formal easement for the Municipality to access the water infrastructure, for purposes of maintenance, repair etc. Motion carried

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the appointments to the Richmond/Port Hawkesbury Joint Development Commission be Warden Boudreau, as required by legislation, and further moved that Warden Boudreau be authorized to appoint two other Council representatives. Motion carried.

Warden Boudreau noted that Councillor Johnson and Councillor Cotton will serve on the Committee.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor McNamara that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the grant request from the Riverdale Community Services Society in the amount of \$1,200 be approved and that money be taken from the Municipal District \$17,000 Fund for District #5 and that the grant request from the West Bay Pastoral Charge in the amount of \$1,000 be approved and that money be taken from the Councillor's District Activity \$3,000 Fund for District #5. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the grant request from the

Bonnie Brae Seniors Club in the amount of \$4,300 be approved and that funds be taken from the Municipal District \$17,000 for District #8. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Municipal Council support the initiative of Destination Cape Breton, in proceeding with a generic marketing strategy for Cape Breton Island; to include a maximum contribution of \$6,000, which will be funded from next year's budget, if the funding cannot be identified in existing budgets; and further moved that the support for the generic marketing strategy for Cape Breton Island be conditional on the approval of the generic marketing strategy concept by the Tourism Advisory Board of the Destination Richmond Tourism Co-Op. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Martell that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Warden be authorized to appoint a county representative to serve on the Evaluation Committee of Destination Cape Breton Island, for purposes of reviewing and approving of the successful proposal for carrying out the necessary work. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Johnson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Council approve of a contractual arrangement with the Richmond Arena Board/Association, which will provide for the Richmond Arena Board operating the Richmond Arena on a contract basis for the Municipality of Richmond;

AND FURTHER MOVED that the agreement include the operating budget presented by staff (copy attached as Appendix "A"), which includes a municipal commitment for operations of \$11,329;

AND FURTHER MOVED that the appropriate municipal signing officers be authorized to execute the necessary agreement;

AND FURTHER MOVED that these arrangements be conditional on the conveyance of the Richmond Arena property to the Municipality of Richmond, as outlined in the business plan of C.J. MacLellan & Associates, that was carried out by the Richmond Arena Board/Association. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the grant request from Our Lady of Assumption Parish Council be approved in the amount of \$1,400, and that this money be taken from the Councillors' District Activity Fund - \$3,000 for District #1. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cotton that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and rescind the motion made at the September 10, 2007 Council Meeting to appoint Councillor Clair Rankin (District Councillor), Darrin McLean (Director of Public Works), and a third representative to be

named by the Samsonville Water Committee; to be the municipal representatives on the Board of Directors of the St. Peter's, Samsonville and Area Water Utility. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and appoint Darrin McLean (Director of Public Works), Mr. Doug Landry and Mr. Richard Landry (representatives from the Samsonville Water Committee) as the municipal representatives on the Board of Directors of the St. Peter's, Samsonville and Area Water Utility. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that Mr. Sheldon Groom and Mr. Doug Landry be appointed to the Police Advisory Board. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Rankin, seconded by Councillor Sampson that the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of October be adopted. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

(a) Human Resources and Social Development Canada re: Literacy Funding

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor Martell that a letter be written to Human Resources and Social Development Canada requesting information on the criteria for accessing the \$162 million in new funding for language training. Motion carried.

(b) Returning Officer re: Report for the 2007 School Board Election

Councillor MacPhee indicated that he had received a number of complaints regarding one of the Enumerators in River Bourgeois, and he indicated that he would provide a copy of the complaints to the CAO.

(c) Department of Environment & Labor re: Canada-Wide Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent

It was noted that there will be a stakeholder focus session held in Dundee on October 16th, 2007, noting that anyone wishing to attend these sessions must confirm their attendance.

(d) Correctional Service Canada re: Restorative Justice Week 2007

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Cotton that he Week of November 18th to 25th be proclaimed Restorative Justice Week in Richmond County. Motion carried.

Council unanimously agreed to invite a guest speaker from Richmond County who is involved with Restorative Justice to a Council meeting to inform Council and the community of what Restorative Justice is.

Items Added to the Agenda:

(1) Councillor Cotton re: Brian Marchand's Water and Sewer Bills

Councillor Cotton read the memo circulated to Councillors from Mr. Stewart MacDonald regarding Mr. Brian Marchand's water and sewer bills, explaining why the water and sewer bills for apartments have changed.

Moved by Councillor Cotton, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that staff be authorized to provide correspondence to Mr. Marchand, to include a copy of Mr. MacDonald's memo that was circulated to Councillors, and a copy of the water rates and regulations for the water utility; and further moved that this information be provided to any other apartment dwellers who inquire. Motion carried.

(2) Councillor MacPhee re:

(i) Sporting Mountain Plan

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Councillor Cotton that the Municipality advertise for 10 people to serve on the Area Advisory Committee for the review of the Sporting Mountain Plan. Motion carried 7 to 2 (In Favor: Warden John Boudreau, Councillor Cotton, Councillor Martell, Councillor Beaton, Councillor MacPhee, Councillor Sampson, Councillor Johnson. Nay: Councillor McNamara, Deputy Warden Rankin)

(ii) Veterans Independence Program

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Deputy Warden Rankin that correspondence be sent to Prime Minister Harper reminding him of the promise he made to Mrs. Joyce Carter before he became Prime Minister, to extend the Veterans Independence Program to WW1 and Korean War veterans. Motion carried.

(iii) Samsonville-St. Peter's Water Construction

Moved by Councillor MacPhee, seconded by Deputy Warden Rankin that the Department of Labor be requested to investigate whether the proper safety procedures are in place at the construction site of the Samsonville-St. Peter's Water Project, in regards to traffic control in the work zone. Motion carried.

(3) Councillor McNamara re: Recognition of a Hall of Fame induction.

Moved by Councillor McNamara, seconded by Councillor MacPhee that a congratulatory message be sent to Mr. David Gunn for his recent induction to the American Public Transit Association Hall of Fame. Motion carried.

Fifteen Minute Question Period

Mr. Brian Marchand addressed Council regarding an explanation for his water and sewer rates.

Warden Boudreau indicated that staff will be providing Mr. Marchand with an explanation as soon as possible and that perhaps when the water rates are reviewed then his issue with his rates will be further addressed.

Mrs. Carol Rankin addressed Council regarding the Dundee Water Cooperative.

Warden Boudreau indicated that he will speak to the Director of Public Works regarding a public meeting that would also involve Council and will get back to her with further information.

Mr. Richard Burt addressed Council regarding the water rates for rental dwellings in Louisdale.

Adjournment:

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.