

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday March 10, 2020
Tusket, NS 6:30 p.m.

Present: Deputy Warden Guy Surette; Councillors Glenn Diggdon, Nicole Albright, Richard Donaldson, Kathy Bourque, and Calvin d'Entremont.; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, and Deputy Clerk/Recorder Kim Rowley.

Regrets: Councillor Lucien Leblanc, Warden Danny Muise & Councillor Roderick Murphy Jr.

Members of the PAC present: Donna Gaudet and P.Earl Muise

Members of the public present: none

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Deputy Warden Guy Surette.

Agenda:

On a motion by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque the agenda was approved as amended.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Deputy Warden Guy Surette asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

None declared

Presentations

WSP-Land Use By law and Municipal Planning Strategy

Anne Winters made a presentation regarding draft documents for the Municipal Plan & Land Use Bylaw.

She first highlighted the 5 goals created for our Municipality.

1. Increase the Diversity and Resiliency of the Local Economy
2. Increase the Diversity of Housing Options Across the Municipality
3. Foster an Active and Accessible Community for All Ages and Abilities
4. Protect and Enhance the Natural, Cultural, and Built Heritage
5. Foster Resilient, Sustainable, and Distinct Communities

Each of the goals will help provide clarity & consistency within our Municipality. Also, increase consistency in administration of documents, makes the process simpler, more fair and consistent, provides for 'predictable' development patterns, builds resiliency for future/unknown events, and gives the Municipality the tools and flexibility to respond to a changing economy, housing market, population and natural environment.

Anne brought up the 25-foot Riparian Buffer added into the Land Use-By Law. It is best practice to have them. The Province does not have a requirement for Municipalities to have the Riparian Buffer. Councillor Donaldson expressed his concerns with the riparian buffer. The enforcement will be complaint driven. Anne believe it's just the rivers, and lakes that the buffer will apply to and boat launches & wharves are waved by the clause. Council raised concerns regarding the riparian buffer & will discuss this matter further.

The second discussion was on the Cannabis Production/Processing Facilities. The Land Use By-Law would permit micro & standard facility. The Federal Government has standards on how the buildings are built.

Presentation Attached (2020031001)

Adoption of Minutes

Special Council Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2020

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Nicole Albright that the February 24, 2020 minutes of the Special Council Meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – February 25, 2020

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Richard Donaldson that the February 25, 2020 minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Bi-Annual tax bill information. CAO Alain Muise discussed the tax billing of other Municipalities excluding the Town because they send quarterly billing for water. Barrington & Shelburne Municipality have Bi-Annual Tax bills with 50% billing sent in April & the other 50% sent in September. We currently send out once a year. It costs us \$12,500 (\$9000 postage). We currently outsource to a company Queens Printing in Dartmouth. We could look at e-billing for residents to save on paper & postage, of course not all residents will accept e-billing. As this time, we are looking at software. Consensus from council is to stick to our current program.

Councillors' Report

Councillor Diggdon:

Attended the Mariners Centre Board Meeting and REMO Meeting. Also attended the breakfast at Ye Olde Argyle for Nakile Home for Special Care for the trail launch and attended Wild Game Supper in Quinan

Councillor Bourque:

Attended Yarmouth Industrial Commission, Recreation Department, Audit Course, and Chris d'Entremont meeting

Councillor Surette:

Attended Industrial Commission, Chris d'Entremont meeting, and did CIFA Interview regarding the new building and a few other items

Councillor Donaldson:

Attended Abuptic Festival Committee meeting. Exact dates not set yet but will be late July. Also attended meeting with Chris d'Entremont

Councillor Albright:

Attended Recreation Meeting where Wayne Hubbard spoke about the work that he has completed with the municipality. It was a great highlight of the work he does. Attended a fundraiser at the Argyle regarding Nakile, Splash Pad meeting, Eel Brook Fire Department meeting and meeting with Chris d'Entremont

Councillor d'Entremont:

Attended the fundraiser at Argyle for Nakile. Also attended a demonstration at the West Pubnico treatment plant for the new watering system and meeting with Chris d'Entremont

Warden's Report

Warden Muise reported that he attended the following meetings:

February 11 - Choice housing meeting

February 13 - Participated in interviews with Gail Kaiser and Paula Bourque at Nakile for the position of Director of Care. We interviewed 4 applicants.

February 14 - Attended a lunch session with Premier Stephen McNeil at the grand hotel. He took questions for a bit more than an hour. There were close to a hundred people in attendance. Also, on the 14th I attended the opening banquet of the provincial stick curling championship at the Yarmouth curling club. There were 20 teams participating in the tournament

February 19 - First executive meeting of REMO. I was appointed as vice chair

February 21. CDENE Board meeting at the Halifax Westin

February 24 - Special council meeting

February 25 - Committee of the Whole

February 28 - Interview with Stephanie Blanchette of Radio Canada regarding our decision on consolidation. Then attended a CDENE meeting at Université Saint Anne,

Tusket campus. And Attended a commemorative celebration of the 75th anniversary of the withdrawal of the Canadian troops from Italy. This was held at the Wedgeport legion

March 3 - Interview with CIFA. Discussed our decision on consolidation as well as our new building

March 4 - Audit committee training in the morning. Meeting with MP Chris d'Entremont in the afternoon.

March 6 - Attended demonstration at Pubnico sewer plant on new method for dewatering with Trident multi disk press

Staff Report

CAO Muise gave a brief highlight of the staff report attached to these minutes. Discussed the Grants to Organization application process is now online. Administration building is on the agenda, no decision to make. Discussed rural Internet and what the next steps will be and the when the next funding announcement will be. Airport Corporation made a presentation regarding an extension of the runway and what the costs would be. Discussion of the issue on the Willet Road leak. Received a visit from engineers that identified issues with the Willet Road water tank. The leak on the actual piping is unlikely and they made recommendations for other work to focus on before we receive our new tank.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded Kathy Bourque by that Council approve the Staff Report as presented.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Report Attached (2020031002)

Strategic Priority Topics

Priorities progress update

Deputy Warden Surette highlighted some areas of the report

For Decision

Information Sharing Agreement – Elections NS

Permission to receive a list of electors by April 1, 2020

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Nicole Albright that Council approve the Information Sharing agreement

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Regional Agreements & Structural Reform Conversation

This item was a notice of motion from last council meeting. CAO Muise suggested that this item will be under business arising until late spring. All in agreement that this can be brought up at future meeting. Staff to bring more information at future meeting.

No motion required

Letter of Support – Municipality of Barrington – Bid for 2021 World Championship of Axe Throwing

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council give a letter of support to the Municipality of Barrington for their 2021 bid for the World Championships of Axe throwing

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

New Admin Building Tender

CAO Alain Muise discussed the deadline that was March 4th. The contract was for landscaping, building, parking, paving and movement of old home. Does not include public road, architect fees and solar panels. Received 3 bids and all of them are qualified. The lowest bidder will know in the next few days. We can negotiate with the lowest bidder as long as we stay in budget. Information to make it public will be in the next few days. Will have to re-tender for the solar panels.

No motion required

Post Office Mailbox lighting in Tusket.

Councillor Nicole Albright brought attention to the Tusket Post Office mailboxes by La Tchusine. She has received complaints from residents about a safety issue and how dark the area is.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that Council request a letter to be sent to the Canada Post in Tusket about adding proper lighting to the parking lot mailbox area.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and for Information

Library Funding Update

Forward this item to next meet under Business Arising.

DMAH's 2020-21 Business Plan

No action, for information.

Cooke Aquaculture

No action, for information.

Epilepsy Association Purple Ribbon Campaign

No action, for information.

ARC Meeting Minutes

No action, for information.

Western REN CEO Report

No action, for information.

YCTDA Final Report

No action, for information.

Financial Requests

Community Grant – Eel Brooke & District Fire Dept

Councillor Albright explained the request is to help them purchase new equipment for training.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded Calvin d'Entremont to provide a \$500 District community grant to The Eel Brooke & District Fire Department

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Community Grant – Seniors Club in Pubnico

Councillor Glenn Diggdon explained the request is to help the club pay rent to the West Pubnico Fire Protection.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Kathy Bourque to provide a \$500 District community grant to Nouveaux Horizons de la Baronnie

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

Library Funding Update

Regional Agreements & Structural Reform Conversation (Late Spring)

Question Period

No Questions

In Camera

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Nicole Albright to recess the Regular council meeting to go in-camera to discuss salary scales and contract negotiations-administration building at 8:35pm

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Motion from in-camera:

It is moved by Consensus to recess the In-Camera meeting and go back to the Regular Council Meeting at ??PM.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by and seconded by that

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by consensus to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at ?? p.m.

Recorder
Kim Rowley

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____

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