

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Monday February 1st, 2021
Zoom 3:30 p.m.

Special Council Meeting

Present: Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright, Councillors Guy Surette, Richard Donaldson, Calvin d'Entremont, Ted Saulnier, Gordon Boudreau, and Kathy Bourque; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise and Clerk/Recorder Lori Murphy.

Regrets: Glenn Diggdon

The meeting was called to order at 3:39p.m. by Warden Danny Muise

Agenda:

On a motion by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Ted Saulnier the agenda was approved as circulated

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Warden Danny Muise asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.
None declared

For Decision

YMCA- Bridge Service

With COVID-19, the pool can open but will have limits. Fitness area can open as well but with COVID-19 restrictions. Will take long time to get ready so if council is interested, need to start now. It will likely take into summer and early fall to get ready. Questions around who will be opening the former Y. Whitecaps may have to cancel their service if not ready by September. For the former Y to open temporarily could possibly cost 3-5 hundred thousand.

If Argyle has to spend capital, it should only be for the opening. All of council wants a pool but sees no need for upgrades. Need to let public know that we are in favour of opening. If the town of Yarmouth has a plan, they have not disclosed it.

Other levels of government showed interest in helping with bridge. Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage has shown a strong interest in helping. Depart of seniors also wants to help with bridge.

CAO Muise not sure of cost of doing all the repairs to get pool running. The roof might need fixing. The biggest expense would be the pool. It might cost 20K for operational re-start. Questions around the cost of operating in terms of power and staff and how it would generate a revenue. All agree that around 20% should be Argyle's share. That is what percent of people from Argyle used the former Y.

Challenges to re-opening the Y would be starting that it is starting from scratch since no computers, staff etc. There would be an issue with who would pick up deficits and operating costs and what the fees will be. Concerns expressed about who will manage operations and staff. Need to keep n mind that it will not have the fund raising money as in the past.

All agree that Yarmouth bought the former Y building, and it should be up to them to answer the questions regarding operations. Yarmouth has to set the rules because they own it.

There is some concern over what will happen to all this work when the mariners center expansion opens. The Mariners Center expansion is still going ahead regardless of what happens with the former Y. We will need to ask the provincial political partners this question.

A pool is a service that we need for all residents, it would not just be helping the town. In order to attract people, you need to have attractions.

MODY is looking at alternate forms of service and not necessarily opening the pool. They are looking at solving the problem in a different way. MODY has expressed concerns with not being able to re-coup any money if the building sells and they are not interested in operations.

The aspects of this project that Argyle is not interested in is that they don't want the CAO deeply involved and Council needs to know what does a commitment mean? Would need Council supports the bridge.

Argyle could allocate a portion of COVID money for this. CAO Muise would have to contact Colton and Chris and let them know this is a temporary commitment and we are still in for the Mariners Center expansion.

CAO Muise explained that it is a combination of the uniform assessment, population and equal contribution is how we figured out the percent for the Y contribution. Does not take into account membership at the Mariners center. We need to make sure we have the percentages right.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council support the re-opening of the Yarmouth pool located at the former YMCA location in the sum of 75K with option to re-visit funding later.
Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Nicole Albright to adjourn the Special Council Meeting at 5:31PM.

Recorder
Lori Murphy

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____