

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday February 23rd, 2021
Tusket 6:30 p.m.

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

Regrets: Calvin d'Entremont

The meeting was called to order at 6:33p.m. by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright.

Agenda:

On a motion by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Danny Muise the agenda was approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Deputy Warden Nicole Albright asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

None declared.

Presentation

Michelle Amirault-CBDC services

Michele gave a brief overview of the services CBDC offer. Michelle gave a brief highlight of their history. CBDC is a non-profit organization dedicated to small business development in rural areas. They offer financing, training and advice. Located at Pier one complex 103 Water street.

Presentation attached (022301)

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2021

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Danny Muise that the February 9, 2021 minutes of the Regular Council Meeting be approved as amended.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Question regarding the sidewalk policy section of the minutes. Staff will look into the minutes to clarify. Changes to the minutes from Feb 9 will be changed to: Conversation regarding putting sidewalks on the capital plan. Priority setting meetings will need to happen first before policy is created.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Active Transportation plan

Councillor Saulnier spoke about issues with the Active Transportation plan. He spoke about the plan and concerns about certain areas not being included. District 2 was not included in the report. Upland, who completed the report has been contacted but staff

have not heard back yet. One concern is in relation to sidewalks in Plymouth but also that Comeau's Hill was not included in the report.

GSAR

Deputy Warden Albright spoke about the document from Delmar construction in relation to the structural integrity of the building. Two questions council still has to think about is sustainable funding for operations and capital funding. GSAR is applying for grants.

CAO Muise spoke about the request for decision. Council has already contributed \$8800 to GSAR this year. There are 3 major components for repairs which are new roof, repairs of eastern wall and a new well. Cannot do a drilled well at their current location. Delmar confirmed that the building will be structurally sound if repairs are completed. GSAR is asking for stable operational funding going forward. All 3 units have not been able to sit down yet to talk about funding.

CAO Muise addressed the question of available space at the Airport. Need to consider appropriate space. GSAR has not expressed an interest in leaving their current location. Conclusion is that the Airport is not ideal for either GSAR or the Airport owners.

CAO Muise also spoke about the cost of the repairs required. GSAR is asking provincial government for the roof repair costs. Argyle's contribution could be between \$35,300 - \$37,600. This could represent the higher end of a financial commitment, as it assumes 100% municipal funding and a commitment to fund from all three units.

It is moved by Guy Surette seconded by Kathy Bourque that staff set up a meeting for all 3 municipal units to discuss funding for GSAR.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

For Decision and discussion

Jared Dalziel-WSP-rezoning application

Jared spoke about the rezoning application. He explained the request. The planning advisory committee recommended council give first reading to Land Use By-law amendments to rezone a portion of the subject site along Dennis Point Road (PID 90081142) from Marine Industrial (MI) Zone to Light Industrial (LI) Zone to enable a micro cannabis production/processing facility for the purpose of enabling a public hearing.

Presentation attached (022302)

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council give first reading to consider approval of the proposed amendments to the Land Use By-law as contained in Attachment A of this report to rezone a portion of the subject site along Dennis Point Road (PID 90081142) from Marine Industrial (MI) Zone to Light Industrial (LI) Zone to permit a micro cannabis production/processing facility;

- proceed to a public hearing without a second meeting of planning advisory committee unless substantial comments are received from the public; and

- authorize staff to schedule a public hearing for the application.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

A public hearing will be conducted online due to COVID regulations. We will advertise on our FB site as well as our website. Staff will commit to get addresses of residents who are within 152 meters of the development and send letters to those residents. Staff will also place print ads at local businesses.

Low-income exemptions

Deputy Warden Albright explained the exemptions listed. Council would like to keep thresholds at same level this year. Consensus that the exemptions stay the same this year.

SPCA Services

Deputy Warden Albright explained the request for decision, Contract with SPCA is coming to an end and they would like to extend the contract to a 3-year contract.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve the CAO coordinate and sign a three-year service agreement with the SPCA for Dog bylaw services at an annual cost of \$29,445.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Lyme Disease Awareness month

Deputy Warden Albright explained the request. They would like the month of May to be Lyme awareness month. Conversation regarding the practice of proclamations.

WHEREAS Lyme disease is a serious illness caused by the bite of a black-legged tick infected with the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*; and

WHEREAS black-legged ticks carrying a variety of diseases or illnesses can now be found in all parts of Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS awareness, education and practicing preventative measures, such as daily tick checks and proper tick removal, can help reduce your chances of contracting tick borne diseases;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Municipality of the District of Argyle, do hereby proclaim May 2021 as “Lyme Disease Awareness Month”.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve that May be proclaimed as Lyme disease awareness month and that Council would enter into a communications process to increase awareness on the topic.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

CAO Muise spoke about posting information regarding Lyme disease on our FB site.

Transparency

Deputy Warden Albright explained the request for decision. Councillors would like to be kept in the know about meetings that they are not a member of. They would like a consistent way to get information on the meetings. Some meetings are now being recorded.

It is moved by Glenn Diggon and seconded by Danny Muise that Council approve that the CAO or his designate create and/or amend policy to increase Councilor and citizen access and inclusion on regional meetings, and that the policy be shared and presented to our partners for implementation.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

CAO Muise suggested that council reports include a list of the meetings and councillors report on the meetings. It would just be a verbal report.

Financial Statement

CAO gave a brief overview of the financial statement attached to these minutes. Predicting a surplus. Safe income has not been reflected here yet. Deed transfer tax is still soaring. Keep in mind there is still some unpredictably around COVID and it's impacts. Municipality is still in great shape this year.

It is moved by Guy Surette seconded by Kathy Bourque to accept the Financial statement as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Presentation attached (022303)

Correspondence and for Information

Response from Minister Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans

No action, for information

YMCA Letters

No action, for information.

Letter from Colton LeBlanc to Department Health and Wellness

No action, for information.

Fire Pond Update

No action, for information.

Question regarding any financials associated with the fire ponds. We will be revising our list of active fire ponds.

Financial Requests

Community grant- École Pubnico-Ouest

Deputy Warden Albright explained the request.

It is moved by Glenn Diggon and seconded by Kathy Bourque to provide a \$500 community grant to École Pubnico-Ouest.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

Councillor Boudreau would like to add a community grant for next meeting.

Question Period

In Camera

None

There being no further business, it is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Richard Donaldson to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:21p.m.

Recorder

Lori Murphy

Date Approved:

Chairman/Warden

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer
