

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE

Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, January 13, 2022
Zoom 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright; Councillors Glenn Diggon, Guy Surette, Gordon Boudreau, Ted Saulnier, Richard Donaldson, and Kathy Bourque, Acting Chief Administrative Officer Kyle Boudreau, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Municipal Clerk Scott Surette, and Executive Assistant/Recorder Chantalle Newell

Regrets: Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Councillor Calvin d'Entremont

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Warden Danny Muise.

Agenda:

On a motion by Nicole Albright and seconded by Richard Donaldson the agenda is approved with the addition of 9G and 10C.

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.

Presentation – Daniel Reid – Shag Harbour Incident Society

Danny began his presentation by telling Council about his interest in UFOs. When he visited the Shag Harbour museum for the first time, he was quite disappointed in the condition of the building. The Shag Harbour Incident Society would like to elevate the event that takes place annually in this area. Danny mentioned that they have scheduled the event over 2 days this fall at the Grand Hotel in Yarmouth. They currently have 6 speakers lined up, ranging from Halifax all the way to the United States. Danny indicated that the cost of this is going to be \$12,000 just for the venue and getting the guests here. The Shag Harbour Incident Society is requesting for funding from the Municipality of Argyle. Danny mentioned that if the event doesn't take off this year, the Society cannot afford to put it on again next year. He indicated that if he can get \$10,000 from the Town and 3 Municipal Units, the Society will be able to grow this event next week. Danny also mentioned that any money that is made from this even will go towards fixing up the museum in Shag Harbour.

Adoption of Minutes

Special Council Meeting Minutes – December 23, 2021

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Ted Saulnier that the December 23, 2021, minutes of the Special Council Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Special Council Meeting Minutes – December 29, 2021

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It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Nicole Albright that the December 29, 2021, minutes of the Special Council Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

Letter from MLA Colton LeBlanc regarding the Pubnico Head Carpool Parking lot.

MLA Colton LeBlanc responded to Council's letter concerning the lack of lighting in the Pubnico Head Carpool Parking lot. This letter indicated that he shares Council's concerns. He stated he has brought this up to the Department of Public Works, and staff have assured him that it has been addressed and there will be lighting in the parking lot installed in the spring.

Councillors Report

Deputy Warden Albright: Attended all regular and special Council meetings, Doctor Recruitment in December, she indicated that the navigators report was positive. Mariner's Center Meeting, the committee is currently awaiting approval from the Province for funding. She reminded Council to remind any politicians they know about the Mariner's Center project. GSARs roof is finished and they got a well put in. This is thanks to the Municipalities contributions. Deputy Warden acknowledged staffing changes and stated she is happy to have Scott Surette in his position and welcomed Natalie d'Entremont back to recreation. The Sainte Ann du Ruisseau sign club has their sign ready to be put up in the Spring. The Belleville group that Nicole has been working with is now a registered society, as they weren't before, and they were unable to get funding due to that. The Splash Park is doing great with fundraising, and they are hoping to be open in the spring.

Councillor Bourque: Regular Council meetings, joint police advisory committee.

Councillor Saulnier: Attended a Recreation meeting and a waste check meeting. He sent well wishes to Annie Muise, who turned 100 years old today.

Councillor Surette: Attended Regular Council and Special meetings, Area Industrial Commission meetings, special meeting with the Doctors from AM Clarke and Harbour South, regarding some issues, he ensures the issues are being resolved. He also attended a meeting with the Airport, Waste Check meeting, Mariner's Centre meeting, and audit committee meetings for the Industrial Commission.

Councillor Donaldson: Attended Industrial Commission, Waste Park meetings, and regular council meetings.

Councillor Boudreau: Working on a few projects that will be beneficial to Wedgeport, he is looking forward to getting his projects moving forward.

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Councillor Diggon: Met with staff from Tourism NS, they have been doing some work on this end of the province. He attended some meetings, worked with Peggy Boudreau on 3 files, 1 resolved, 2 ongoing. He indicated that Peggy is great to work with and always goes above and beyond for clients. He wanted to thank the West Side Improvement Society, they put up banners, 2 Christmas tree, the buoy tree that people come from all over to view, they also baked cookies for children to enjoy. Councillor Diggon also indicated that on August 15, for National Acadian Day, there will be an event held on Dennis Point, around the wharf with some activities and some live music. Glenn asked if Councillors could get notified again when Airport meetings and Mariner's Centre meetings are taking place so they can sit in on the meetings as spectators.

Warden's Report

Warden Danny Muise reviewed his report for November and December, listed below.

November 10: Choice Housing Meeting

November 15: Deputy Warden and I met with Department Heads, Eilidh, Marsha, Kyle and John, to get update on any issues at the office. All going well.

November 16: Gave office tours to our new facility. Very good comments from all who participated in the tour.

November 16: Attended Historical Society AGM

November 17: Special council meeting

November 17: Nakile Board Meeting

November 19: Carlton and Area Watershed meeting

November 23: Congre Mondial session at Club Acadien. This was an all day session with members from Argyle and Clare.

November 24: Mariners Center Expansion Steering Committee Meeting

November 24: REMO meeting with members of various fire department members at Lake Vaughan fire hall

November 26" Municipal annual Christmas party

November 30: ADA meeting with members of the Provincial government, Charlene and Alix

December 1: CDENE board meeting. First in person meeting in Halifax since the outbreak of Covid

December 2: Special council meeting

December 6: Meeting with Events Nova Scotia organized by Rick Alright. This was a follow up of a meeting that was held a while back to discuss some projects that would be taking place in our area and see what funding would be available through government grants.

December 6: Meeting with the Société Touristique Bon Temps Argyle.

December 6: Meeting with tri county Mayors, Wardens and CAO's. Regarding indigenous fishing December 14: Meeting with municipal department heads.

December 14: REMO Executive meeting

December 15: Volunteered at Nakile serving brunch to Nakile Staff.

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December 15: Mariners Center Expansion Steering committee meeting
December 29: Special council meeting. Re: sale of vacant lot

Staff Report

Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Kyle Boudreau reviewed the staff report as attached to the agenda.

Councillor Guy Surette was requesting a budget report, Acting CAO Boudreau informed Council they will have a full budget report for the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Councillor Ted Saulnier was asking about amending the existing Active Transportation Plan. He was wondering what kind of amendments will be happening and how much community involvement will be happening. Acting CAO Boudreau indicated that Natalie is currently working on it and there will be further information to come.

Councillor Bourque asked about the solar panels on the Willet Road in Pubnico. Acting CAO Boudreau mentioned that the company doing the job for us has been stuck on another job at the moment.

Attachment (011301)

For Decision

Article C43 – Traffic Calming Policy

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Nicole Albright to approve Article C43 – Traffic Calming Policy, as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

SHYFT House - Coldest Night of the Year Sponsorship Request

Council received a letter from the SHYFT House for the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser requesting sponsorship from Council. They proposed two options for Council to consider, for Council to provide a donation of \$500 or more, or registering the Municipality of Argyle team by recruiting 8-10 employees to participate in the fundraiser by walking and raising money.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Guy Surette that Council make a donation to the SHYFT House for the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser in the amount of \$500.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Glenwood/Lower Argyle Streetlight Request Form

Councillor Donaldson received a streetlight request form for an area in the Glenwood/Lower Argyle. The request received three resident signatures from the area. A motion is required if Council would like to approve or deny this streetlight request.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to approve this request for street light in the requested area.

Motion Defeated (1 in favour, 7 against)

Part time Building Inspector Designation

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John Sullivan has retired from his position of Full Time Building Inspector. A motion is required to designate him Part Time Building Inspector. Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Kyle Boudreau submitted a memo to council requesting this, as attached to the agenda.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded Gordon Boudreau by to designate John Sullivan as Part Time Building Inspector for the Municipality of the District of Argyle.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Nakile Home for Special Care – Tax Exemption Request

Nakile Home for Special Care has requested that Council reconsider them for continued partial exemption status.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that Council approve Nakile Home for Special Care's tax exemption request.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

West Pubnico Lift Station Pump

Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Kyle Boudreau explained to Council that one of the main 10 Horsepower pumps at the West Pubnico Lift Station on the Rock Road is no longer working. Once he started looking at a replacement, he was shocked by the price. He indicated that the budget line for the year for this plant is \$24,000 and they are currently reaching the budget line for the maintenance of this facility. Acting CAO Boudreau mentioned that this pump needs to be ordered regardless of where the funds come from, however, he is hoping Council will approve to use funds outside of the budget for this facility, as the funds currently there will need to be used for the rest of the maintenance for the year on this facility. Councillor Diggdon asked if staff received more than one quote, or if that was even possible. Acting CAO Boudreau stated that they have a current system in place for flight pumps, and there is only one supplier of flight pumps in the region. Acting CAO Boudreau wanted to mention to Council that they received a discount of approximately 25%.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Richard Donaldson to approve the purchase of the pump for \$12,943.77 plus HST.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Rocco Point Road Concerns

Warden Muise received a phone call regarding the Rocco Point Road. The resident was asking when the road was going to be fixed, as it is in horrible condition. Warden Muise indicated he thought it was on the list to be upgraded. However, there is no timeline for this to happen. He stated this resident is concerned about the condition of the road. Warden Muise is suggesting staff write a letter to the Minister of Public Works and copy our MLA, Colton LeBlanc asking to ensure that Rocco Point Road is on the list of roads that are going to be upgraded and if there is a timeline for the work getting done.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Nicole Albright to have staff write a letter to the Minister of the Department of Public Works, copying our MLA, Colton LeBlanc regarding the concerns for Rocco Point Road.

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Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and For Information

Western County Regional Library Board Meeting Minutes

No action, for information.

Letter from the Province regarding By-Law 41 – The Maintenance and Improvement of Private Roads.

No action, for information.

1792 Project

Warden Muise received a letter asking for the Municipality to make a motion and proclamation recognizing January 15th, 2022 as the 230th anniversary of the first and largest single exodus of African Descents returning to the Continent of Africa. Council discussed this request in detail, and decided to have an education piece put on the Facebook page on the anniversary.

Financial Requests

District Community Grant Request of \$500 for Glenwood Community Hall

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to approve the District Community Grant Request of \$500 for Glenwood Community Hall.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

Councillor Diggdon was looking for some advice regarding a flyer issue. People are receiving flyers and they don't pick them up, or flyers are getting delivered to houses that are vacant. He asked for Council's advice.

Many Councillors offered advice on how to solve this issue as a few of them have had similar issues in their districts.

Question Period

None.

In Camera

None.

There being no further business, it is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Ted Saulnier to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 8:16 pm.

Executive Assistant/Recorder
Chantalle Newell

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Date Approved: January 25, 2022

Chairman/Warden: Original Signed

Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Kyle Boudreau: Original Signed