MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 11, 2014
Tusket, NS 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Aldric d’Entremont; Deputy Warden Calvin d’Entremont; Councillors Danny Muise, Guy Surette, Kathy Bourque, Richard Donaldson; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise; Solicitor Réal Boudreau and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Frotten.

Regrets: Councillors Nicole Albright, Roderick Murphy Jr. and Lucien LeBlanc.

The meeting is called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Warden Aldric d'Entremont.

Agenda:
On motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque the agenda is approved with the addition of the Title Road under 9i.
Motion Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration
Warden Aldric d’Entremont asks for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

None declared.

Presentations and/or Petitions
None.

Adoption of Minutes
Planning Advisory Committee, October 3, 2013
It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that the minutes of the Planning Advisory Committee of October 3, 2013, be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Regular Council Meeting, February 11, 2014
It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 11, 2014, be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Committee of the Whole Meeting, February 25, 2014
It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Guy Surette that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 25, 2014, be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes
The report on business arising from the minutes of February 25, 2014 was presented to Council. The report included an update on the Municipal Office Building.

CAO Muise indicated that a small group of staff met regarding the municipal office building. He explained the group discussed the possible options, will assess a renovation versus a new construction and will request that a member of the District of St. Mary’s or the consultant who helped them with green globes to make a presentation to Council.

Councillor Muise questioned whether funds from the gas tax could be used if the building was certified under the green globes program.

CAO Muise explained that the possibility of certifying an older building is there, however he would be surprised if it was able to certify due to the research he’s made at this time.

Councillor Surette questioned CAO Muise regarding the date the motion made by Council to set aside funds for a new municipal building.

CAO Muise explained that the motion was made approximately 14 years ago.

Warden’s Report
On Feb. 10th and 11th, I attended CDÉNÉ meetings in Halifax. The first day was our regular meeting and the second was an all-day meeting to discuss our priorities for the next three years. Our next meeting will take place in the Municipality of Argyle in June.

On the 12th, I attended the meet and greet with the newly appointed directors of the Western Regional Enterprise Network. I am very impressed with the quality of the members of the board.

Dr. Terry Rohland and I met with Shirley Watson Poole and Dr. Sasha Cormier-Meyer and her husband at our clinic in Pubnico, she is in her first year of residency in Moncton.

I represented council at the 175th anniversary of the Bank of Nova Scotia branch in Yarmouth, their second branch after Halifax and brought them greetings and congratulations from Argyle.

On March 3rd, Alain and I met with Ken Biddington, a consultant for the CDÉNÉ to discuss our assets for recruiting economic development in our area, especially Argyle.

On the 5th, Alain and I attended a meeting on shared services with the Town of Yarmouth and Municipality of Yarmouth. Clare and Barrington were not able to attend. We had some very good discussions on what we see as priorities.

Last Thursday, March 6th, I attended the Yarmouth and Area Chamber of Commerce AGM at the Grand Hotel The guest speaker was Danny Morton from Nova Star Cruises. He told us that they are on track and plans are still for start-up date of May 1st.
Friday, March 7th, I attended the launching of the “Rendezvous de la Francophonie” at the Université Ste. Anne campus in Tusket.

**Councillor's Reports**

Deputy Warden d’Entremont reported that the tennis court retrofit in Pubnico began today and was impressed by the work done.

Councillor Bourque reported that the Nakile project had a flood and commended staff on the work that they do and their morale even with the renovations going on.

Councillor Muise attended the Kemptville fire department meeting and reported that they are looking for a 3 cent rate.

**CAO’s Report**

CAO Alain Muise reviewed his report that was circulated to Council and answered a few questions raised by Councillors. He highlighted a meeting he attended with the Quinan Fire Department regarding an area rate they would like to put in place. He noted that the Western Regional Enterprise Network had their first meeting and was encouraged by the group. He indicated that Destination Southwest Nova Scotia had called an emergency meeting which was a cause for concern. He also indicated that staff continues to continue work on regional matters such as the airport and the ferry.

**Report Attached**

**Other Business and for Decision**

**Port of Yarmouth / Ferry Terminal**

Councillor Donaldson explained that at some point, the members of the Industrial Commission will have to vote whether they agree with the amalgamation of the ferry terminal and the port assets. He indicated that he would like to get Council’s direction on how they would like to vote. He noted that he does not believe the municipality should fund wharves in the Town of Yarmouth any more than in the Municipality of Argyle and is requesting that staff gather financial information to help in making a decision.

Councillor Surette explained that he had understood that the Industrial Commission was looking to put the port of Yarmouth on its own.

CAO Muise noted that conceptually, the ferry terminal and port assets would go together properly due to their location. However, even with an amalgamation of assets, it does not mean that the Municipality of Argyle would have to own the wharves.

Deputy Warden d’Entremont questioned CAO Muise if the percentage of ownership of the port assets if they were amalgamated with the Industrial Commission would be the same percentage as within the Industrial Commission (33.3%).
CAO Muise explained that Council had passed a motion to contribute up to 20% in the renovation of the ferry terminal therefore that could lower the percentage of ownership from 33.3% if Council so wished.

2014 Council Priorities
CAO Muise presented the 2014 Council priorities developed through consultation with Staff and the priority setting workshop with Council. He also provided a brief summary of each priority and details on the projects that were included within each priority.

Deputy Warden d’Entremont explained that the Chambre de commerce d’Argyle is interested in partnering with the Municipality on a project and indicated that the chamber is open to ideas from Council.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve their 2014 priorities as presented.

*Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)*

Highway 203 Road Condition
Councillor Muise presented a letter from a resident which was received regarding the condition of Highway 203. Councillor Muise noted that the resident was also requesting an update on the timeline for repaving.

Councillor Donaldson indicated that Council had received an unfavorable response to the timeline of this project. He suggested that Council could send a letter requesting what the Province is intending to do with the road.

Councillor Muise requested that Council send another letter regarding this issue to reiterate its importance.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque to send a letter to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal regarding the condition of Highway 203 and the timeline for the project.

*Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)*

2014 Summer Staff Employees
CAO Muise summarized the 2014 Summer Staff Employee budget. He noted that this is a request from the Recreation Director for a pre-approval for the amount as the positions will be advertised. He indicated there would be one less student hired compared to last year.

It is moved by Calvin d’Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council accept the budget of $66,854.84 in the 2014/2015 fiscal year for the 2014 Summer Staff Employees.

*Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)*

Tusket Signs Request
Councillor Muise presented the request for decision which was brought by the Exit 33 Development Committee and prepared by Brenda LaGrandeur, Community Development Officer. He indicated that Brenda had verified that there are currently no signs indicating Tusket on Route 3. He noted that the request is to send is letter to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to install generic road signs on each side of Tusket on Route 3.

He concluded by indicating that a request had been made from staff however the request to install these signs had to come from the Municipality.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that council send a letter to the Yarmouth office of the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal and request that the two Tusket signs be fabricated and installed as soon as possible.  
Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

At this point, Warden d’Entremont stepped down from the chair and Deputy Warden d’Entremont took the chair.

Warden Stipend
CAO Muise explained the discussion paper, which includes a comparison of Warden and Mayor Stipends, to Council. He indicated that if Council wishes to effect a change, it could come in effect immediately or beginning in the next fiscal year. He also noted that the discussion can be deferred to another meeting or a decision can be made now.

Councillor Surette questioned whether a Mayor of a town would have more duties and responsibilities than the warden of a municipal district.

CAO Muise explained that it is difficult to answer that question as there are a number of variables but noted that the information gathered for Council was facts that could drive the discussion.

Councillor Muise explained that as 3 councillors are absent, he suggested deferring the decision to another meeting and review the

The item is deferred to a future meeting.

Third Party Credit Service Fee By-Law – First Reading
Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk provided a brief explication of the by-law presented to Council regarding third party credit service fee.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the draft Third Party Credit Service Fee By-Law receive first reading.  
Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Regional Climate Date Project - Phase 2
CAO Muise presented a request from the Shelburne County Business Development Center Limited which is proposing to advance to Phase II of a two-phase project related to collection, analysis and promulgation of regional climate data (Meteghan to Chester).

He noted that the project has a variety of partners, including a number of municipal units. He indicated that Council does not have to disperse the funds at this time, however must consider if they wish to pre-commit.

Councillor Donaldson expressed that he does not like with the late request, however does support the project.

Councillor Muise questioned whether the project was supported in its first phase.

CAO Muise indicated that Council supported the project the first phase of the project in the amount of $4,500.

Councillor Muise responded that since Council contributed in the first phase, he

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that Council approve the request for financial support to the Shelburne County Business Development Center Limited in the amount of $7,500 ($3,000 in year 1, $3,000 in year 2 and $1,500 in year 3) towards the project related to collection, analysis and promulgation of regional climate data conditional on an official application under our grants to organizations policy.

*Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)*

**Title Road Condition**

Councillor Surette reported that on the bad condition of the Title Road and explained that recently he does not believe an ambulance could pass.

He has requested that Council send a letter to the Yarmouth office of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to request that the road be repaired.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise that council draft a letter to the Yarmouth office of the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal to request that the road be repaired.

*Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)*

**Correspondence and for Information**

**Region of Queens Solid Waste Management Facility Fees**

Correspondence from the Region of Queens Municipality regarding the solid waste management facility fees were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

**UNSM Press Release - New Municipal Affairs Department**

Correspondence from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities regarding new Municipal Affairs Department was circulated to Council for their information.
It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that council send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mark Furey, regarding the new municipal affairs department.  
Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Financial Requests
None.

Notice of Motion by Councillors
None.

Question Period
A question from the public regarding how Council would measure their priorities.

In Camera
It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont to recess the Committee of the Whole Meeting and go In-Camera to discuss a personnel matter.  
Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Richard Donaldson to recess the In-Camera meeting and go back to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.  
Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque to increase the Chief Administrative Officer’s salary to $110,000.  
Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Recorder
Chris Frotten

Date Approved: ____________________________

Chairman/Deputy Warden ____________________________

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer ____________________________