

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

Tuesday, June 24, 2014

Tusket, NS 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Aldric d'Entremont; Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont; Councillors Danny Muise, Nicole Albright, Guy Surette, Lucien LeBlanc, Kathy Bourque, Richard Donaldson; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Director of Finance Marsha d'Eon and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Frotten.

Regrets: Councillor Roderick Murphy Jr.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting is called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont.

Agenda:

On a motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque, the agenda is approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration:

Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

Councillor LeBlanc declared a potential conflict of interest with item 5a and indicated he would excuse himself from the discussion.

Presentations and/or Petitions

Nova Scotia Music Week – Rick Allwright

Mr. Rick Allwright, Group Sales Coordinator for the Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association, was in attendance to make a presentation to Council regarding their bid for Nova Scotia Music Week in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Mr. Allwright explained the components of the event which includes music showcases, receptions, conferences and a new SuperShow, the investment necessary from the local municipal units to host the event, the economic impact study of the 2010 Nova Scotia Music Week held in Yarmouth as well some additional benefits of the event such as added hotel room nights sold, strengthened community pride and increased media exposure.

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

Financial Report

None.

Other Business and for Decision

Councillor LeBlanc excused himself from the Council Chambers at this time.

Commercial Tax Exemption Request

CAO Muise presented a request to Council to exempt commercial taxes from a property. He explained the chronology of events regarding the situation which resulted in the request and reviewed By-Law #28 on tax exemptions. He indicated that By-Law #28 did not specifically state how to address situations of this nature and that was the reason it was brought to Council.

CAO Muise concluded by providing Council with two options on how to proceed with the request: Consider the invoice as accurate and the taxpayer should be billed as such or consider that at December 1, 2013, the property was exempt under By-Law #28, thus the owner should not be taxable for the next 12 months.

Councillors provided their comments on the situation and raised their questions and concerns to the CAO.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Aldric d'Entremont that Council accept as at December 1, 2013, the property was exempt under By-Law #28, thus he would not be taxable for the next 12 months.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Councillor LeBlanc returned to the Council Chambers at this time.

Memorandum of Understanding – Community Renewable Energy Projects

CAO Muise explained the memorandum of understanding between the Town of Yarmouth and the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth for community renewable energy projects.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque to approve the signature of the memorandum of understanding for community renewable energy projects.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Building Canada Fund Priorities

CAO Muise noted the three projects that would be eligible in the Building Canada Fund which were discussed by Council at a previous meeting: the Wind Turbine COMFIT Project, the Wedgeport Sewer System and the Ferry Terminal Project. He noted that

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Guy Surette to approve the Ferry Terminal Project and the Wedgeport Sewer System as the 2 priority projects under the Building Canada Fund.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Capital Budget Approval

CAO Muise reviewed the capital budget by explaining the projects within the capital reserve budget and the balance of the revenues and expenses.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Guy Surette to approve the Capital Reserve Budget as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Operating Reserve Budget Approval

CAO Muise summarized the operating reserve budget. He reviewed the transfers of the operating reserve and the projects within the capital reserve budget.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to approve the Operating Reserve Budget as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and for Information

Waste Check Enforcement Officer Report

A Waste Check Enforcement Officer Report was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Provincial Response to 2013 UNSM Resolutions

Correspondence from the UNSM regarding the responses to their 2013 resolutions was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Department of Municipal Affairs – New Building Canada Fund

Correspondence from the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding the new Building Canada Fund was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Western Counties Regional Library – Minutes of March 20, 2014

Minutes from the Western Counties Regional Library of March 20, 2014 was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Financial Requests

Grants Request

Société Touristique Bon Temps d'Argyle

A request from the Société touristique Bon Temps d'Argyle is circulated to Council. CAO Muise noted that this was a request from a previous meeting and updated Council on the project. He answered some previous questions raised by Council regarding confirmed funding and other municipal unit participation.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Guy Surette to approve a grant of \$10,000 per year, for two years, to the Société Touristique Bon Temps d'Argyle for the Starlight Designation project.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

District Community Grants

Knights of Columbus

A letter from the Knights of Columbus requesting a District Community Grant of \$500 to help with the expenses of their Canada Day celebrations is circulated to Council.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of \$500 to the Knights of Columbus to help with the expenses of their Canada Day celebrations.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Immaculate Conception Cemetery

A letter from the Immaculate Conception Cemetery requesting a District Community Grant of \$500 to help with the expenses of their maintenance is circulated to Council.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Aldric d'Entremont to give a District Community Grant of \$500 to the Immaculate Conception Cemetery to help with the expenses of their maintenance.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Notice of Motion

None.

Question Period

None.

There being no further business, it is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Guy Surette to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:52 pm

Recorder
Chris Frotten

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Deputy Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____