MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - BUDGET
Tuesday, May 12, 2015
Tusket, NS 7:30 p.m.

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

Regrets: Councillors Nicole Albright and Roderick Murphy Jr.

The meeting is called to order at 8:01 p.m. by Warden Aldric d’Entremont.

Agenda:
On motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson the agenda is approved as circulated.
Motion Carried

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

None declared.

District Community Grants

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Kathy Bourque to maintain the District Community Grants at $18,000 ($2,000 per councillor).
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Low Income / Property Tax Exemption

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson to approve the low income/property tax rebate program in the amount of $14,550.
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Approval of Fire Budget

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque to approve the fire budget in the amount of $334,495.
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Approval of Sewer Budgets
Tusket Sewer Charge (Operating & Capital)
It was moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Danny Muise that Council establish an operating rate of $230.00 per equivalent unit and the capital rate of $206.84 per equivalent unit for the Tusket Sewer Charge for the 2015/2016 fiscal year.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**West Pubnico Sewer Charge (Operating & Capital)**

It was moved by Calvin d’Entremont and seconded by guy Surette that Council establish an operating/equivalent rate of $245.00 and the capital/equivalent rate of $211.00 for the West Pubnico Sewer for 2015/2016 fiscal year.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Resolutions**

**Interest Rate / Date On Overdue Accounts**

It was moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that Council establish an interest rate of 16% per annum on overdue accounts and that the current year’s property taxes be payable and due by July 31st, 2015 and interest will accrue after that date.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**West Pubnico Fire Protection Area Rate (Year 2 of 5)**

It is moved by Calvin d’Entremont and seconded by Danny Muise that Council set an area rate levy equivalent to Fifty Thousand ($50,000) Dollars be collected by means of tax billing in the areas and/or communities covered by the West Pubnico Fire Protection Association for the fiscal year 2015/16, this being year 2 of 5.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Wedgeport & District Area Rate (Year 6 of 15)**

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve an area rate equivalent to .07 cents per $100 of assessment be collected by means of tax billing, in the areas covered by the Wedgeport & District Volunteer Fire department for the fiscal year 2015/16, this being year 6 of 15.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Eel Brook & District Area Rate (Year 3 of 5)**

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise that Council approve an area rate equivalent to 0.045 cents per $100 of assessment be collected by means of tax billing in the areas and/or communities covered by the Eel Brook & District Volunteer Fire Department for the Fiscal year 2015/16, this being year 3 of 5.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**East Pubnico Area Rate (Year 1 of 5)**
It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve an area rate of .05 cents per $100 of assessment be collected by means of tax billing in the areas and/or communities covered by the East Pubnico Volunteer Fire Department for the Fiscal year 2015/16, this being year 1 of 5.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Islands & District Area Rate (Year 4 of 5)**

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that Council approve an area rate of .05 cents per $100 of assessment be collected by means of tax billing in the areas and/or communities covered by the Islands and District Fire Department for the Fiscal year 2015/16, this being year 4 of 5.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Kemptville & District Area Rate (Year 2 of 5)**

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve an area rate equivalent to .03 cents per $100 of assessment be collected by means of tax billing, in the areas covered by the Kemptville & District Volunteer Fire department for the fiscal year 2015/16, this being year 2 of 5.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Quinan & District Area Rate (Year 2 of 5)**

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that Council approve an area rate equivalent to 0.06 cents per $100 of assessment be collected by means of tax billing in the areas and/or communities covered by the Quinan & District Volunteer Fire Department for the Fiscal year 2015/16, this being year 2 of 5.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**District Community Grants**

**Plymouth Cemetery**

A letter from the Plymouth Cemetery is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 for general maintenance.  

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Plymouth Cemetery for general maintenance.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Immaculate Conception Cemetery Committee**

A letter from the Immaculate Conception Cemetery Committee is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to assist w their improvements.  

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Richard Donaldson to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Immaculate Conception Cemetery Committee to assist in their improvements.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*
**Le Club Acadien**
A letter from Le Club Acadien is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $250 to support their apple pie fundraiser.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $250 to Le Club Acadien to support their apple pie fundraiser. 
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Comeau’s Hill & Little River Harbour Recreational Association**
A letter from the Comeau’s Hill & Little River Harbour Recreational Association is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to help cover the cost of a portable toilet and street light.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Comeau’s Hill & Little River Harbour Recreational Association to help cover the cost of a portable toilet and street light. 
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Association des Clairmont, deVillers, Fitzgerald, Harris et Jacquard**
A letter from the Association des Clairmont, deVillers, Fitzgerald, Harris et Jacquard is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to help with the upkeep costs of their trail.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Association des Clairmont, deVillers, Fitzgerald, Harris et Jacquard to help with the upkeep costs of their trail. 
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**La société historique acadienne de Pubnico-Ouest**
A letter from the société historique acadienne de Pubnico-Ouest is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to support their activities.

It is moved by Calvin d’Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the société historique acadienne de Pubnico-Ouest to support their activities. 
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Patchwork Pals**
A letter from the Patchwork Pals is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $250 to help with the advertising and expenses of their quilt show.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Guy Surette to give a District Community Grant of $250 to the Patchwork Pals to help with the advertising and expenses of their quilt show.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*
Knights of Columbus 8988
A letter from the Knights of Columbus 8988 is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $250 to help with their second Canada Day Fun Day.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Danny Muise to give a District Community Grant of $250 to the Knights of Columbus 8988 to help with their Canada Day Fun Day.
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Club des Audacieux de Quinan
A letter from the Club des Audacieux de Quinan is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to support their annual Labour Day picnic.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Club des Audacieux de Quinan to support their annual Labour Day Picnic.
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Comité touristique de la paroisse Ste. Anne
A letter from the Comité touristique de la paroisse Ste. Anne is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to help with repairs and maintenance of the Chapel site at Rocco Point.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Comité touristique de la paroisse Ste. Anne to help with repairs and maintenance of the Chapel site at Rocco Point.
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Green Grove Cemetery Association
A letter from the Green Grove Cemetery Association is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to help with improvements.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Green Grove Cemetery Association to help with improvements.
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

New Horizons Historical Seaside Park Association
A letter from the New Horizons Historical Seaside Park Association is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to help enhance their park.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the New Horizons Historical Seaside Park Association to help enhance their park.
Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)
Pubnico Legion – Branch 66
A letter from the Pubnico Legion – Branch 66 is circulated to Council. They are requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to support their renovations.

It is moved by Calvin d’Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Pubnico Legion – Branch 66 to support their renovations.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Approval of Budgets**

**Operating Reserve Budget Approval**
CAO Muise summarized the operating reserve budget and reviewed the transfers to the operating reserve.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Danny Muise that 174,000$ of the March 31, 2015 surplus (unaudited) be transferred to the operating reserve.  
*Motion carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to approve the Operating Reserve Budget as amended.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Capital Reserve Budget Approval**
CAO Muise reviewed the capital reserve budget by explaining the projects within the budget and the balance of the revenues and expenses.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to approve the Capital Reserve Budget as presented.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Operating Budget**
CAO Muise began by presenting the strategic objectives and Council priorities which had an impact on the budget. Director of Finance d’Eon then presented an overview of the mandatory expenditures which are largely outside of Council’s direct control due to provincial legislation. CAO Muise followed with the detailed presentation of the operating budget to Council. Council asked questions, discussed a variety of line items and provided input on the presented budget.

It was moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to approve the 2015-2016 operational budget with the specific amendments totaling $7,820,192.00.  
*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*
Residential & Commercial Rates

It was moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that Council establish the residential Tax Rate at $1.07 per $100 assessment and the commercial Tax Rate at $2.25 per $100 of assessment for the fiscal year 2015/16. 

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Guy Surette to adjourn the Special Council Meeting at 9:11 p.m.

Recorder
Chris F rotten

Date Approved: ______________________________________

Chairman/Warden____________________________________

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer ________________