

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 14, 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; Solicitor Réal Boudreau and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Frotten.

Regrets: Councillor Roderick Murphy Jr.

The meeting is called to order at 6:34 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.

Presentations and/or Petitions

None.

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting, December 10, 2013

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 10, 2013, 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 December 10th, 2013 is presented to Council. The report included an update on the Municipal Boundary Review and the Municipal Office Building.

Municipal Boundary Review

CAO Muise outlined the requirements of the UARB regarding municipal boundary reviews and the information gathered to date on the review.

He began by explaining the modifications to the boundaries with nine districts that were included in the report on the agenda. He indicated that most of the adjustments were made to correct boundary lines that divided roads or did not include all the houses on the

same road. He added that the most significant change with nine districts is to district seven as it was the smallest and needed to become larger.

He continued with the explanation of the map and information for seven districts. He outlined the boundaries of the proposed districts and the reasoning behind their formation. CAO Muise concluded by indicating that Council did not have to make a decision on the specific scenario but should discuss it and suggest a possible timeline.

Councillor Surette suggested expanding the line of district B to include more of Tusket. CAO Muise noted that expanding the line into Tusket would not add that many electors but could be an option.

Councillor Albright questioned the process of public consultation and the submission of the report to the Utility and Review Board.

CAO Muise explained that time is a factor in the development of the process, however it should include public consultation and a review of the boundaries after the consultations.

Councillor Muise agreed that entering public consultations with more than two options would not be a good idea. He also indicated that the scenario of seven districts which was presented does work well in term of numbers but not so much in terms of communities of interest and it will be important to listen carefully during public consultations. He also noted that he would not be in favor of reducing to less than seven districts.

Councillor LeBlanc indicated that he commended staff on the options presented and would be comfortable presenting the two scenarios proposed to Council to the public for consultations.

Councillor Donaldson indicated that the process has been very important and should be clearly explained to the public. He suggests bringing the two options presented to Council to the public to receive input and make a decision afterwards.

Councillor Surette suggested including an article regarding the scenario of seven and nine districts in the next municipal newsletter to inform the public and provide an introduction to the public consultations.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Guy Surette to approve the proposed boundary scenarios for seven and nine districts as presented to Council.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Report Attached

CAO Muise suggested that Council should now begin to consider the process they would like to see in regards to public consultation and reporting and a draft process will be brought to Council at a future meeting.

Municipal Administration Building

CAO Muise highlighted the report outlining the notes of the meeting between Staff and the Eel Brook Fire Department, the notes from his trip to two municipal units with a combined building and the notes from a meeting the Eel Brook Fire Department had recently.

Councillor Albright summarized the two meetings which they had with the Eel Brook Fire Department and concluded that combining the fire department with a new municipal administration building would not be a viable option. She outlined that emergency vehicles rushing out of the department, the different construction requirements and the various extra costs associated with the combination as a few examples.

Councillor Muise indicated that the location of a new building was also an issue with combining both buildings. He continued to explain that the location of the current fire department is ideal in terms of population density. He also noted that it is still unclear in what was the fire department would like Council to assist and other meetings will be organised to continue the discussion.

Deputy Warden d'Entremont questioned CAO Muise on what the next step is for Council now that this conclusion has been made.

CAO Muise indicated that now that a decision has been made regarding combining buildings, he suggested gathering more detailed information regarding the renovation of the current building or the construction of a new building.

Warden d'Entremont highlighted the consensus of Council in regards to dismissing the study of a combined building and gathering more detailed information on renovation or new construction.

Warden's Report

Things have been quiet over the holidays except for Christmas parties and I have attended a few of those.

On January 10th, I attended a meeting with the Yarmouth County Trail Association along with Debbie Smith, Warden Goodwin, Deputy Mayor McLeod, Felton d'Entremont, Ginette d'Entremont and Natalie Surette d'Entremont. We have had 10 kms of the trail in Argyle topped with four inches of fine gravel which was badly needed.

Councillor's Reports

Councillor Surette indicated a few meetings he attended with the Bridge Committee and noted that June 21st, 2014 has been proposed as the ribbon cutting ceremony and that the floating of the old bridge is proposed for July 15th, 2014.

He also noted a Municipal Alcohol Project meeting he attended and outlined the future activities of the project which would see youth from all three high schools in the county getting together and discussing the impact of alcohol in the community.

Councillor Albright noted that she attended a session with the Argyle Recreation Committee on infrastructure in the municipality in which they determined the top five or six priorities for renovations.

Councillor Muise noted that he attended the New Year's Eve Levee at the Municipality of Yarmouth. He also questioned whether the Municipality of Argyle ever considered hosting a levee themselves.

Warden d'Entremont responded that a New Year's Eve Levee was discussed many times but was never organised.

Deputy Warden d'Entremont indicated that in the past, the Musée acadien has hosted a levee but has not in the most recent years.

CAO's Report

CAO Alain Muise reviewed his report that was circulated to Council and answered a few questions raised by Councillors.

Report Attached

Other Business and for Decision

Destruction of Documents

CAO Muise explained the documents noted in his affidavit which he recommended for destruction.

It is moved by Calvin d'Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque that

WHEREAS the documents and records of the Municipality of the District of Argyle as set out in the Affidavit of Alain D. Muise, Chief Administrative Officer and Municipal Clerk, sworn to on the 14th day of January, A.D., 2014 are no longer required;

AND WHEREAS according to the said Affidavit the said documents and records have been personally examined by the said Clerk and he has determined that there is nothing of value therein and that the said documents and records do not include any documents or records which are exempt from destruction pursuant to Section 3 of the Destruction of Documents By-Law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the said documents and records as set out in the said Affidavit of the said Clerk be forthwith removed and destroyed.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Affidavit Attached

Emergency Funding Request - Yarmouth Airport Corporation

CAO Muise explained the request for emergency funding by the Airport Corporation. He outlined the specifics of the agreement between the municipal units and the financial contributions of the Municipality of Argyle to the Yarmouth Airport from the past 8 years.

Councillor Surette noted that he recently attended two meetings of the Airport Corporation and recognises the amount of the investment. He highlighted the increase in contributions since the agreement was signed and suggested that a different arrangement be established if a new agreement is signed.

Deputy Warden d'Entremont agreed with Councillor Surette and questioned the amount that the airport under billed the municipality.

CAO Muise responded that approximately \$37,000 was under billed to the municipality over a three year period when compared to the budget.

Councillor LeBlanc indicated that he also agreed with Councillor Surette and Deputy Warden d'Entremont regarding the renewal of the agreement in the coming years. He noted that there are a lot of advantages and assets at the airport and cautions Council not to underestimate the airport's value to the community.

CAO Muise indicated that the emergency funding would be absorbed by the current operating budget.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont to approve the emergency request for funding for the Yarmouth International Airport Corporation amounting to \$47,500.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 1 against – Richard Donaldson)

Correspondence and for Information

Tri-County Regional School Board – School Bus Red Light Violations

Correspondence received from the Tri-County Regional School Board regarding school bus red light violations was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Submission of Final Copy of the MCCAP

Correspondence received from Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations regarding their receipt of the final copy of the Municipal Climate Change Action Plan was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Financial Requests

Grant Request

Bay of Fundy Sea Kayak Symposium

A request from the Bay of Fundy Sea Kayak Symposium is circulated to Council. They are requesting a grant of \$7,500 to help with the marketing costs of the event.

CAO Muise noted that Council had 3 options: approve the grant contrary to the grants to organizations policy, send a letter of intent indicating to apply to the grants to organizations process or reject the request.

Deputy Warden d'Entremont indicated his uncertainty regarding the approval of the request but noted the success of the event and the importance of providing this funding to an event which is held in the Municipality of Argyle.

Councillor Surette agreed with Deputy Warden d'Entremont but also recognized the issue of the policy.

Councillor Muise also agreed with his colleagues and questioned whether a letter would be sufficient.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson to modify the grants to organizations policy.
Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Notice of Motion by Councillors

None.

Question Period

A member of the public suggested that Council include what the impact would be on residents if they chose to reduce the amount of polling districts or alter boundary lines.

There being no further business, it is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Guy Surette to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Recorder
Chris Frotten

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____