

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, September 30, 2014
Tusket, NS 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Warden Aldric d'Entremont; Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont; Councillors Danny Muise, Nicole Albright, Roderick Murphy Jr., 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: None.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting is called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont.

Agenda:

On a motion by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque, the agenda is approved with the addition of Wedge Haven Seniors Committee District Community Grant Request under item 8a.

Motion Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration:

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

None declared.

Presentations and/or Petitions

Western Counties Regional Library – Erin Comeau

Mrs. Erin Comeau, Regional Library Director with the Western Counties Regional Library, was in attendance to make a presentation to Council regarding the Pubnico Library's highlights in 2013-2014.

Mrs. Comeau explained the history and funding revenues of the Western Regional Counties Library and noted the library statistics which included book stock, open hours, circulation and programs. Mrs. Comeau also explained the other regular programs, the support and services provided by the library and the work and partnerships within the community.

Council discussed the possibility of using the library remotely from the home or office and questioned whether the attendance was stable.

Business Arising from the Minutes

CAO Muise updated Council on the removal of the submerged Eel Lake boat.

Financial Report

CAO Muise summarized the financial report at August 31, 2014. He noted the anticipated surplus at fiscal year-end of \$195,846 but indicated that it was still very early in the fiscal

year. He also noted that some scheduled projects have not yet begun which has increased the surplus.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. to accept the unaudited Financial Report at August 31, 2014.

Motion carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Financial Report Attached

Other Business and for Decision

Relief of Taxes Request

CAO Muise explained the request for the relief of the presented taxes is part of the ongoing work by the tax department to correct problem accounts.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Danny Muise that Council approve the tax relief in the amount of \$1848.55 as presented.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Approval of Audited Financial Statements

Mrs. Gloria Banks and Mr. Chris Ellis, both Chartered Accountants with Grant Thornton, were in attendance to make a presentation to Council regarding the audited consolidated financial statements as of March 31, 2014.

Mrs. Banks explained to Council that they had previously met with the audit committee and provided a detailed explanation of the audited financial statements. Mrs. Banks proceeded to review the financial statements and answer questions asked by Council.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council accept the recommendation by the audit committee to accept the audited consolidated financial statements as of March 31, 2014 as presented.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council adopt the audited consolidated financial statements as of March 31, 2014 as presented.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Grants to Organizations - Fall Requests

Deputy Warden d'Entremont noted the council averages and Council discussed the amounts.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Guy Surette that Council approve the amounts as presented to Council, but add \$100 to the Plymouth Hall request and \$100 to the East Side Community Hall request.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Mink Farming Position Paper

CAO Muise indicated the position paper presented to Council was a second draft and noted the modifications in detail.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Nicole Albright that Council accept the recommendations of the position paper as presented.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Speed Signs in North & East Kemptville

Councillor Muise indicated that two speed limit signs were missing in the North and East Kemptville area and the residents were requesting that they be replaced.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc that Council send a letter to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal requesting that staff investigate and assure that these signs are erected.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Capital Investment Plan Approval

CAO Muise presented the Capital Investment Plan to Council and answered questions raised by Council.

It is moved by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve the Capital Investment Plan for the fiscal years 2014/2015 to 2018/2019.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Liaison and Oversight Committee Member

CAO Muise noted that Council was required to appoint a member to the oversight and liaison committee of the Western Regional Enterprise Network.

It is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council appoint Councillor Lucien LeBlanc to the Western Regional Enterprise Network Liaison and Oversight Committee.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and for Information

Western Counties Regional Library September 2014 Report

The Western Counties Regional Library's September 2014 Report was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Western Counties Regional Library – Minutes of June 19, 2014

The minutes of the Western Counties Regional Library Board Meeting of June 19, 2014 were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Waste Check Enforcement Officer Report

The Waste Check Enforcement Officer Report of June 15 – August 15, 2014 was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Yarmouth and Area Industrial Commission – Minutes of August 18, 2014

The minutes of the Yarmouth and Area Industrial Commission Board Meeting of August 18, 2014 were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Dept. of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal – Route 3 Paving

Correspondence from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal regarding the paving of Route 3 in the community of Lower Argyle and Argyle was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Nakile Home for Special Care Property Taxes

Councillor Muise reported that at the last Nakile Board meeting, the issue of the property taxes was raised since the expansion has increased the value of their property. He explained they would like to be tax exempt as other nursing home facilities are but was only providing this as information to Council, until more information could be studied.

Council discussed the request to exempt the property taxes and debated possible options.

It is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Kathy Bourque to direct the Chief Administrative Officer to continue to gather information and study the request to exempt the property taxes of the Nakile Home for Special Care and provide a report to Council on possible options.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Financial Requests

District Community Grants

Wedge Haven Seniors Committee

A letter from the Wedge Haven Seniors Committee requesting a District Community Grant of \$500 to help purchase new furniture is circulated to Council.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise to give a District Community Grant of \$500 to the Wedge Haven Seniors Committee to help purchase new furniture.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Notice of Motion

None.

Question Period

None.

In Camera

It is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Guy Surette to recess the Committee of the Whole Meeting and go In-Camera to discuss a Personnel Matter.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Kathy Bourque to recess the In-Camera meeting and go back to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:24 pm

Recorder
Chris Frotten

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Deputy Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____