

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
Tuesday, April 28, 2015  
Tusket, NS 6:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Warden Aldric d'Entremont; Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont; Councillors Danny Muise, 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:** Councillor Nicole Albright.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting is called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont.

**Agenda:**

On a motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr., the agenda is approved with the addition of Handicap Accessibility under 6f.

*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**

None.

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

None.

**Financial Report**

Director of Finance d'Eon summarized the financial report at March 31, 2015. She indicated an anticipated annual surplus of \$114,183 at year end without any transfers from reserves. She noted a number of positive variances in the revenues and expenses which resulted in the surplus.

It is moved by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to accept the unaudited Financial Report at March 31, 2015.

*Motion carried (8 in favour, 0 against)*

*Financial Report Attached*

**Other Business and for Decision**

2015 Grants to Organizations Budget

CAO Muise noted that in an effort to help improve community infrastructure, which was one of Council's top priorities for 2015, he suggested that Council could increase the grants to organizations budget for this year to reflect that priority.

Council discussed the impact of the increase on the budget and when and how the extra funds would be disbursed.

CAO Muise indicated that it is ultimately Council's decision on the amount but that Staff would ensure it be included in the budget as it was a priority of Council. He also recommended that the increase in the budget be used during the current spring disbursement

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. to increase the Grants to Organizations budget to \$77,500 for the 2015/2016 fiscal year.  
*Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)*

#### Noise By-Law Exemption Request - CRE8 Art Centre

Deputy Warden d'Entremont explained that the CRE8 Art Centre is requesting another noise by-law exemption for their outdoor concerts on Friday and Saturday nights from 7-10 PM. The exemption would be from 9-10 PM as playing loud music during that time period is contrary to the by-law.

Council questioned whether Staff had received any complaints during the last exemption. CAO Muise indicated that no complaints had been received during the previous exemption.

It is moved by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to approve the an exemption request made by CRE8 Art Centre under section 7 of the Noise By-Law and extend the time which provides singing and playing music on Thursdays and Saturdays by 1 hour until September 30, 2015.  
*Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)*

#### Proclamation – VON Week – May 17-23, 2015

Deputy Warden d'Entremont presented a letter from VON requesting that Council proclaim the week of May 17-23, 2015, VON week and celebrate VON's contribution and commitment to the home and community care sector in Canada.

No action was requested by Council.

#### COMFIT Program – Letter of Request

CAO Muise presented an e-mail from Neil MacKenzie, Chair of the Green Energy Committee, requesting the local municipal units to send letters to the Province in regards to restarting the COMFIT program. He noted that the program has been terminated by the Province but that the joint wind turbine project with the Municipality and Town of Yarmouth was approved before the end of the program.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson to send a letter of request to the Department of Energy in regards to restarting the COMFIT Program as soon as possible.  
*Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)*

#### Operating and Capital Budgets - 2015 Priorities

CAO Muise presented a number of graphs to Council outlining the trends of specific revenue and expense groups in the budget. He analyzed each graph and explained the comparisons from year to year. He also provided a detailed explanation of any major difference represented on a graph. CAO Muise concluded that the graphs and numbers would be sent to Council.

CAO Muise concluded by presenting the draft capital budget to Council.

#### Handicap Accessibility

Councillor Surette raised a concern regarding the handicap accessibility issue of the municipal building. He questioned whether a platform could be added in the municipal office to resolve the issue.

Council discussed the issue and agreed that the lack of handicap accessibility is an issue but no other action was requested by Council.

CAO Muise noted that at one time an application was submitted to the Province to install a ramp and contractors were asked to provide recommendations however the application was denied and the recommendations were too costly in terms of money and space. He also explained that less costly options did not meet code.

#### **Correspondence and for Information**

##### Yarmouth Argyle Home Support Services Annual Report

The Yarmouth Argyle Home Support Services' Annual Report was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

##### Yarmouth International Airport Corporation Annual Report

The Yarmouth International Airport Corporation's Annual Report was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

##### Waste Check Enforcement Officer Report, March 2015

The Waste Check Enforcement Officer's report for March 2015 was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

##### Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission – Minutes of March 16, 2015

The minutes of Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission's Board Meeting of March 16, 2015 were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

#### **Financial Requests**

None.

#### **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 7:41 pm

Recorder  
Chris Frotten

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman/Deputy Warden \_\_\_\_\_

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer \_\_\_\_\_