

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, March 29, 2016
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, and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Frotten.

Regrets: Councillor Roderick Murphy Jr.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:29 p.m. by Deputy Warden Calvin d'Entremont.

Agenda:

On a motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque, the agenda was approved with the addition of Cusk under 6g.

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

Coldwater Lobster Association - Bernie Berry

Mr. Bernie Berry, President of the Coldwater Lobster Association, was in attendance with Richard d'Entremont, member of the Clean Water Action Committee, to make a presentation to Council regarding their efforts to permanently remove Sites 3 and 4 from any future Canada Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board Oil and Gas Exploratory Lease Site Auctions.

Mr. Berry explained the locations and issues with lease sites 3 and 4, the vulnerability of fishery habitat in relation to the lease sites, their concerns with the use of chemical dispersants, the lack of regulatory oversight, examples of the rapport between oil and gas exploration and the fishing industry in Norway and their call for action from municipal government.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Aldric d'Entremont to send a letter of support of this issue on behalf of the Municipality of Argyle and participate in a joint resolution or letter from other interested municipal units.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

Deputy Clerk Frotten updated Council on the public consultations regarding the municipal administration building review and on the assessment by engineers in April or May of the Hipson Bridge.

Financial Report

Director of Finance d'Eon summarized the financial report at February 29, 2016 and indicated an anticipated surplus at fiscal year-end. She noted the considerable positive variances in the revenues and a variety of positive variances in the expenditures which resulted in the anticipated surplus as at March 31, 2016 of almost \$187,492.

It is moved by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Danny Muise to accept the unaudited Financial Report at February 29, 2016.

Motion carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Financial Report Attached

Other Business and for Decision

Wedgeport Wastewater Systems Project - Evaluation of Consultant Engineering Proposals

Deputy Clerk Frotten presented the evaluation by BRK Engineering Inc. of the consultant engineering proposals for the Wedgeport Wastewater Systems Project preliminary design phase. He noted the technical and financial evaluation scores and the recommendation made by BRK Engineering Inc. to award the RFP to ABLE Engineering Services Ltd.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Kathy Bourque to accept ABLE Engineering Services Inc. for the pre-design phase of the Wedgeport Wastewater Systems Project.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Municipal Government Act Review

Deputy Clerk Frotten reminded Council of the ongoing MGA review and explained that these minor changes of wording were the first to be circulated for approval by all municipalities for their comments. He noted that CAO Muise recommended the changes and did not see a need for Council to comment.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque to accept the proposed changes to the MGA and provide no comments.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Letter of Support – Pubnico Point Trail Association

Deputy Warden d'Entremont explained that the Pubnico Point Trail Association was requesting a letter of support from the Municipality to support other funding requests.

It is moved by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Danny Muise to send a letter of support to the Pubnico Point Trail Association regarding their trail project.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Letter of Support – Yarmouth County Trail Development Association

Deputy Warden d'Entremont presented a letter from the Yarmouth County Trail Development Association requesting a letter of support from the Municipality to assist

their organization in their presentation to the Town of Yarmouth in an effort to allow ATV usage on Water Street to connect both trails.

Council discussed their role in the decision of allowing ATV usage on Water Street, the popularity of ATV use on trails and the financial benefits it brings to the area.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to send a letter of support to the Yarmouth County Trail Development Association in their effort to allow the use of ATVs on Water Street to connect both trails.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 1 against)

Proposed Marketing Incentive – Airport Passenger Service

Deputy Clerk Frotten presented a request for decision on a proposed marketing incentive for airport passenger service at the Yarmouth Airport. He noted that the WREN and the Airport engaged Intervistas to do the data mining work on their behalf and that they recommended that the airport approach Air Canada with the information as they would be in the best position to offer the desired service. He explained that as part of the pitch to Air Canada, the advice received was that a community incentive is typical to encourage a service of this type.

He highlighted that incentives are typically twofold; marketing support (local community marketing) and reduced landing fees in the early part of the service to share the risk of a new start up service. He clarified that the Airport would be recommending a reduced fee, and that that portion would be approved by the Board and that Council approval is not required. He did emphasize however that Council approval would be required for any marketing dollars specifically used to support the restoration of passenger service.

He concluded that the amount was not confirmed yet but the CAO recommended that Council agreed that the nature of the investment is agreeable in principle, and that the amount would be determined at a future date.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Aldric d'Entremont to approve, in principle, a marketing and promotion incentive to support our case to restore scheduled passenger service to our area. The amount, once determined, shall be considered in budget deliberations of 2016-17.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Returning Officer Appointment

Deputy Clerk Frotten explained that 2 excellent candidates applied for the position of Returning Officer and that after interviews and deliberation, they were recommending Sandra Reede. He also noted that this motion would ratify the decision made by Council on March 15th.

It is moved by Danny Muisse and seconded by Nicole Albright to appoint Sandra Reede as the Returning Officer for the 2016 municipal elections.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Cusk

Councillor LeBlanc raised the ongoing consultation on the proposed listing of cusk to List of Wildlife Species at Risk as an endangered species. He described cusk and explained the irregularities in the data gathering and the impact it could have on the lobster fishing industry.

Council discussed the issue and the possible actions which could be taken.

It is moved by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to draft a letter regarding the proposed listing of cusk to List of Wildlife Species at Risk as an endangered species drafted and its impact on the lobster fishing industry and present it to Council before sending.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and for Information

Municipality of Yarmouth - Motion on Regional Priorities

The minutes of the Argyle Municipal Fire Fighter's Association of November 12, 2015 were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

WREN CEO Report of February 26, 2016

The WREN CEO report of February 26, 2016 was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

WREN Approved Business Plan & Budget

The WREN approved business plan and budget were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Housing Nova Scotia - Board Vacancy

Correspondence from Housing Nova Scotia regarding the vacancy of the Municipality's representative on their board was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

RCMP Costs 2016/2017

Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice advising Council of the anticipated costs of the RCMP and DNA analysis was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Mariners Centre - Minutes of March 16, 2016

The minutes of the Mariners Centre meeting on March 16, 2016 were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Financial Requests

District Community Grant

Dennis Point Harbour Authority

A letter from the Dennis Point Harbour Authority requesting a District Community Grant of \$500 to help with the cost of extra bracing for their deck was circulated to Council.

It is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Guy Surette to give a District Community Grant of \$500 to the Dennis Point Harbour Authority to help with the cost of extra bracing for their deck.

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 Richard Donaldson to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:44 pm.

Recorder

Chris Frotten

Date Approved:

Chairman/Deputy Warden

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer
