

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, September 13, 2016**  
**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; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Solicitor Réal Boudreau and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Frotten.

**Regrets:** Councillor Richard Donaldson.

The meeting is called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Warden Aldric d'Entremont.

**Agenda:**

On motion by Calvin d'Entremont and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. the agenda is approved as circulated.

*Motion Carried*

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

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

None declared.

**Presentations and/or Petitions**

Consolidated Financial Statements - Mrs. Gloria Banks

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, 2016.

Mrs. Banks explained to Council that they had previously met with the audit committee to provide 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 Danny Muise that Council accept the recommendation by the audit committee and accept the audited consolidated financial statements as of March 31, 2016 as presented.

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

**Adoption of Minutes**

Building Committee Meeting – July 19, 2016

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. that the minutes of the Building Committee Meeting of July 19, 2016, be approved as circulated.

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

### Regular Council Meeting – July 25, 2016

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Nicole Albright that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of July 25, 2016, be approved as circulated.

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

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

#### Reimbursement for Attending Meetings and Conferences Policy

CAO Muise presented the new policy and highlighted the amendments which were debated by the policy committee but brought to Council for further debate.

Council discussed specifically the reimbursement for travel within the municipality.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. to approve the Reimbursement for Attending Meeting and Conferences Policy as presented.

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

#### Councillor and CAO Expense Reporting

CAO Muise explained that this item was a notice of motion by Councillor Surette and gave a brief overview of possible options as to how the expenses could be reported.

Council discussed the possible options and the amount of staff work required.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to begin reporting Councillor and CAO expense claims immediately on the municipal website by scanning the documents claims as they come in.

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

### **Warden's Report**

On July 31<sup>st</sup>, I took part in the welcoming of the Hawaiian canoe, the Hokulea. It arrived in Yarmouth on Sunday morning and was greeted by some of the local politicians and members of the Acadia Band, including chief Robinson. It was a beautiful ceremony.

Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>, Natalie Surette-d'Entremont organized a Dragon boat event and attracted a boat load from Argyle. It was a training session but we are not yet ready for competition. Thanks Nat.

Aug 16<sup>th</sup>, I attended the announcement and signing of the agreement with our province on infrastructure program. The agreement was signed by our Prime Minister and our Premier.

Also on that day, I attended a meeting of the three Planning Advisory committees of Yarmouth County to receive the Municipal Alcohol Plan, a guide for creating policies.

On the 27<sup>th</sup>, I attended the weighing of the tunas and the closing ceremonies of the Wedgeport Tuna Tournament. Congratulations Wedgeport on a job well done.

During the last week, I attended two meetings in Halifax, the CDENE on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and the Active Transportation committee on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, on Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, I attended a day long meeting with a group of people from Portland and local politicians and economic development people. This was organized by the town of Yarmouth and the WREN. We had some very good discussions on what we can accomplish by working together.

### **Councillor's Reports**

Councillor Muise reported on his attendance at the Fire Services review meeting hosted by the Province. He noted that a lot of good discussions were had and other conversations were planned in different locations.

Councillor Albright reported on her attendance at the Quinan summer picnic, at the grand opening of the Deep Sky Eye Observatory, on the increased usage of the Belleville Tennis Court and the ongoing construction at École Belleville.

Councillor Surette reported on his attendance at the Waste Park, Yarmouth Industrial Commission and Waste Check meetings. He noted the continuing work of the Industrial Commission on demolishing a portion of the Domtex building and Waste Check's budget struggles as the Province reformulates the funding sources.

Deputy Warden d'Entremont reported on the Pubnico Trail Association's success at securing funding from the Province and their work in applying for more. He also reported on the smell on Pond Road that seems to be improving and his work with the Department of Public Works to try find a solution.

Councillor LeBlanc reported on another successful Wedgeport Tuna Tournament and congratulated the organizing committee and all the volunteers.

Councillor Bourque reported on her attendance at the annual picnic and thanked the volunteers for all their hard work in organizing that event.

### **Staff Report**

CAO Alain Muise reviewed the staff report that was circulated to Council; reporting specifically on the progress of the Building Committee's work, the Wedgeport Wastewater Project, the wind turbine project, the ongoing work at the Yarmouth Airport and the WREN contribution agreement.

*Report Attached.*

### **Other Business and for Decision**

#### Status Update on Water Issues in the Municipality

CAO Muise updated Council on the water issues the residents of the municipality were facing due to the extremely dry summer. He also presented an information bulletin prepared by the Emergency Management Office of Nova Scotia which presented weather forecasts and outlined the assistance being provided by EMO Argyle.

Council discussed the depleting water sources for the fire departments and the contact person for water assistance since the EMO Coordinator was on a leave of absence. CAO Muise explained that all calls regarding water issues should be forwarded to the municipal office.

#### Heritage Property De-Registration – Sluice Point School House

CAO Muise presented a request from the Heritage Advisory Committee to de-register the Sluice Point School House as a heritage property.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise to approve the de-registration of the Sluice Point School House as a heritage property.

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

#### Amended Alternative Voting By-Law #32 - Second Reading

CAO Alain Muise presented the amendments to the alternative voting by-law #32.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Kathy Bourque to approve the second reading and adopt By-Law #32 on Alternative Voting.

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

#### Municipal Government Act Review Update

CAO Muise 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. He recommended the changes and did not see a need for Council to comment.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. to accept the proposed changes to the MGA and provide no comments.

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

#### Wedgeport Wastewater Project Approval

CAO Muise explained that the Department of Municipal Affairs was seeking confirmation before October 3, 2016, by way of a motion, that the Municipality planned to proceed with the approved project.

It is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Guy Surette to approve the Wedgeport Wastewater Project.

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

#### Islands and Districts Fire Hall Well

Councillor Surette explained to Council that the well at the Island and District Fire Hall had gone dry and he was requesting financial assistance from Council to pay for the cost of digging a new well.

Council debated the request noting the water issues faced by residents, the financial implication of this decision and future requests of this nature.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise to approve a financial contribution of \$2,000 to the Islands and Districts Fire Department for a new well.  
*Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)*

Application for Registration as a Fire Department

CAO Muise explained that the Wedgeport Fire Department and Wedgeport and District Fire Protection Association both represented the Fire Department and for them to borrow funds under the rules of the MGA, the organization that applied for the registration had to be the same organization that owned the property and assets and borrowed any funds.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. to approve the Wedgeport and District Fire Protection Association as a Fire Department.  
*Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)*

**Correspondence and for Information**

Annual Report - Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC)

PVSC's annual report was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

WREN CEO Report of August 2, 2016

The WREN CEO Report of August 2, 2016 was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Municipality of Barrington - Changes to the Resolution Process

Correspondence from the Municipalities of Barrington and East Hants regarding the changes to the UNSM resolution process was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

2015-2016 June Building Permit Comparisons

A comparison of building permits issued in June 2015 and 2016 was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Dept. of Municipal Affairs - Provincial Capital Assistance Program

Correspondence from the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding the approval of funding from the Provincial Capital Assistance Program was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

WREN Rural Internet Roundtable Meeting Notes

Notes from the WREN rural internet roundtable meeting were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

**Financial Requests**

None.

**Notice of Motion by Councillors**

None.

**Question Period**

None.

**In Camera**

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Roderick Murphy Jr. to recess the Regular Council Meeting and go In-Camera to discuss Contract Negotiations and Acquisition, Sale, Lease and Security of Municipal Property.

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

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque to recess the In-Camera meeting and go back to the Regular Council Meeting.

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

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muisse to instruct the CAO to make a counter offer on a lot in the Tuskent Industrial Park in accordance with Council's instruction in-camera.

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

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Danny Muisse to approve a financial contribution of \$4,000 to repairs to a provincial wharf on Birch Road in Eel Brook.

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

There being no further business, it is moved by Roderick Murphy Jr. and seconded by Guy Surette to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Recorder  
Chris Frotten

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

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

Alain Muisse, Chief Administrative Officer \_\_\_\_\_