

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
138th ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, April 10, 2018
Tusket, NS 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Richard Donaldson; Deputy Warden Danny Muise; Councillors Nicole Albright, Guy Surette, Lucien LeBlanc and Kathy Bourque; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise; Solicitor Réal Boudreau and Municipal Clerk Chris Frotten.

Regrets: Councillors Calvin d'Entremont, Roderick Murphy Jr. and Glenn Diggdon.

Warden Richard Donaldson called the 138th Annual meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda:

On motion by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Danny Muise the agenda was approved with the addition of Letter of Support – Barrington Recreation Complex under 15g and a personnel matter in camera.

Motion Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Warden Richard Donaldson asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

None declared.

Presentations and/or Petitions

Conseil de développement économique de la Nouvelle-Écosse (CDÉNE) - Francine Thimot

Mrs. Francine Thimot, Operations Manager for Clare and Argyle, and André LeBlanc, Manager of the Louis E. Deveau Entrepreneurship Centre, were in attendance to make a presentation to Council regarding the CDÉNE's general and employment services.

Mrs. Thimot explained the employment services they provide to job seekers and employers, the work they do in the field and in their offices and Mr. André LeBlanc presented the business and entrepreneurship services offered by the CDÉNE and explained how to reach them to begin the process.

Presentation Attached (18041001)

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting – March 27, 2018

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 27, 2018, be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

UNSM Priorities

CAO Muise reminded Council that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities was seeking feedback on their priorities for the upcoming year. Council discussed the list of potential priorities; commenting in particular the Solid waste system and extended producer responsibility priority.

Warden Donaldson noted that improved rural internet service could also be added to the list as it effected the municipality.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Nicole Albright that Council defer the final comments to the April Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Councillor's Reports

Councillor Bourque reported on her attendance at the Joint Council Meeting and the Lower East Pubnico Wharf Association meeting.

Councillor Albright reported on a meeting regarding she attended in Barrington regarding a Recreation Complex project which she would be elaborating on in the added agenda item (15g).

Councillor LeBlanc reported on his presentation to the grade 5 students at École Wedgeport regarding municipal governance.

Warden's Report

March 16th – Canada NS Offshore Petroleum Board

March 19th – Priority Workshop

March 19th – YAIC

March 20th – Joint Council

March 21st – Affordable Housing

March 21st – Offshore Oil Meeting (Shelburne)

March 27th – Council

April 3rd – Abuptic Festival Meeting

April 4th – Waste Park

April 4th – Doctor Recruitment

April 4th – Joint Council

April 10th – Annual Council Meeting

Staff Report

CAO Alain Muise reviewed the staff report that was circulated to Council; reporting specifically on a recent meeting with the Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture regarding a pilot project, a recent infrastructure funding announcement between the Province and the Government of Canada, the completion of the Wedgeport Wastewater project, the progress of the new municipal administration building project, Council's priority setting process which is nearing completion and his work at the airport on funding applications.

Report Attached (18041002)

Appointment of Auditors

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve the firm Grant Thornton LLP as auditors of the Municipality for the fiscal year 2018-2019.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Appointment of Solicitor

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve the firm of d'Entremont Boudreau as Solicitors of the Municipality for the fiscal year 2018-2019.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Council Remuneration Resolution

Warden Donaldson explained that Council should make a resolution every year to reaffirm that 1/3 of the payment be a non-taxable expense allowance. He noted that for 2019 and later tax years, non-accountable allowances paid to the Councillors will need to be included in their income.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Danny Muise that,

Whereas Municipal Councillors are not directly compensated for home office expenses,

And whereas Municipal Council may declare that up to 1/3 of Councillors' remuneration may be treated as a non-taxable expense allowance,

Therefore be it resolved that one-third of all remuneration paid to the Warden, Deputy Warden and members of Municipal Council in the 2018-2019 fiscal year shall be designated as a non-taxable expense allowance.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Appointment of Officers

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Nicole Albright that Council approve the enclosed list of appointments as Officers of the Municipality of Argyle for the fiscal year 2018-2019.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Membership to UNSM and FCM

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Guy Surette that Council approve its membership to UNSM and FCM for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Strategic Priority Topics

None.

For Decision

YASTA Core Funding Request

Mr. Neil Mackenzie, Executive Director of the Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association (YASTA), was in attendance to make a presentation to Council regarding YASTA's core funding request.

Mr. Mackenzie gave an overview of the 2017 tourism statistics in the Province and in the Yarmouth and Acadian Shores region, their goals for 2018 and the funding requirements to attain those goals.

Warden Donaldson noted that the funding request would be discussed during budget deliberations.

Yarmouth Amateur Radio Club - Trailer Purchase Request

CAO Muise presented a request from the Yarmouth Amateur Radio Club to purchase the portable office trailer attached to Dr. Peter Loveridge's medical office. He noted that disposal process had not yet been completed but that the club did provide a service to the fire departments.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Kathy Bourque that staff examine our options for internal use of the trailer, and if the trailer is considered surplus, enter negotiations with the Yarmouth Amateur Radio Club for the purchase of the portable office trailer.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

MPAL Memorandum of Understanding

CAO Muise brought forward the memorandum of understanding for the Municipal Physical Activity Leadership program which was up for renewal. He noted that the only difference was that the proposed agreement had a one-year term rather than a multi-year term.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Nicole Albright that Council approve the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Award - Property Tax Sale Tender T01-2018

CAO Muise presented a tender opening report for a property sold by tax sale tender.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc that Council approve the bid of \$1,800 by Mr. John Vanderkruk for the property at 3327 Highway 334 in Lower Wedgeport (AAN# 03802485).

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Solar COMFIT Opportunity

CAO Muise presented two locations which were selected for investment in solar power through a solar energy COMFIT program through the Provincial government. He provided a financial assessment of each location and noted that both options were feasible.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the investment in solar comfit project – West Pubnico Treatment plant be authorized and funded by the Gas Tax Fund.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the West Pubnico Fire Department be approached to discuss the possibility of investment in the COMFIT solar project.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Martiners Centre 2017-2018 Deficit Funding

CAO Muise explained that the audited financial statements of the Mariners Centre of March 31, 2017 indicated an accumulated deficit of \$65,035 which, according to the 1/3 funding agreement, amounted to \$21,678 to the municipality.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Danny Muise that we approve payment of the accumulated deficit for fiscal 2017 of \$21,678 to the Mariners Centre.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Letter of Support - Barrington Recreation Complex

Councillor Albright reported on a meeting she attended with a group advocating for physical activity in Barrington. She explained their preliminary work to date and the priorities they had established through surveys to move forward towards building a recreation complex.

Council requested details on the group and more information on the proposed project.

Other Business

Overtime Policy Amendments

Municipal Clerk Frotten reviewed amendments to the Overtime policy and noted that it would serve as Council's official notice to be considered at the following meeting.

Fire Inspection Policy

Municipal Clerk Frotten reviewed the draft Fire Inspection policy and noted that it would serve as Council's official notice to be considered at the following meeting.

Municipality of Argyle Family Advisory Council

Municipal Clerk Frotten provided a brief overview of the proposed Argyle Family Advisory Council.

Unightly Premises Committee

Municipal Clerk Frotten explained the concept of a Dangerous Premises Committee which was discussed at the Unightly Premises forum in December.

Correspondence and for Information

Société des Jeux de l'Acadie – Launch of Selection Process

Correspondence from the Société des Jeux de l'Acadie regarding the beginning of the selection process for the 2021 Finale des Jeux de l'Acadie was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Western Counties Regional Library – Minutes of December 7, 2017

The minutes of the Western Counties Regional Library Meeting of December 7, 2017 were circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Nova Scotia Press Release - High Speed Internet Funding

A Press Release from the Provincial government regarding high speed internet funding was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

The Housing: Now and Into the Future Survey Summary and Results

A summary and results of the housing survey were circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission - Wastecheck Diversion Credit Issue

Correspondence from the Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission regarding Wastecheck's diversion credit issue was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Ride Hailing Program Information

A presentation on the ride hailing program was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Department of Justice - Additional Officer Program

Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice regarding the review of the Additional Officer Program was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Nova Scotia Fracking Resource and Action Coalition - Hydraulic Fracturing

Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Fracking Resource and Action Coalition on hydraulic fracturing was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Western REN Newsletter - March 2018

The Western Regional Enterprise Network's March 2018 newsletter was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Lake Vaughan Road Condition Letter

Correspondence from the Lake Vaughan Fire Department regarding the poor condition of the Lake Vaughan Road and Mike's Road was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

2017-2018 March Building Permit Comparison

A comparison of building permits issued in March 2017 and 2018 was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Nova Scotia's Recreational Cannabis Legislative Framework

An information bulletin on the framework of the Provincial government's recreational cannabis legislation was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

RFP #MODA027 - Residential Building Removal/Sale

A memo from the Director of Public Works regarding tender #MODA027 Residential Building Removal/Sale was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Nova Scotia House of Assembly Act Amendment - Electoral Boundaries

An amendment to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly Act regarding electoral boundaries was circulated to Council. No action was requested by Council.

Financial Requests

None.

Notice of Motion by Councillors

None.

Question Period

A member of the public asked questions regarding funding to th'YARC and the overtime policy.

In Camera

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Guy Surette to recess the Regular Council Meeting and go In-Camera to discuss Personnel Matter.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Nicole Albright to recess the In-Camera meeting and go back to the Regular Council Meeting.
Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque to adjourn the Annual Council Meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Recorder
Chris Frotten

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____