

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES**

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administrative Centre, 285 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish NS.

Present were:               Warden Russell Boucher, Chair  
                                  Deputy Warden Owen McCarron  
                                  Councillor Mary MacLellan  
                                  Councillor Donnie MacDonald  
                                  Councillor Vaughan Chisholm  
                                  Councillor Rémi Deveau  
                                  Councillor John Dunbar  
                                  Councillor Gary Mattie  
                                  Councillor Bill MacFarlane  
                                  Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer  
                                  Beth Schumacher, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
                                  Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Regrets:                     Councillor Hughie Stewart

Gallery:                    Lucille Harper, Antigonish Women's Resource Centre  
                                  Susan Ross, Antigonish Women's Resource Centre  
                                  Sarah O'Toole, Antigonish Women's Resource Centre

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden Boucher, at 5:33pm.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Deputy Warden McCarron that the agenda be approved. Motion carried.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee of the Whole minutes of February 2, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Moved by Deputy Warden McCarron and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that the Committee of the Whole minutes of February 7, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.*

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**ANTIGONISH WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE PRESENTATION**

Ms. O'Toole provided the members of the Committee with a brief overview of the scope of the Centre's work, providing a handout with a summary of highlights, projects and initiatives that have come out of the Centre. The Women's Resource Centre has been in operation for 35 years, and is a registered

charity operating using a rural hub model. The Centre will be applying for grant funding for two specific programs that they offer: Healthy Relationships for Youth, and Inspire. Questions that followed included queries regarding the nature of the services provided, as well as volumes and types of community members that utilize the resources available through the Centre. There were also questions asked about the nature of the school-focused programming, including the measurable outcomes of those programs. The representatives of the Antigonish Resource Centre were thanked for their presentation by the members of the Committee.

### **FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

Mrs. Duggan provided the Committee with follow-up figures and options as per the discussion and direction provided at the February 2<sup>nd</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting. Questions followed with respect to the options for term lengths, UARB involvement, and which of the proposals would be the Committee's preferred course of action. There was also some discussion about the impact of imposing an interest rate on capital improvements charges, and what that might mean for any proposed term lengths. Staff will return with additional information for the Committee's consideration.

### **SPECIAL DISTRICT GRANT BALANCES**

In accordance with the requirements of Policy 34 (Council Special District Grant Policy), an update on the balances and distribution of the Council Special District Grants is being provided for the Committee's information for the second time during this fiscal year. A question was asked regarding roll-over restrictions; Mr. Horne noted that this had been placed in the policy during its last review, can be reviewed.

### **PRE-APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A GARBAGE TRUCK**

Mr. Horne noted that Public Works is looking to begin the process to replace the oldest garbage truck in its fleet, and will come back to Council following thorough product/brand research and a tendering process with a recommendation. Members of the Committee strongly encouraged staff to look into options for the use of smaller trucks and/or trailers, to reduce wear larger trucks and roads.

### **CAPE GEORGE LIGHTHOUSE POLICY 35 REQUEST**

Councillor MacLellan provided the group with a brief background of the efforts made by the North Shore Development Association to purchase, designate, and preserve the Cape George Lighthouse following the Federal Government's declaration of the lighthouse being surplus. Now that the property is in private ownership, it has been assessed as taxable resource, despite it generating no income. The North Shore Development Association has requested that the property be added to the list of properties provided with a tax exemption, under Policy 35.

*Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the addition of the Cape George Lighthouse (AAN 03377865) to the list of properties provided with tax exemption under Policy 35 (Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organizations). Motion carried.*

**CHEDABUCTO LIFESTYLE COMPLEX**

Mr. Horne reviewed a letter received from the Municipality of the District of Guysborough requesting Council's consideration of making a contribution to the proposed Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex in Guysborough. Following some discussion, the Committee decided to defer consideration of this request to the regular budget process.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Horne noted that Mrs. Duggan would be participating in a presentation as part of the Deputy's Briefing on Municipal Finance on February 23<sup>rd</sup> in Halifax.

**PERSONNEL MATTERS (IN-CAMERA)**

This subject matter falls within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as a matter that a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session.

*Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Deputy Warden McCarron that the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss personnel matters at 6:48pm. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee recommend that Municipal Council offer Shane Benoit the position of Collection Vehicle Operator. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Deputy Warden McCarron and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the In-Camera session be adjourned at 6:54pm. Motion carried.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Moved by Councillor Chisholm and seconded by Councillor Dunbar that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 6:55pm. Motion carried.*



Warden Russell Boucher



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer

