
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 7:30 pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron
 Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart
 Councillor Mary MacLellan
 Councillor Donnie MacDonald
 Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
 Councillor Remi Deveau
 Councillor John Dunbar
 Councillor Gary Mattie
 Councillor Neil Corbett
 Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer
 Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
 Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden McCarron, at 6:17pm.

Allison Duggan joined the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron call for any additions of deletions

The following additions were made:

- Congratulatory Letter
- Water Pressure on Thorne Ridge Subdivision
- Cape Jack Road - J-Class
- CEDI update

Moved By Councillor MacLellan
Seconded By Councillor Chisholm

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of October 16th Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions.

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Councillor Deveau

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 16, 2018 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Continuing Business

Revised Appointments for EDPC Staff

Mr. Horne provided some background regarding the reason for the request to revise the appointments of selected EDPC staff as Special Constables in order to be able to enforce various by-laws in the Municipality. Discussion followed.

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Deputy Warden Stewart

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council make the following additional appointments of Eastern District Planning staff:

- Special Constables - Sean Donovan and Jonathan Martin
 - Dangerous and Unsightly Premises
 - Building Inspection
 - Municipal Land Use By-laws

Motion Carried

New Business

Special District Grants

Mr. Horne provided an overview of the existing Special District Grant policy, and proposed amendments that are being brought forward for consideration. The focus of the revision is to ensure that proper reporting takes place, but simplifying the overall policy. Councillors were given the opportunity to bring forward any questions or concerns that they have with the current or proposed policy.

Mr. Horne identified two areas for further conversation; the provision of providing grants to individuals and families in emergency situations only, and the requirement that any grants to churches or religious groups need a consensus from Council. Discussion followed.

Moved By Councillor MacLellan

Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

The Committee recommends that Council approve the amendments proposed, as revised further by the Committee, to Policy 34

Motion Carried

Preliminary Discussion about AirBnB's

Councillor MacDonald has received a concern from a constituent regarding the use of properties for temporary rental accommodations. Councillor MacDonald is bringing the topic forward for general discussion, and intends to speak further to Planning. Discussion followed. Examples from other neighbouring communities were also provided.

Mr. Horne noted that there are options if the Committee wishes: talking to Planning to see what options are available; talking to PVSC to have the assessments reviewed of properties advertised for rental online; and doing nothing. Consensus around the table was to take no further action on the matter, but to maintain an awareness on the subject.

R.K. Nursing Home Board Appointments

Moved By Councillor Chisholm

Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the appointment of the following Antigonish County residents to the RK Nursing Home Foundation Board as representatives of the County of Antigonish:

- Gordon Morrison
- Gordon Brenton
- Connie Beaton

Motion Carried

Community Events

The following upcoming community events were identified by the Committee:

- November 17th- 3-7pm - Heatherton Parish Bazaar
- November 24th - Teasdale fundraiser for the Antigonish Food Bank
- November 18th - 1-4pm St. Joseph's Bazaar
- Chase the Ace starting again in Havre Boucher
- Arasaig Development Christmas Gala November 24th
- Chase the Ace St. Josephs on Fridays

Warden McCarron also provided an update regarding the Warden's Tour in Arisaig, and noted that the next stop will be in Havre Boucher on November 28th.

Additions to the Agenda

Award Recognition

Councillor Chisholm requested a letter of congrats from Council for Peggy Gallant for her induction into the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame. Deputy Warden Stewart had attended the induction ceremony on behalf of the County.

Water Pressure on Thorne Ridge Subdivision

Concerns have been raised to Councillor Chisholm regarding water pressure concerns in the Thorne Ridge subdivision. Councillor Chisholm provided a review of the number of units in the area. Mr. Horne provided an update on the steps that the Municipality has taken to try to resolve the concern since it was raised when the Briery Brook reservoir levels were low, with some examples of solutions that are being explored.

Cape Jack - J-Class Road

Councillor Corbett is looking for Council's support in working with the Department of Natural Resources with respect to parking at the beach in Cape Jack. The concern is that there is no parking area now, and individuals are parking on the beach and facing potential fines from the Department of Natural Resources. The community is also hoping to have the road speed lowered on the Cape Jack Road where it accesses the beach.

CEDI Update

Warden McCarron asked if there was another member of Council who would be interested in being involved in the CEDI project, to participate in working group meetings when Warden McCarron is not able to attend. Councillors Corbett and Dunbar both put their names forward as volunteers for this role.

In-Camera

Moved By Councillor MacDonald

Seconded By Councillor Mattie

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss Contract Negotiations at 8:09 pm.

Motion Carried

Moved By Councillor MacFarlane

Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

That the in-camera session be adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Deveau

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer