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MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

**Committee of the Whole Meeting Notes**

Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 5:30 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 Donnie MacDonald  
Councillor Vaughan Chisholm  
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor Mary MacLellan  
Councillor Remi Deveau  
Councillor John Dunbar  
Councillor Gary Mattie  
Councillor Neil Corbett

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

1. **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 6:14pm. Quorum was not present.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Consensus was provided to proceed through the content of the agenda.

3. **Approval of September 3, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

This item was referred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Further to the discussion regarding conference attendance; following the discussion at the September 3rd meeting a request was made for the Warden attend the CANDO

conference. There had been a councillor request to attend, but with the request having been received, the Warden will be looking at attending the event but will confirm if Chief Prosper will also be attending first. Those present were asked what their thoughts were regarding the request. Discussion followed.

5. **Delegations**

There were no delegations.

6. **Continuing Business**

a. **Letter of Support - Low Carbon Communities Application with Paqtnkek - Community Solar Project**

Mr. Horne spoke to an application that is in progress with an energy working group, which has brought forward several concepts for solar projects done as partnerships between the County and Paqtnkek. The solar options were summarized for the Committee. An application is being made for a grant that would allow the feasibility of the different concepts to be explored in detail. A letter has been prepared to the Low Carbon Communities Fund to obtain the grant; authorization from Council is required to send this letter.

7. **New Business**

a. **Water Utility Budget**

Mrs. Duggan provided an overview of the Water Utility Budget. The revenue, expenses and projects that resulted in surpluses in the previous year's budget for the Fringe and Lower South River utilities were discussed. The timeline for the upcoming water study was also discussed, with a projected completion date anticipated late in the fiscal year. Staff is preparing to present and discuss the capital that is expected to be spent in the utilities in the next three years in order to inform the water rate study. The budgets for the utilities were then reviewed in detail. When the meeting is rescheduled, this briefing will be reviewed again in advance of a vote.

b. **Statement of Estimates**

This item was referred to the next scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting.

c. **Discussion about Notification of Road Name Change Applications**

Mrs. Schumacher introduced a discussion regarding the current process of re-naming a roadway, and invited feedback from the Committee. Members requested notification when an application in their district is received, so that they are aware of the request. Further discussion took place regarding questions and concerns about road names and civic numbering at specific locations in the County; Mrs. Schumacher will contact the Civic Addressing Coordinator and send information directly to the Committee.

d. **Consideration of Minerals Play Fairway Proposal**

Mr. Horne reviewed the request that was received for a letter of support for a geophysical survey in the Province. Examples of support letters from neighbouring municipalities was included in the agenda. The item was referred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

e. **Discussion about EMO and Municipal Operations following Post-Tropical Storm Dorian**

Mr. Horne provided an overview of the municipality's response and operations during and following Hurricane/Post-Tropical Storm Dorian. Steps taken following the storm were reviewed, including a list of warming centres, the impact of the power outages, the sporadic Internet and cell services in the province, and the challenges with the power outages as it pertained to the water and sewer operations in the community. The work of Public Works staff team, who provided round-the-clock coverage to ensure that the community's services stayed online during the storm event and in the aftermath until full power was restored, was recognized at the meeting.

8. **Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions**

a. **Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

The next meeting is September 30th.

b. **Antigonish Arena Commission**

An expression of interest has been issued for the canteen services for the arena.

c. **Antigonish Crime Prevention**

No update was provided.

d. **Eastern District Planning Commission**

The meeting scheduled for Thursday September 19th was cancelled due to a lack of quorum, and is the process of being rescheduled.

e. **Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee**

The next meeting is on September 19th. Mr. Horne provided an update on the Household Hazardous Waste inter-municipal operation with the Town.

f. **County – Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee**

Staff is in the process of scheduling a Joint Councils meeting.

g. **Pictou Antigonish Regional Library**

No update was provided.

h. **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**

No update was provided.

9. **Community Events**

This item was referred to the next meeting.

10. **Staff Reports**

a. **RCMP Monthly Report - August 2019**

The report was received as part of the agenda package.

11. **Additions to the Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

12. **In Camera Items**

There were no in-camera items.

13. **Adjournment**

The meeting was concluded at 7:25 pm.