

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

**Council Chambers
Municipal Building**

**Tuesday
February 18, 2014**

A Meeting of Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Antigonish was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Centre, 285 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish, NS.

Present were: **Warden Russell Boucher**

Deputy Warden Owen McCarron	
Councillor Vaughan Chisholm	Councillor Angus Bowie
Councillor Donnie MacDonald	Councillor Hughie Stewart
Councillor Bill MacFarlane	Councillor Mary MacLellan
Councillor Rémi Deveau	Councillor Pierre Boucher

Also present was:

- Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
- Debbie Cormier, Deputy Clerk
- Adam Rodgers, Municipal Solicitor
- Corey LeBlanc, The Casket
- Greg Morrow, 101.5 The Hawk
- Bill MacCuish, 98.9 XFM
- Matt Draper, The Reporter
- Colleen Cameron, Antigonish Affordable Housing
- Angus MacGillivray, Antigonish Affordable Housing
- Cathy Pike, Atlantic Regional Council of Carpenters, Millwrights and Allied Workers

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Warden Russell Boucher.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Warden Boucher called for any additions or deletions to the agenda.

The following items were added to the Agenda:

- 1) Correspondence – Service NS & Municipal Relations
- 2) Correspondence – Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Min #2014-012 (Approval of Agenda)

MOVED by Councillor Mary MacLellan, SECONDED by Councillor Rémi Deveau that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Warden Boucher called for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of January 21, 2014 Meeting of Municipal Council three times.

It was noted that on the Signature line of the minutes, the former Municipal Clerk's name appears. This name will be corrected.

Min #2014-013 (Approval of Minutes – January 21, 2014)

MOVED by Councillor Angus Bowie, SECONDED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron that the minutes of the January 21, 2014 Meeting of Municipal Council be approved as amended. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

PRESENTATION – Atlantic Canada Regional Council of Carpenters, Millwrights & Allied Workers

Cathy Pike, Business Representative/Organizer, Atlantic Canada Regional Council of Carpenters, Millwrights and Allied Workers then came before Council requesting Council to support two Resolutions which promote hiring local trades people to do local jobs.

Min #2014-014 (Hire Local Resolution)

MOVED by Councillor Hughie Stewart, SECONDED by Councillor Angus Bowie that the following Resolution be approved:

Resolution #1:

WHEREAS skilled carpenters and various trades from Antigonish County and the surrounding area are available and willing to work;

AND WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial Government have cost shared significant infrastructure projects in an effort to create good jobs and grow the economy;

AND WHEREAS it would benefit the local economy more for local trades people to find employment in these projects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that local hire provisions be entrenched in Provincial Infrastructures Project Contracts to ensure the most benefit for Antigonish County and other Nova Scotia communities.

Motion carried.

Min #2014-015 (Hire Local Resolution)

MOVED by Councillor Vaughan Chisholm, SECONDED by Councillor Donnie MacDonald that the following Resolution be approved:

Resolution #2:

WHEREAS Skilled trades people from various communities throughout the province are available and willing to work;

AND WHEREAS the three levels of government share in a significant number of infrastructure projects, creating good jobs and growing the economy;

AND WHEREAS the employment to local trades people significantly contributes to local economies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Antigonish County request the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities to write to the Premier of Nova Scotia and ask him to identify and implement measures to assist local companies in successfully bidding on contracts from these infrastructure projects, within the limits permitted by the Atlantic Procurement Agreement.

Motion carried.

This Resolution will be forwarded to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities.

PRESENTATION – Antigonish Affordable Housing

Colleen Cameron and Angus MacGillivray then appeared before Council on behalf of the Antigonish Affordable Housing Society.

Ms. Cameron explained that the Antigonish Affordable Housing Society has been in existence for a number of years. The purpose of the presentation this evening was to request Council to grant tax free status to the new Affordable Housing development that is being proposed. Through the development of affordable housing, people can live well and have a positive impact on all of us. Last year poverty cost the province of Nova Scotia between \$1.5 and \$2.2 billion.

Angus MacGillivray then presented the financial aspects of this project. A copy of the financial aspects that has been done for this project is attached to the minutes.

Mr. MacGillivray indicated that they are projecting a deficit of just over \$14,000 per year. They did an estimate on what property taxes might be for the year based on current tax rates and estimated approximately \$15,000 per year to be close for taxes. Therefore, as a means of dealing with the projected deficit, Antigonish Affordable Housing is requesting that the County designate the property on Riverside Drive to be tax exempt. The Eastern Mainland Housing Authority is interested in working with the Antigonish Affordable Housing Society in terms of managing the property.

The property is currently zoned R1 and an application will have to be filed requesting the property to be rezoned R2.

The Town of Antigonish has agreed to donate the land, which is valued at \$70,000.00 and the Affordable Housing Society are going to request a total of \$100,000.00 from the Town.

Grants are being applied for and the group is also looking for in-kind support on labour and discount on building materials. There is still a capital shortfall that has to be addressed.

The Warden indicated that Council would advise as soon as possible of their decision regarding tax exemption for this project.

Discussion followed.

SECOND READING – Amendments to MPS & LUB Antigonish County Planning Area

Min #2014-016 (MPS & LUB Antigonish County Planning Area)

MOVED by Councillor Mary MacLellan, SECONDED by Councillor Hughie Stewart that Council approve, on Second Reading, amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for the Antigonish County Planning Area to re-designate six (6) properties to commercial, and to permit large scale commercial developments by development agreement within the commercial designation in response to a proposal by Nova Construction Co. Ltd. for lands at the intersection of Highway 104 and Trunk 4. Motion carried.

OPERATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – February 4, 2014

Min #2014-017 (2015 Freightliner)

MOVED by Councillor Hughie Stewart, SECONDED by Councillor Rémi Deveau that the Municipality of the County of Antigonish purchase a 2015 Freightliner at a cost of \$266,225 (inclusive of taxes). Motion carried.

Min #2014-018 (Tuna Charter)

MOVED by Councillor Hughie Stewart, SECONDED by Councillor Mary MacLellan that Funding in the amount of \$1,000.00 be approved for the Tuna Charter to travel to Florida. Motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – February 18, 2014

Min #2014-019 (Water Rate Application for the Antigonish Water Utility)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Hughie Stewart that the Municipality intervene at the upcoming hearing for the Town of Antigonish proposed water rate increase. Motion carried.

Min #2014-020 (Rev. H.J. MacDonald Elementary School)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Rémi Deveau that Councillor Angus Bowie be appointed to the Board of Directors for the Rev. H.J. MacDonald Elementary School. Motion carried.

Min #2014-021 (Tax Sale Property)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Rémi Deveau that the County purchase a property (Account #01219472) in the amount of \$3,999.27, also to write off a lien on the property in the amount of \$45,012.45. Motion carried.

Min #2014-022 (Land Sale – Brierly Way)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Vaughan Chisholm that the County sell a piece of property on Brierly Way to Rod Hadley at a purchase price of \$20,000.00. Motion carried.

Min #2014-023 (Saltscape 2014)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Bill MacFarlane that the request for the County to contribute towards a booth at the 2014 Saltscape Expo in April be approved in the amount of \$800.00. Motion carried.

Min #2014-024 (Antigonish Community Transit Society)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Mary MacLellan that a letter of support, in principle, be provided to the Antigonish Community Transit Society. Motion carried.

Min #2014-025 (Tax Write off)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Angus Bowie that the County approve the write off for taxes on Account #07153368 in the amount of \$580.16 because the mini home was sold after the roll closed before the current tax billing. Motion carried.

Min #2014-026 (Tax Write off)

MOVED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, SECONDED by Councillor Bill MacFarlane that the interest on taxes in the amount of \$70.12 on Account #00160679 belonging to a County Resident in Linwood be written off. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT – February 4, 2014

Min #2014-027 (African Heritage Month - Ad)

MOVED by Councillor Hughie Stewart, SECONDED by Councillor Mary MacLellan that an advertisement be purchased in the Casket for African Heritage Month. Motion carried.

Min #2014-028 (New Glasgow Music Festival Program - Ad)

MOVED by Councillor Donnie MacDonald, SECONDED by Councillor Rémi Deveau that an advertisement be purchased in the New Glasgow Music Festival Program. Motion carried.

Min #2014-029 (Seniors Curling Bonspiel)

MOVED by Councillor Rémi Deveau, SECONDED by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron that the Municipality sponsor a team in the Seniors Curling Bonspiel in St. Andrews. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence has been received from Nova Scotia Power advising of a long-term planning process known as Integrated Resource Planning which they will undertake in 2014. This Integrated Resource Plan will provide a framework to trigger a broad conversation on the impact of changes in the way electricity is generated and used.

Correspondence has been received from Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations regarding Amendments to the Antigonish County Subdivision By-Law with regard to private roads which allow existing branch private roads in a private road subdivision to have up to six lots.

Correspondence has been received from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities acknowledging and welcoming Antigonish County as a partner in the Climate Change Program.

UPDATES/REPORTS FROM INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Pierre Boucher noted that he and Councillor MacLellan had attended the FCM Sustainability Conference in Charlottetown. He noted that they had attended several workshops and taken in some tours and he outlined some of the sessions he had attended.

Councillor Mary MacLellan outlined some of the workshops she attended at the Sustainability Conference as well.

Councillor Mary MacLellan also noted that she:

- Met with Hon. Randy Delorey regarding funding requests for both the R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home and the Library
- Attended a TIANS Workshop

Councillor Donnie MacDonald reported that he attended:

- The Antigonish Heritage Museum Board
- Meeting of the Fringe Area Planning Committee

Councillor Bill MacFarlane reported that he attended:

- A Session at the Library put on by Sustainable Antigonish regarding the perils of oil and gas exploration in the Gulf of St. Lawrence

Councillor Angus Bowie reported that:

- There was a meeting at Heatherton School where the decision was made to move forward on the development of a Community Centre

Deputy Warden Owen McCarron reported that he attended:

- A Meeting in the St. Andrews Community with the Honourable Randy Delorey to discuss priorities for the community as a whole

Warden Boucher reported that he attended:

- An Efficiency Nova Scotia event
- Honourable Peter MacKay – Pre-Budget Roundtable
- African Heritage Month event
- NSCC Retirement function in Halifax
- Joint County & Town meeting
- There were two Chamber of Commerce meetings scheduled but subsequently cancelled

On motion by Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, meeting adjourned to Committee of the Whole.

The meeting was called back to order and the following recommendation was approved.

Min #2014-030 (Fringe Area Advisory Committee Members)

Moved by Councillor Mary MacLellan, SECONDED by Councillor Vaughan Chisholm that as a result of three resignations, the number of members of the Fringe Area Advisory Committee be reduced from 13 to 10 remaining members, and that Ms. Dawn Barrington-Hodgson be appointed as the new representative from the NS Department of Agriculture. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.


Warden Russell Boucher


Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer