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MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

**Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 6:30 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 Remi Deveau (by Zoom)  
Councillor John Dunbar  
Councillor Gary Mattie (by Zoom)  
Councillor Bill MacFarlane  
Councillor Harris McNamara  
Councillor Shawn Brophy

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO  
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk  
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator  
Marlene Melanson, Director of Recreation (by Zoom)

Also Present: Steph Spencer, Community Sport Lead, Sport Nova Scotia (by Zoom)  
Gina MacInnis, Highland Sport Consultant, Sport Nova Scotia (by Zoom)

**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 7:26pm.

**Approval of Agenda**

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

The following additions were made:

- Public Health Protocols Discussion
- Streetlight Request

**Moved and Seconded**

*That the agenda be approved as amended.*

**Motion Carried**

**Approval of April 13, 2021 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes.

**Moved and Seconded**

*That the Committee of the Whole minutes of April 13, 2021 be approved as presented.*

**Motion Carried**

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**Delegations**

**Sports Hub Program Update - Steph Spencer and Gina MacInnis**

Gina MacInnis and Steph Spencer provided members of the Committee with an overview of the Community Sport Hub Project. Changes due to Covid, the growth of partnerships, communications tools and the website/communications portal were highlighted. The first mass registration was held on April 20th for 26 programs amongst 6 organizations and the process went well. The program has worked closely with Town and County over the past year. Need to clarify what the in-kind and financial requests for support are - Steph cut out when she was reviewing that.

Steph emphasized the role that the Sport Hub has in getting the community involved in sport. With a Province-wide lockdown announced earlier in the day (April 27th), all of the organizations are already lined up to talk logistics, showing the strength of the partnerships already formed. Thanks was provided to the Town and County teams who have been such a big help with the process. Warden McCarron thanked the presenters for all of the work that they have put into this project. Ms. Melanson also provided her thanks to Steph and Gina for all of their support and work on the project.

**Continuing Business**

**Eastern District Planning Commission Inter-Municipal Service Agreement Amendments**

Mr. Horne spoke to proposed update to the IMSA to bring the Town in as a permanent member in the Planning Commission, following the end of their term membership.

**Moved and Seconded**

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council rescind the July 1, 2018 intermunicipal services agreement and replacing it by approving the proposed amendment to the Eastern District Planning Commission Inter-Municipal Service Agreement, to add the Town of Antigonish as a permanent member.*

**Motion Carried**

**Strategic Priorities Update and Prioritization**

Mr. Horne spoke to the Strategic Priorities items that had been referred to staff for action plan development during the planning sessions earlier in the year. A summary of those items were provided in the agenda package for the Committee's review. No questions or comments were brought forward.

Mr. Horne then conducted an exercise to help to finalize the prioritization of the items that have been identified by Council. Discussion followed. The priorities were re-ordered as follows:

- Water Utility Development
- Connectivity
- Housing
- Solar/Renewable energy
- Dunmore Development
- Next Generation Solid Waste Management
- TIR Service Provision
- Events/Tourism
- Long Term IT Solution
- Asset Management
- AT
- Community Hubs
- Havre Boucher Park

Mr. Horne noted that this information would be compiled into a detailed package for further review.

**New Business**

**Review of the Volunteer Award Process**

Councillor MacLellan started the discussion, noting the past process and how the nominees were celebrated as well as the award recipient. The process now highlights the winner but does not advertise the nominees. Ms. Melanson provided an overview of what was done in the past and the reasons why the process evolved. She noted that the opportunity exists to highlight this year's nominees as well, and other opportunities to highlight community volunteers can be further developed and discussed.

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**Bruce MacKinnon "Sports Illustrated" Exhibit**

A request was received for a \$1500 sponsorship for an exhibit that is coming to the St. FX Art Gallery featuring Bruce MacKinnon's artwork focussing on sport and Nova Scotians.

**Moved and Seconded**

*The committee recommends that Municipal Council approve a \$1500 sponsorship of the Bruce MacKinnon exhibit at the St. FX Art Gallery.*

**Motion Carried**

**Road Name Change - Birds Eye View**

Councillor MacDonald introduced a road name change petition that has been brought forward for approval by the Committee, to provide a name to a laneway where a third building is being added to a driveway.

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the naming of the private laneway to Birds Eye View Lane.*

**Motion Carried**

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

**Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 3rd.

**Antigonish Arena Association**

The next scheduled meeting is on April 29th.

**Antigonish Crime Prevention**

A meeting was scheduled earlier in the month but did not have quorum, so the meeting was cancelled.

**Eastern District Planning Commission**

Councillor McNamara provided an update on the East Antigonish Area Advisory Committee.

**Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee**

The Committee was scheduled to meet on April 29th, but that meeting has been rescheduled for May 27th.

**Pictou Antigonish Regional Library**

No meeting is expected to take place. Due to the lockdown, the library is now closed.

### **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 29th and will be held by Zoom.

### **County Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee**

Nothing to report. An energy working group meeting is in the process of being scheduled.

### **Community Events**

- Arisaig community lobster dinner has now been cancelled. There will be an article in the Casket noting it is on, but that has changed now due to the public health protocols.
- Councillor McNamara thanked Mrs. Donovan for her help with her help with advertising the Havre Boucher community centre being available to help local seniors book their vaccination appointments. Mrs. Donovan has a contact for a local volunteer who is offering to also help residents with online appointment booking, which she will share with Councillors.
- Warden McCarron provided an update on the weekly meetings with representatives from St. FX. Convocation is scheduled for this upcoming weekend, but that may change with the new protocols.

### **Additions to the Agenda**

#### **Public Health Protocols Discussion**

Mr. Horne reviewed protocols that will come into effect starting at 8am on Wednesday April 28th, and the implications of the Public Health orders that were announced at 4:30pm on April 27th. The doors of the municipal facilities will be closed to the public. The newly announced protocols will be in place until May 12th, so the next regular Committee of the Whole and Council meetings on May 11th will be virtual. Discussion followed.

#### **Streetlight Request**

Councillor Mattie brought forward a request to install a streetlight at the Intersection of Merland Road and the Old Antigonish Road. Visibility getting into the road has been made more difficult due to winds now that trees in the area have been cut.

#### **Moved and Seconded**

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves a streetlight at the intersection of Merland Road and Old Antigonish Road.*

**Motion Carried**

**In Camera Items**

**Moved and Seconded**

*That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss the Acquisition, Sale, Lease, and Security of Municipal Property and Contract Negotiations at 8:41pm.*

**Motion Carried**

**Moved and Seconded**

*That the in-camera session adjourns at 9:02pm.*

**Motion Carried**

**Moved and Seconded**

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the proposed amended lease renewal with Terrapure for property at Beech Hill.*

**Motion Carried**

**Adjournment**

**Moved**

*That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 9:03pm.*

**Motion Carried**



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, CAO