
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 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 Mary MacLellan
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Councillor Remi Deveau
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

Others Present: Anastasia Payne, 101.5 The Hawk (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 5:33pm.

Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. The following additions were requested:

- Proposed connector road in District 7
- Resident Concerns about municipal roadwork
- In-Camera: public security

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of July 13, 2021 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes of July 13, 2021.

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of July 13th, 2021 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Approval of September 13, 2021 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes of September 13, 2021.

Moved and Seconded

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

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Mr. Horne provided an update regarding the previous discussion held regarding parking fees at the Keating/Saputo Centre. Councillor Brophy provided an update regarding the accessibility of the parking meters in the Town. Councillor McNamara requested an update regarding the wetland compensation discussion, and Mr. Horne noted that staff was still looking to make arrangements with representatives from the province.

Delegations

There were no scheduled delegations.

Continuing Business

Coastal Protection Act Regulations - Public Consultation Response

Mrs. Schumacher provided members of the Committee provided overview from the memo included in the staff report, summarizing the consultation sessions attended by staff over the past several months and the concerns and questions that were being considered for inclusion in the formal feedback letter being prepared for the Province. Councillor McNamara shared his feedback from his attendance at the consultation sessions, noting that the Act wouldn't allow shoreline armoring.

A number of questions were asked by members of the Committee, including clarification on commissioning reports, reviewing reports, retention of professionals to review reports, and how the proposed regulations work with other legislation impacting shorelines. Members of the Committee were invited to send any additional questions or comments that they had to staff, and formal comments would be submitted to the Province by the September 30th deadline.

New Business

Appointment of Board Member of RK MacDonald Foundation Board

Mrs. Schumacher reviewed the request from the R.K. MacDonald Foundation Board to appoint Ms. Marian MacLellan to the R.K. Nursing Home Foundation Board.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council appoint Ms. Marian MacLellan as a representative from the County of Antigonish to the R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home Foundation.

Motion Carried

Road Name Change Petition - Alderbrook Lane

Councillor MacDonald reviewed the road name petition submitted and approved by the Civic Addressing Coordinator.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves renaming a private lane to Alderbrook Lane.

Motion Carried

Human Resources Policy Update - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Mr. Horne reviewed the staff report and brought forward the recommendation to amend the Public Holidays Policy contained in the Human Resources Policy Manual for Employees to include the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council amend the Public Holidays Policy contained in the Human Resources Policy Manual for Employees to include the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Motion Carried

Tender Award - 4X4 Regular Cab Pick-Up Truck

Mr. Horne reviewed the procurement process for the purchase of a new truck for the Public Works Department.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council authorize the purchase of a 2021 Ram 1500 Regular Cab 4x4 from MacDonald Chrysler for the purchase price of \$39,198.50 + HST.

Motion Carried

Community Partnership Grant - Naomi Society

Mr. Horne reviewed the circumstances of a delayed mail delivery by Canada Post that resulted in the application from the Naomi Society for a community partnership grant not being delivered until July 27th. Due to these circumstances, the request is being brought before the Committee for consideration. Discussion followed. The Committee felt that providing an amount consistent with what has been provided in the past would be appropriate. Several members of Council offered to provide amounts from their Special District Grants to top-up the amount provided by the grant.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the community partnership grant of \$1000 for the Naomi Society based on the application being lost in the mail.

Motion Carried

Arisaig Hall Accessible Washroom Certification Request

Councillor MacLellan spoke to the accessibility upgrades that have been made to the Arisaig Parish Community Centre. The request being made is for Council's assistance with the application fee for the certification process. Mr. Horne noted that such accessibility assessments are likely to become more common as accessibility upgrades are made in buildings across the province. Councillor Mattie noted that the evaluation would look at factors in the building beyond only the bathroom and provided further information from his experience with the Rick Hansen Foundation Training. Discussion followed.

Councillor MacLellan suggested that the item be tabled until more could be learned about the proposed certification and total cost. Mr. Horne also suggested looking into what the Municipality's role is regarding accessibility certification requests for the future. Consensus was provided to table the item.

Community Events

- Councillor MacLellan spoke to a fundraiser held for Daniel Ross at the Arisaig Community Centre, which was very successful. Warden McCarron also noted the success of the Go Fund Me page that was set up.
- Councillor Dunbar noted that the Heatherton community will be holding a 100th anniversary of 4H in the community in early November
- Councillor MacFarlane provided an update on the committee set up for the restoration of the historical graveyard, and their upcoming launch.

Staff Reports

Mr. Horne gave detailed updates about the IT Director recruitment timeline, as well as the waterline replacement on South River Road, the paving of Appleseed Drive and Townsend Street, and commercial developments in the community.

Additions to the Agenda

Proposed Connector Road in District 7

Councillor Dunbar spoke to concerns raised by residents in his district regarding the turning movement on the New France Road from Highway 104. While improvements have been made to the visibility to the intersection, there are still concerns with the westbound turning lane being located in a climbing lane. Some residents in the area have expressed an interest in creating a connector road to the Bayside Development and are looking for a letter of support from Council for their proposal as they seek approval from the Province and Paqtnkek. Councillor Dunbar noted that the residents could provide further information for Council's consideration, and the residents would be willing to come in to speak with the Committee.

Resident Concerns about Roads

Councillor Dunbar was contacted by a resident along Townsend Street, who has noted concerns with the roadwork as it was underway. Concerns were brought forward to staff and were addressed, but Councillor Dunbar was bringing the item forward as promised to the constituent.

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 Public Security at 6:52pm.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

That the In-Camera session be adjourned at 7:24pm.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:25pm.

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, CAO