

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday November 24, 2015 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administrative Centre, 285 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish NS.

Present were: Warden Russell Boucher, Chair
 Deputy Warden Owen McCarron
 Councillor Mary MacLellan
 Councillor Pierre Boucher
 Councillor Angus Bowie
 Councillor Rémi Deveau
 Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
 Councillor Bill MacFarlane
 Councillor Donnie MacDonald
 Councillor Hugh Stewart
 Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
 Shirlyn Donovan, Interim Deputy Clerk
 Gussie MacInnis, Department of Transportation
 Doug Cameron, Department of Transportation
 Jonas Coulter, Evolve Festival Organizer

Regrets: Councillor Bill MacFarlane

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden Boucher at 5:33pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Eastern Strait REN Update
- Endurance Wind Power Update

Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Deputy Warden McCarron that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor MacLellan that the Committee of the Whole minutes for November 17, 2015, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CENTRE

Municipal Council was shown a power point presentation prepared by Emergency Management Coordinator, Tom Bennett. They were asked to give consideration to relocate the Emergency Command Centre. Mr. Horne asked Municipal Council what their position is on moving the

Emergency Management Centre to the Municipal Administration Centre. Deputy Warden McCarron asked what the opinion of staff and administration would be if some other organization used the building. For the Emergency Management staff coming and going it would not be disruptive to staff however if there was an emergency it could potentially be disruptive to staff.

Mr. Horne explained to Municipal Council where the radio room would be located.

Deputy Warden McCarron asked what time commitment of the space would be on a monthly basis. Municipal personnel would no longer use the space where the radio room would go. The Multi-Purpose room would be used twice per month for meetings. The multi-purpose room would need to be re-furnished.

Mr. Horne asked Municipal Council what their position is on the topic. Council agreed by general consensus that they were in favor of the move. Mr. Horne will let the town know of Council's position.

EVOLVE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION

A special event permit application was received for the 2016 Evolve Music and Awareness Festival. The application and supporting documents are attached.

Issues that were raised during committee of the whole meetings in September have been addressed and are included in the application documents.

Dr. Maureen Allan is working with organizers on creating a medical plan. Concert goers will be searched every time they enter the concert grounds. The concert will be reduced to 3 days and the concert hours will be reduced significantly. A parking grid and camping grid will be enforced. A formal barrier separating the parking area from the concert area will be erected which will try to control any illicit substances coming onto the site. It will attempt to funnel concert goers into one entrance point. The emergency access and parking restrictions put in place by TIR will remain unchanged for this year.

The application for the special event permit has been received with more information to come as some details are still being worked out. What is in front of Council this evening is a provisional permit that would be provided to Jonas for Evolve with specific deadlines for specific follow up materials that would have to be provided to the Municipality. The municipality will not be responsible for any financial losses if the provisions of the permit are not met and the permit is revoked.

Councillor MacDonald asked who would be monitoring the health services to ensure they are meeting the provisions set out by Municipal Council. Mr. Horne said someone with a clinical license will be in charge of the health services. Volunteers can provide health services but a paid licensed clinician will be there to oversee everything.

Councillor MacLellan asked if Jonas thought these changes would reduce the number of concert goers. He does not seem to think it would affect the numbers.

Jonas raised concerns about setting up the grids for the parking and camping areas. He said the concert goers typically don't follow the grid lines.

Moved by Councillor Boucher and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that Municipal Council approve the Special Event Permit for the Evolve Festival based Conditions in the attached letter.

Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL

Gussie MacInnis and Doug Cameron were in attendance on behalf of DOT. They are wrapping up their summer work and are getting ready for winter work. Doug went over the two sides of the department of transportation, the construction side and the maintenance side. Mr. Cameron handed out a list of the tentative work for 2016.

Mr. Cameron and Mr. MacInnis went over all of the councillors requests for road maintenance.

Warden Russell Boucher thanked Mr. Cameron and Mr. MacInnis for coming in and giving their update and let them know their work is appreciated.

TOURISM UPDATE

Mr. Horne updated on a meeting which took place on November 13th. The discussion around the table was that it was felt that we should start with a public meeting.

Following the meeting Mr. Horne spoke with Mark vandeWiel about the idea of the public meeting. They spoke about hiring a facilitator to host the public meeting. Mr. Horne would like to get direction from Council. The costs involved would be hiring a facilitator, ads and meeting space. Consensus from Municipal Council is to move forward with the hiring of a facilitator.

EASTERN STRAIT REN UPDATE

Last evening was the second board meeting of the REN Board. Andrew Beckett was named as the chair of the board. The hiring of the CEO is in process, applications have been short listed and they hope to have someone hired by Christmas.

ENDURANCE WIND POWER UPDATE

The likelihood of an extension from COMFIT is unlikely. Municipal Council agreed that the December 11th deadline is too soon to make a decision.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:18pm. Motion carried.



Warden Russell Boucher



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer

