

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday, February 16th, 2016 at 5:00pm 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 Angus Bowie
 Councillor Rémi Deveau
 Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
 Councillor Bill MacFarlane
 Councillor Donnie MacDonald
 Councillor Hughie Stewart
 Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
 Shirlyn Donovan, Interim Deputy Clerk

Regrets: Councillor Pierre Boucher

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden Boucher, at 5:04pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Kilted Skating
- Seniors Curling Bonspiel

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Deputy Warden McCarron that the Committee of the Whole minutes February 2nd, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS (In-Camera)

This subject matter falls within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as a matter that a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session. Materials will follow.

ACQUISITION, SALE, LEASE AND SECURITY OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY (In-Camera)

This subject matter falls within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as a matter that a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session. Materials will follow.

Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss contract negotiations and acquisition, sale, lease and security of municipal property. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Deputy Warden McCarron that the In-Camera session be adjourned at 6:45pm. Motion carried.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Recreation Director Marlene Melanson presented her report on Active Transportation as well as the recommendations. Determine what is important for the County and develop strategy to advance AT in Antigonish County.

Ms. Melanson went over the guiding principles the AT plan could take: Support & Guidance, Built Environments, or Combination of Support Environments & Built Environments. Support & Guidance could take the form of support such as financial or staff resources, policy development, education and awareness. Built environments would mean selecting capital projects and assuming responsibility for implementation and all aspects of the project.

Ms. Melanson is asking the Committee to support the establishment of an AT Committee. The Committee's mandate would be to review the plan as well as to identify and prioritize actions and strategies based on the guiding principles agreed upon by Council.

Councillor MacDonald asked what is going on across the province in terms of Active Transportation. Ms. Melanson explained that municipalities across the province are at all different levels within the planning stages.

Several Councillors expressed interest in looking more into the AT Plan. Ms. Melanson will send them out to Councillors and we will convene at another meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT POLICY

Through its 2014 Priority Setting exercise, Municipal Council identified the development of a Capital Investment Strategy as one of its immediate priorities. Staff have been working on developing such a strategy since the fall. Mr. Horne reviewed the proposed policy with the Committee.

Councillor MacDonald asked if there was a mechanism within the policy to validate whether a capital project is needed.

Warden Boucher asked Councillors to forward any ideas to Mr. Horne.

EDPC BUDGET PRESENTATION

John Bain, Director of the Eastern District Planning Commission presented the 2016-2017 Operating Estimates. This year's budget sees an increase of only 1.9% over last year's budget. The Antigonish County Contribution sees a 2.4% increase over last year's budget.

Councillor MacDonald asked when the fees were last looked at. Mr. Bain said he thinks it is about four years since they have been looked at. He suggests permit fees are very reasonable here as compared to across the province.

ASBESTOS INVESTIGATION AND REMOVAL AT CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Director of Public Works, Daryl Myers is looking for Councils approval to release a tender to investigate and remove any asbestos at the Correctional Facility.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that the Municipality let a tender process for investigation and removal of asbestos at the former Correctional Facility. Motion carried.

DEMOLITION OF THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Once the investigation and removal of asbestos is complete, Daryl would also like Councils approval to put the Demolition of the Correctional Facility to tender for after June 1st, 2016.

Moved by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that the Municipality begin developing a tender process for the demolition of the former Correctional Facility. Motion carried.

FCM CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

The Committee was asked to consider who amongst them would like to attend the Annual FCM Conference, which is to be held in Winnipeg from June 2-5, 2016. Warden Boucher and Councillor Stewart said they will be attending the conference. We will keep the 5 rooms until February 26th.

2016 STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Council was provided with a list of the current standing committee appointments. Councillor Chisholm said he finds it very difficult to make it to the Antigonish Food Security because the meetings are typically during the day. Councillor MacLellan has been appointed to the Deans Committee.

It was agreed that Committee Appointments would stay the same until after the October election.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:42 pm and reconvene following Municipal Council. Motion carried.

The reconvened meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by Councillor Boucher at 8:49pm.

Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Deputy Warden McCarron that the Committee of the Whole meeting be reconvened. Motion carried.

KILTED SKATING

Festival Antigonish is hosting a fundraiser at the Antigonish Arena titled " Grand Kilted Skating Party". They are asking for a \$400 donation from Municipal Council to take part in the Kilted Team Competition

Moved by Councillor Chisholm and seconded by Councillor Bowie that Municipal Council donate \$400 and take part in the Grand Kilted Skating Party. Motion carried.

SENIORS CURLING BONSPIEL

Antigonish County Crime Prevention is requesting the Municipality enter a team in the annual Seniors Curling Bonspiel at a cost of \$125.00

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that Municipalit enter a team in the Seniors Bonspiel at a cost of \$125. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Bowie that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 9:03pm. Motion carried.


Warden Russell Boucher


Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer