

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday, May 3rd, 2016 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administrative Centre, 285 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish NS.

Present were: Deputy Warden Owen McCarron, Chair
Councillor Mary MacLellan
Councillor Angus Bowie
Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
Councillor Pierre Boucher
Councillor Rémi Deveau
Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
Shirlyn Donovan, Interim Deputy Clerk

Regrets: Warden Russell Boucher
Councillor Hughie Stewart

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

- Municipal Signage
- Concerned Residents on the Fairmont Rd
- 5417 Lochaber Road

The following item was removed from the agenda:

- Veterans Memorial Park

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Bowie and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that the Committee of the Whole minutes April 19th, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Mr. Horne provided the timing for ordering the speed signs. It takes 2-3 weeks for the speed signs to come in. Mr. Horne explained the difference between the battery operated signs and the solar operated signs.

Deputy Warden McCarron asked for Councils direction on whether to go with the AC battery operated signs or the solar operated signs and if they want to purchase one or two signs.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that the Municipality purchase 2 AC speed signs for a cost of \$3500 each. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF ANTIGONISH SPECIAL HAZARDOUS RESPONSE UNIT PROPOSAL

The Committee was provided with a presentation and proposal from The Antigonish Special Hazardous Response Unit as a funding request to the County (documents in agenda package).

The proposal suggest that ASHRU would endeavour to provide, within 12–15 months of operation, the following services:

1. Hazardous Materials Response – Level B – Operations Level
2. Confined Space Rescue
3. Off Road/All-Season/All- Terrain type Vehicle Response
4. Emergency Responder Rehabilitation Centre

The ASHRU would endeavour to provide, within 24-36 months of operation, the additional services:

1. Ice/Water Rescue Support – Inflatable boat c/w motor, lighting and retrieval equipment
2. High-Angle Rescue

Councillor Bowie asked what the difference between a Level A and B Operation. Currently the nearest B Operation is in Bible Hill. The most significant difference would be in response time. If we had a level B operation here, it would take a much shorter time to mobilize the response.

Deputy Warden McCarron asked what the Committees wishes are. Council would also like to see what the Town of Antigonish will be doing with the request. Council would like to see them seek out more partnerships on the service delivery side of things and look at more partnerships on dividing the costs most appropriately.

REQUEST TO ATTEND THE GEORGETOWN 2.0 SOLUTIONS CONFERENCE

Municipal Clerk Treasurer, Glenn Horne, is seeking approval to attend the Georgetown 2.0 Solutions conference.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee approve Mr. Horne's attendance at the Georgetown 2.0 Solutions Conference. Motion carried.

CHOOSING YOUR FUTURE: CONSIDERATION OF A CORPORATE PLAN

Mr. Horne reviewed a presentation for the consideration of a Corporate Plan.

Councillor MacLellan asked about the Ivany Report, what does anyone have to show for it? Mr. Horne said there are 2 specific references to municipal governments in the Ivany Report. The first is a recognition that municipalities are the most local form of government and have an important role to play in the future success of our province. The second is an acknowledgement of the current municipal structure and traditional way of doing things is not sustainable and needs to change. That has been interpreted in many ways such as encouraging amalgamations, shared services, dissolutions etc.

Councillor MacFarlane asked what the difference is between strategic priorities and a corporate plan. Mr. Horne said the priority setting was a great experience, it was very productive but it doesn't allow for things that might come along that we are not planning for right now. We can make decisions based on values that we have bought into, Council and Staff.

Councillor MacDonald asked how the ICSP plays into this. Mr. Horne said the ins and outs on how everything will look are yet to be determined but he thinks the ICSP will play an important role in it.

Deputy Warden McCarron asked the Committee their thoughts on the development of a corporate plan. All Councillors present agreed that the development of a plan was a good idea. Mr. Horne said we will include the costs in the budget and then be ready to go for after the new Council is sworn in.

MUNICIPAL SIGNAGE

Mr. Horne reviewed a presentation by WeUsThem for Municipal property identification signage. Mr. Horne asked Council for their feedback on the signs. Council agreed the signs were nice and they were fine with going ahead with them.

Mr. Horne said the signs could be printed locally and hopefully up by the end of the summer. He said there are several businesses around Antigonish that are capable of printing the signs. Councillor MacDonald would like staff to find out if Arsenault Monuments is capable of doing the printing and if so, to get a quote from them as well.

FAIRMONT ROAD RESIDENTS

Councillor MacDonald has been asked by the residents of Fairmont to facilitate a meeting with the Minister of Transportation to request maintenance and upgrades. Councillor MacDonald wanted to check to see if Council was okay with this. Consensus around the table was that there were no objections.

5417 LOCHABER ROAD

This house has been an issue with this property since 2008. The property is an extreme fire hazard to the properties around it.

Mr. Horne has done some research about this and says a minimum standards by-law would allow the municipality to have standards inside the home. Council agreed this is not a route they would like to go.

Staff will send a letter to the property owner outlining concerns.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

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.

Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned to an in-camera session. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that the Municipality contribute \$45,000 per year for the next three years towards the erection of two cell phone towers in the district 1 and 2 areas contingent on funding from the provincial and federal governments. Motion Carried.

ACQUISITION, SALE, LEASE AND SECURITY OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

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.

LEGAL ADVICE ELIGIBLE FOR SOLICITOR CLIENT PRIVILEGE (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.

LEGAL ADVICE ELIGIBLE FOR SOLICITOR-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

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.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor Boucher that the in-camera session be adjourned at 7:52pm. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:52pm. Motion carried.

Warden Russell Boucher

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer