

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday, May 24th, 2016 at 6:30pm 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 Vaughan Chisholm
 Councillor Rémi Deveau
 Councillor Bill MacFarlane
 Councillor Hughie Stewart
 Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
 Shirlyn Donovan, Interim Deputy Clerk
 Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Regrets: Councillor Donnie MacDonald
 Councillor Angus Bowie
 Councillor Pierre Boucher

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden Boucher, at 6:33pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

- EMO

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that the Committee of the Whole minutes May 17th, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

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.

Moved by Deputy Warden McCarron and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss Acquisition, Sale, Lease and Security of Municipal Property. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor Deveau that Municipal Council approve the Agreement of Purchase and Sale of the Former Antigonish Correctional Facility to Big House Rentals. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor MacLellan that the In-Camera session be adjourned 6:43pm. Motion carried.

BILL 177

Mr. Horne presented the information provided regarding Bill 177.

Bill 177 is a bill which creates Commercial Development Districts in the MGA. It was tabled for first reading on May 5th. It authorizes municipal councils to create by-laws providing for the phasing in over a period of 10 years increases of taxable assessment for these properties which would be defined under a Commercial Development District.

Some concerns are that it lacked any consultation with municipalities and it bypassed the ongoing MGA review process.

Mr. Horne opened up the floor to the Committee for any questions, thoughts or concerns they may have about Bill 177.

There would still be one commercial tax rate. What the municipality can do is phase in increases to the commercial taxable assessment over a period of ten years eliminating the increases of assessment by no more than 50 percent. It is only on the increase in assessment.

Councillor MacLellan asked what a contaminated property was referring to. Mr. Horne said it was a Brown Field site, for example an old gas station existed on a site and it was remediated, you can use this same tool to encourage economic development on that site.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Deveau that a letter is sent to the Province on behalf of Municipal Council expressing concerns over the lack of consultation of Bill 177. Motion carried.

CENTRAL PLAN BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Planning staff recommended that Council remove the maximum size limitation on accessory buildings in the Central Planning Area where such buildings are proposed for properties without access to central Municipal sewer services. The General Zone provisions found in a Land Use By-law apply to all zones within a planned area. Therefore the requirement restricting accessory buildings to 900 square feet automatically was applied to all properties in un-serviced areas.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Deveau that Municipal Council approve the first reading of the presented amendment to the Central Plan By-Law which would remove the maximum size limitation on accessory buildings in the Central Planning Area where

such buildings are proposed for properties without access to central Municipal sewer services. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION

Saturday, May 28 is national Jumpstart Day and traditionally a huge fundraising day across Canada. It has been a few years since our Antigonish-Guysborough Chapter has done any local fundraising. This year the recreation departments are partnering with the Antigonish Canadian Tire on Jumpstart Day to raise funds for our chapter. The local chapter will be hosting a BBQ and Car Wash with additional activities for kids. The store will be pushing the sale of Jumpstart balls in-store and proceeds will go to this fundraiser.

Last year, our chapter provided \$14,000 in funding to help children participate in recreational activities throughout Antigonish and Guysborough. This year, National Office has allocated \$11,000 for the Antigonish-Guysborough Chapter. Based on the applications we have received to date, it looks like requests for assistance will surpass last year's demand.

Staff are requesting Council to proclaim May 28th as Jumpstart Day in Antigonish County.

Moved by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that Municipal Council proclaim May 28th, 2016 as Jumpstart Day in Antigonish County. Motion carried.

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

Councillor MacLellan would like Council's approval to attend the following workshop: Grant Writing Workshop: "Seeking Approval" Successful Grant Proposal Writing Steps & Strategies. The cost of the workshop is \$125.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane and seconded by Deputy Warden McCarron that Municipal Council approve Councillor MacLellan's attendance at the Grant Writing Workshop. Motion carried.

EMO

There is a property in District 10 where the bank is eroding and Councillor MacFarlane is wondering if there is anything EMO can do. Councillor MacFarlane will provide the details to Mr. Horne and he will look into options.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Deputy Warden McCarron and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:10pm. Motion carried.

Warden Russell Boucher

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer