

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday, December 19th, 2017 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administrative Centre, 285 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish NS.

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron, Chair
 Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart
 Councillor Mary MacLellan
 Councillor Donnie MacDonald
 Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
 Councillor Rémi Deveau
 Councillor John Dunbar
 Councillor Gary Mattie
 Councillor Neil Corbett
 Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance
Tammy Feltmate, Director of Sustainable Communities
Marlene Melanson, Director of Recreation

Regrets: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden McCarron, at 5:35pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Streetlight Requests
- DTIR Update

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Warden McCarron called three times for any errors or omissions in the November 21st Committee of the Whole minutes.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor MacLellan that the Committee of the Whole minutes of November 21st be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Finance staff spoke further to the tax interest write-off request brought forward by Councillor Dunbar at the last Committee meeting. Ms. Duggan reviewed how addresses are received from PVSC and the Land Registry Office, who in turn receive that information from the property owner or their mortgage lender.

Due to how often mail is returned, staff recommended denying this write-off request, as the implications across the County could be financially significant if this decision were to set a precedent for such requests. Discussion followed.

Moved by Councillor Dunbar and seconded by Deputy Warden Stewart that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council waive the interest accrued on the 2017 property taxes for AAN05538505. Motion defeated (2 in favour, 8 against).

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Allison Duggan, Director of Finance, provided the Committee with a detailed review of the year to date expenditures relative to the 2017/2018 budget. Items in the review that noted amounts spent to date was lower or higher than 70-75% of the budgeted amount were discussed in more detail for the Committee's information. Mrs. Duggan was thanked for her presentation and all of her work in preparing the review for the Committee.

RECREATION / MPAL PLANNING

Marlene Melanson, Director of Recreation, reviewed a memo provided to the Committee, providing an update on the status of efforts between Antigonish County Recreation Staff and Recreation & Health personnel from Paqtnkek, who are in the process of finalizing an RFP to obtain consultant services for the development of a Recreation & Physical Activity Plan.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN TIMELINE

Ms. Melanson further reviewed a memo providing an update regarding the Active Transportation (AT) Action Plan, and the efforts to date of the Active Transportation Committee. Ms. Melanson noted that the next step would be a session with Council and the Active Transportation Committee in the New Year, and that staff would be in touch to make scheduling arrangements.

LEGACY 150 PAVILION UPDATE

Ms. Melanson presented a memo outlining the tender process for the Legacy 150 Pavilion. A call for tenders was issued in November and four contractors submitted bids. A low bidder was identified, however all four bidders came in over budget.

The four companies that bid on the project and their bids were as follows:

- \$186,859 – Dora Construction
- \$180,895 – Rennie Builders (non-compliant)
- \$169,900 – Bird Construction
- \$165,000 – Tate Construction

Ms. Melanson described efforts to date taken with the lowest bidder to try to identify modification to the design in order to further lower the cost to be within the range of funds available for the project. Discussion followed. Direction was provided to staff to meet with Councillor Corbett, Deputy Warden Stewart and the architect to discuss design changes that could bring the total cost of the project down.

MUNICIPAL POLICY #5 – HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL FOR EMPLOYEES

Mr. Horne provided the Committee with a review of the staff report, which summarized the updates proposed to the policy, and the proposed text under consideration. Discussion was then held regarding each of the subject areas under review.

Moved by Councillor Dunbar and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:35pm, to reconvene following the Council meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden McCarron, at 9:10pm.

Further discussion took place regarding the proposed policy amendments to create a “supportive-parental leave”, and to review the definition of family. Members of the Committee felt that they wanted more time to review the proposed amendments, and requested that the item be deferred to the January meeting.

STREETLIGHT REQUESTS

Councillor Dunbar requested that the Committee consider installing streetlights in two locations in his district. The first area is in Bayfield past Beach Road, where the road comes quite close to the ocean and spray can cause visibility issues, particularly at night. The second location is at the intersection of Summerside Road and Summerside-Bayfield Road.

Moved by Councillor Dunbar and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve streetlights in Bayfield near the Beach Road, and at the Summerside Road & Summerside-Bayfield Road intersection. Motion carried.

Councillor Mattie identified a section of roadway in Monastery, on a curve, where the layout of the existing streetlights has created a difficult pocket of darkness that has caused concern with pedestrians (including children walking home from after-school activities) experiencing “near miss” incidents with vehicles.

Moved by Councillor Mattie and seconded by Councillor MacLellan that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve a streetlight on the curve on Highway 4 near the convenience store in Monastery. Motion carried.

Warden McCarron requested a streetlight be installed at the intersection of Highway 316 and Loch Katrine Road. Staff noted that they would be in touch with each Councillor requesting streetlights prior to placing the work requisition, to confirm exact placement.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve a streetlight at the intersection of Highway 316 and Loch Katrine Road. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Warden McCarron provided the Committee with a summary of a discussion that he had with the Hon. Lloyd Hines, Minister of Transportation. Specific mention was made regarding the condition of the Antigonish-Guysborough Road, and the important link that it provides between the County of Antigonish and the Municipality of the District of Guysborough. Warden McCarron requested that the Municipality send a letter to the Minister of Transportation to request that the condition of this road considered for an upgrade; consensus was provided by the Committee to do so.

IN-CAMERA: ACQUISITION, SALE, LEASE, AND SECURITY OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

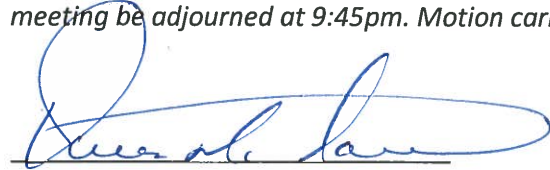
These subject matters fall within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as matters that a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Deveau 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 at 9:43pm. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor Dunbar that the In-Camera session be adjourned at 9:45pm. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Dunbar and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 9:45pm. Motion carried.



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer