

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 18, 2018, 5:30 pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron
Councillor Mary MacLellan
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
Councillor Remi Deveau
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Neil Corbett

Regrets: Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Also Present: Sonny MacDougall, MGM

1. Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden McCarron, at 5:32pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. There was one addition: an update on the Vital Signs Report request made at a presentation to Council earlier.

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Councillor Corbett

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion : Carried

3. **Approval of September 11, 2018 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

Warden McCarron asked whether there were any errors or omissions in the minutes of September 11, 2018.

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of September 11, 2018 be approved as presented

Motion : Carried

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. **Delegations**

a. **Presentation of Audited Financial Statements**

Mr. MacDougall provided the Committee with a presentation of the 2018-2019 Consolidated Financial Statements, reviewing the document in detail. Mr. MacDougall noted that there wasn't a management letter for response required this year; staff were thanked for their full co-operation with the audit.

The floor was then opened for questions and comments. Mr. MacDougall noted that the figures for the Municipality depict a healthy operation. Discussion followed. Warden McCarron thanked Mr. MacDougall for his presentation and his team's work, and thanked Ms. Duggan and the Finance Team for all of the work that they have done both with the audit and with general financial operations.

Councillor Dunbar joined the meeting at 5:49 pm.

Moved By Councillor MacLellan
Seconded By Councillor Deveau

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the 2017/2018 Audited Statements.

Motion : Carried

6. **New Business**

a. **2018/2019 Water Utility Budget and Statement of Estimates Approval**

Ms. Duggan provided an update on the progress being made with staff training and the implementation of software for water meter reading, in preparation for a water rate study in the near future. July 2019 is the targeted date for the implementation of a new rate structure that reflects consumption-based billing using the water meters.

Ms. Duggan then provided a review of the Water Utility Budget. Warden McCarron asked staff to explore possibilities for paying down any Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC) debts early, to minimize the interest that they Municipality is paying to outside organizations. Discussion about the importance of building a new pump house for Well #7, as well as the possibility of amalgamating the County's water utilities, was also discussed.

Ms. Duggan was thanked for all of the work that she has done to generate this budget.

Ms. Duggan then reviewed the Statement of Estimates process, which is a form that compiles two previously approved documents and submitting them to the Province in their template.

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Councillor Chisholm

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the 2018/2019 Water Utility Budget

Motion : Carried

Moved By Councillor Corbett
Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the 2018/2019 Statement of Estimates

Motion : Carried

b. **Approval of the Financial Information Return**

Mrs. Duggan noted that the Financial Information Review (FIR) is a template data entry form that is completed and sent to the Province each year, populated with the Municipality's most recent fiscal year audited Financial Statements.

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the 2018/2019 Financial Information Return.

Motion : Carried

c. **Consideration of a Streetlight**

Mrs. Schumacher provided some background on the request made by Councillor Mattie regarding the desire for a streetlight to be installed on a sharp bend on Delorey's Road in his district.

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Councillor MacDonald

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the installation of a streetlight at the sharp bend on Delorey's Road in Monastery.

Motion : Carried

d. **Skatepark Discussion**

Mr. Horne provided an overview of the Skateboard Park project to date, including anticipated costs and a projected breakdown of how those costs might be shared among the project partners. Grant and other funding opportunities from Federal and Provincial bodies were also reviewed.

Questions were asked regarding the position of the skateboard association with their share of the fundraising; Mr. Horne noted that the skateboard association will be providing an update at Joint Council tomorrow evening. Funding and grant opportunities from the Province and Federal programs were also reviewed.

7. **In Camera Items**

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

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 6:50 pm.

Motion : Carried

Moved By Councillor Dunbar
Seconded By Councillor Chisholm

That the In-Camera session be adjourned at 6:57 pm

Motion : Carried

8. **Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions**

a. **Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

There were no updates from this Board

b. **Antigonish Arena Commission**

Mr. Horne noted that a grant of \$15,000 was received from Communities, Culture and Heritage to carry out the work being done with the Commission. An update was given regarding the funding for the paving work being done at the arena.

c. **Antigonish Crime Prevention**

There were no updates from this Board.

d. **Eastern District Planning Commission**

There will be a Board meeting later in September.

e. **Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee**

Household hazardous waste collection is happening this weekend at Market Square.

f. **Eastern-Straight Regional Enterprise Network**

There are no updates from this Board.

g. **Pictou Antigonish Regional Library**

A meeting happened this past week, but Councillor MacLellan was not able to attend due to a conflict with a meeting at the RK Nursing Home.

h. **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**

The Board met as part of an exercise to review and update policies.

i. **Antigonish Poverty Reduction Coalition**

Councillor MacDonald read a statement provided from an event that was held earlier in the day. Upcoming session and report release timelines were also reviewed for the Committee.

9. **Community Events**

The following community events were shared by Councillors:

- Saturday night - Chase the Ace in Pomquet
- PowWow in Paqtnkek this weekend
- Saturday (22nd) - Concert at Heatherton Community Centre
- Saturday at Antigonish Walmart Parking Lot - yard sale fundraiser for a District 7 resident for a wheelchair accessible van
- Harvest Fest at St. Joseph's Community Centre
- Fundraiser / auction in Arisaig for new playground equipment at the H.M. MacDonald School

10. **Staff Reports**

Staff reports were reviewed for the Committee's information.

11. **Additions to the Agenda**

a. **Vital Signs Update**

Warden McCarron provided an update on a request that had been received from Irene MacLeod representing a group looking to undertake a vital signs report

for the community. A request has been received for a modest financial contribution from the Municipality.

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve a contribution of \$2,000 towards the creation of the Vital Signs Report.

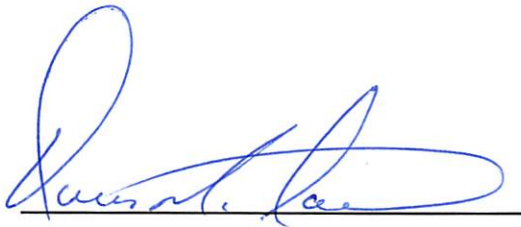
Motion : Carried

12. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Deveau

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Motion : Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer