

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 16, 2018, 5:30 pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron
Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart
Councillor Mary MacLellan
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
Councillor Remi Deveau
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Neil Corbett
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor Gary Mattie

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Marlene Melanson, Director of Recreation

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 5:33pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved By Councillor MacLellan
Seconded By Councillor Deveau

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of October 2nd Committee of the Whole Minutes

Marlene Melanson joined the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 2, 2018 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. New Business

a. Recreation Registration Program

Ms. Melanson reviewed the current Recreation Department online booking system, which is being discontinued by the company (Central Squares Technology). The Municipality's contract is expiring at the end of the year, with the software coming offline in June 2019, and alternative programs are being explored by staff for implementation before the winter recreation registrations in December. Staff will be bringing forward a recommendation for the Committee's consideration in the near future.

Councillor Dunbar joined the meeting at 5:36 pm.

b. St. Andrews Junior School Playground Equipment Fundraising Request

Ms. Melanson brought forward a letter that was received from the Junior School, requesting assistance with fundraising efforts for the construction of playground equipment at the school. A review of how similar requests in the community have been handled in the past was also provided. Discussion followed.

c. Draft Dog By-law Public Consultation Plan

Mrs. Schumacher reviewed the draft Dog By-law that has been prepared over the past year. Staff is looking to take the document to the public for comment and review before bringing it back to the Committee for formal consideration. The Committee had the opportunity to ask some questions for clarification, and was invited to provide further comments to staff in the upcoming weeks. Members of the Committee were also invited to share the draft document with any of their constituents who may be interested in providing feedback on the document.

d. Discussion About Council Stipend Review & Tax Changes

Mr. Horne introduced the upcoming tax changes, and noted that a detailed memo providing information will be coming forward to the Committee for consideration at a future date. Discussion followed.

e. Discussion About Municipal Authority to Set Speed Limits

Warden McCarron brought forward the subject for discussion by the group in advance of preparing a formal response. Discussion followed. Warden

McCarron will take the information discussion and prepare a formal response to the NSFM.

f. Interim Appointment of Members to the Arena Corporation

Mr. Horne requested new appointments to the Antigonish Arena Association, as part of the dissolution of the old corporation and establishment of the new association. Regular committee appointments are expected to take place in November, so these are interim appointments.

Moved By Councillor Deveau

Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council appoint the following members to the Antigonish Arena Association to formalize the establishment of the new structure:

- Warden Owen McCarron
- Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart
- Councillor John Dunbar

Motion Carried

6. Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions

a. Antigonish Heritage Museum Board

Nothing to report.

b. Antigonish Arena Commission

A meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday October 18th. The audit and financial review are wrapping up, and advertisements are posted for community members.

c. Antigonish Crime Prevention

AGM is scheduled to take place on October 18th at 6pm at the St. FX Keating Centre.

d. Eastern District Planning Commission

Nothing to report.

e. Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee

Nothing to report.

f. Eastern-Strait Regional Enterprise Network

Nothing to report.

g. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library

Nothing to report.

h. RK MacDonald Nursing Home

The facility held their 60th anniversary celebration this past month.

7. Community Events

- Chase the Ace (St. Andrews on Thursday, St. Josephs and Havre Boucher on Fridays)
- Hip of Beef Dinner on Nov 4th 1130-430 Mini Trail
- Arisaig Bazaar Nov 4th
- Pickle Ball has started in Pomquet

8. Additions to the Agenda

a. Streetlight Request

Request to put the light back at Dagger Woods where the roadway was moved. Staff was requested to look into getting it replaced.

b. Seaside Internet Upgrade Concerns

Deputy Warden Stewart spoke to an email received by a constituent regarding concerns with Seaside's Internet services in the James River area of the community.

Moved By Deputy Warden Stewart

Seconded By Councillor Deveau

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council send a letter to Seaside sharing constituent concerns with service in parts of the community.

Motion Carried

c. Road Issue in Middleton

A constituent in District 3 has brought forward a concern with accessing property due to brush along the roadway. Staff was requested to prepare a letter noting these concerns to local transportation and the Minister of Transportation.

Moved By Deputy Warden Stewart

Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council prepare a letter sharing constituent concerns with brush maintenance in Middleton with the local Transportation office as well as the Minister of Transportation.

Motion Carried

d. **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Councillor MacFarlane brought forward a suggestion for the Municipality to explore partnerships for becoming more carbon neutral on municipal properties and operations. Warden McCarron reviewed projects and applications that the Municipality has applied for over the past two years, but has not had success with securing funding in any of the programs offered.

Staff continues to explore options that are available, and are willing to more aggressively pursue opportunities if desired by Council. Warden McCarron also noted an upcoming energy fair, being held in conjunction with Paqtnkek. A suggestion was made to consider holding this discussion at an upcoming Joint Town and County Council meeting.

10. **Adjournment**

Moved By Councillor Deveau

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:05pm

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer