
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2020, 6:30 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 Gary Mattie
Councillor Neil Corbett
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor John Dunbar

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

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 5:57pm

2. Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda.

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of March 30, 2020 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes.

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of March 30, 2020 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Councillor MacLellan asked if anyone had heard further from the Cape Mabou Pasture Co-op. Nothing further had been received; Warden McCarron and staff will follow-up with the co-op and other area municipalities for more information. Councillor MacLellan also asked for an update on the bulky waste program; the flyers are being printed and will be circulated by Canada Post later this week.

5. **Continuing Business**

a. **Discussion of Provincial Tax Deferral Program**

This item was referred to In-Camera Committee for discussion.

6. **New Business**

a. **Quality of Life Survey Results**

Mrs. Donovan provided the Committee with an overview of the Quality of Life Survey process and responses. The Antigonish and Guysborough area had a higher response rate to the survey, as well as many of the positive indicators noted in the survey. The different categories of the survey were discussed for the Committee's benefit. The next steps for the project are on hold for now; the plan is to bring together community stakeholders to look at the survey results in more detail to find out if the survey results are accurate, where improvements that have been identified can be made, and to celebrate the positive results. Discussion followed.

b. **VON Antigonish Presentation Materials**

Information about VON programs were included in the agenda package for the Committee's information.

c. **Clarification on Special District Grants**

Mr. Horne reviewed the staff report regarding the Special District Grants, and the staff request regarding the timing of the release of funds in relation to the budget process. Discussion and questions followed. Consensus was given to release the funds in full on April 1st. Mr. Horne noted that an amendment would be made to the policy so that this decision of the Committee would be captured.

d. **Discussion of COVID-19 and Municipal Elections**

Mr. Horne noted that discussions have been taking place at NSFM regarding the impact on the Municipal Election, particularly with respect to statutory deadlines in the process and the enumeration process. Questions from the Committee followed.

7. **Community Events**

There were no community events to report. An idea shared in his community for garbage pickups while out for walks was shared by Councillor Deveau.

8. **Staff Reports**

Mr. Horne noted that in addition to the projects listed in the staff reports, the final report from IMP has been received and is being reviewed by staff.

9. **Additions to the Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

10. **In Camera Items**

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss Contract Negotiations at 6:42pm.

Motion Carried

That the Committee return to Open Session at 7:11pm.

Motion Carried

11. **Adjournment**

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:13pm.

Motion Carried

Warden Owen McCarron

Glenn Horne, Municipal
Clerk/Treasurer