

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF **ANTIGONISH**

Municipal Council Meeting- Minutes

Monday, June 8, 2020

7:30 pm

Councillors Present:

Warden Owen McCarron

Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart

Councillor Mary MacLellan

Councillor Donnie MacDonald

Councillor Vaughn Chisholm

Councillor Remi Deveau

Councillor John Dunbar

Councillor Gary Mattie

Councillor Neil Corbett

Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Staff Present:

Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer

Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk

Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Also Present:

Greg Morrow, 101.5 The Hawk

Matt Draper, 98.9XFM

Call to Order- Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron

Warden McCarron called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. Mr. Horne added several motions to the agenda:

- Budget Resolution and Striking of the Tax Rate
- Borrowing Resolution
- Low-Income Property Tax Exemption
- Awarding of a Tender for a Bolted Steel Tank
- Awarding of a Tender for Water Storage Tank Site Work

Min # 2020-070

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of Municipal Council Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Min # 2020-071

That the Municipal Council Minutes of May 11, 2020 be approved.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Presentations

There were no scheduled presentations.

Correspondence

Response to Concerns About At-Grade Railway Crossing Permits - Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal

Mr. Horne spoke to the letter received from the Minister of Transportation in response to a letter that Council sent in April outlining concerns with the process and fees for private road crossings charged by the railway to land owners. Discussion followed.

Response from Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin regarding change in Municipal Affairs Critic

Mr. Horne reviewed the letter provided by Ms. Smith-McCrossin, notifying Council of her change in Critic portfolio and thanking Council.

Committee Reports

May 14, 2020 Committee of the Whole Report

Mr. Horne reviewed the report. There were no recommendations.

May 21, 2020 Asset Management Committee Report

Councillor MacFarlane reviewed the report. There were no recommendations.

May 21, 2020 Committee of the Whole Report

Min # 2020-072

That Municipal Council supports the virtual Canada Day celebrations being collaboratively held with the Town of Antigonish.

Motion Carried

May 25, 2020 Committee of the Whole Report

Min # 2020-073

That Municipal Council approve the MOU for use of the Library space by the Chamber of Commerce until March 31, 2021, AND work with the Town and PARL to:

- Update an agreement between the Municipality, Town and PARL for use of the People's Place Library, clarifying the authority and responsibility of each partner, and the expectations around budgeting, reporting, contracts and leases; AND
- Draft a lease with the Chamber of Commerce to replace the MOU, effective no later than April 1, 2021.

Motion Carried

June 8, 2020 Committee of the Whole Report

There were no motions to report.

Reports from Individual Council Members on Outside Boards, Conferences, and Community Activities

- Councillors MacDonald, Dunbar, Chisholm, and MacFarlane reported that they attended the Black Lives Matter march that was held in Antigonish on June 6th.
- Councillor Corbett provided an update on the Cape Jack Beach parking lot upgrades.
- Warden McCarron provided an update on the Arena Association meeting that took place last month.
- Councillor MacLellan noted that the RK Board would be holding meetings on a strategic plan, and will be organizing a staff appreciation day.

Motions

Budget Resolution and Striking of the Tax Rate

Mr. Horne introduced the 2020/2021 operating budget for consideration by Council. The budget resolution was summarized for the benefit of those who were on the conference call line. Following the passing of the motions to strike the tax rate, pass the borrowing resolution and set the low-income property tax exemption, Mr. Horne and Warden McCarron took the opportunity to thank staff and Council for all of the hard work that went into the preparation of the budget.

Min # 2020-074

That Municipal Council adopt the budget and strike the tax rate as per the resolution presented and attached.

Motion Carried

Borrowing Resolution

Mr. Horne provided a summary of the borrowing resolution that is presented for Council's consideration.

Min # 2020-075

That Municipal Council approve the borrowing resolution as presented and attached.

Motion Carried

Low-Income Property Tax Exemption

Min # 2020-076

That Municipal Council amend the Tax Exemption Policy for Low-Income Tax Payers to increase the total income eligibility from \$27,000 to \$30,000 and the exemption amount from \$150 to \$200.

Motion Carried

Awarding of a Tender for a Bolted Steel Tank

Min # 2020-077

That Municipal Council award the tender for a Bolted Steel Water Tank to Greatario Engineered Storage Systems for a bid price of \$740,000 + HST.

Motion Carried

Awarding of Tender for Water Storage Tank Site Work

Min # 2020-078

That Municipal Council award the tender for Water Storage Tank Site Work to C.F. Construction Ltd. For a bid price of \$113,580 + HST.

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous Business

There was no miscellaneous business.

Adjournment

Warden McCarron thanked everyone for their involvement with the budget.

Min # 2020-079

That the Council meeting adjourns at 8:05 pm.

Motion Carried

Warden Owen McCarron

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer

DRAFT