

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of Meeting
September 15, 2014

Present

Mayor, Billy Joe MacLean
Deputy Mayor, Dr. Trevor Boudreau
Councilor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Councilor, Joe Janega
Councilor, Bert Lewis
Chief Administrative Officer, Maris Freimanis
Director Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Paula Davis
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey, Alternate

Regrets

Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen
Town Solicitor, Larry Evans

1. Call to Order

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held in the Shannon Studio, PHCC, Monday, September 15, 2014 and called to order by Mayor MacLean at 7:00 p.m.

2. Additions to / Approval of Agenda

There were three additions to the agenda:

- a) Community Health Centre – Update
- b) Grant of Easement – Town of Port Hawkesbury and Nova Scotia Power – In Camera Session
- c) Strait Area Gas Corporation – In Camera Session

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton "to approve the agenda as amended". MOTION CARRIED.

3. Strategic Priorities

The seven 2014 Strategic Priorities were identified earlier in the year by staff and Council and require regular updates, discussion and development of specific actions by Council to guide the seven priorities. A workshop will precede the next Public Meeting, October 7, to discuss the direction to take, and specific actions that can be achieved followed by regular progress updates of the Strategic Priorities and the Investment Readiness Action Plan.

4. PHCC Security - Update

CAO, M. Freimanis identified several PHCC security issues reported by staff and stated the ability for staff to provide security and still maintain their level of custodial service was compromised. Council was provided with options of: 1) maintaining the status quo 2) partially reinstating security on Saturdays and Sundays; 3) fully reinstating security at a cost of \$16,000 to the end of March 31, 2015. The recommendation of CAO, M. Freimanis was to fully reinstate and monitor security requirements to cope with the challenges of minor hockey and increased fall and winter PHCC activities. Discussion included the budget for security, exploring avenues of retribution from minors or adults causing damage to the PHCC or Town property, and alternatives for parents and coaches to take an active role in monitoring youth at the PHCC. Town Solicitor P. Lamey will research and provide a report to Council regarding restitution from minors or adults causing damage to Town property that will include the obligations of municipalities in pursuing civil action and a cost benefit analysis.

MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor B. Lewis "to accept the recommendation of CAO, M. Freimanis to fully reinstate security at a cost of \$16,000 to March 31, 2015. Council will address PHCC security options for fiscal year 2015-16 during budget deliberations". MOTION CARRIED.

5. Town of Port Hawkesbury Website

CAO, M. Freimanis stated the Town of Port Hawkesbury Website requires improvements to make it more current, accommodate more information, incorporate additional links and address editing capabilities. Mayor MacLean and Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton volunteered to provide suggestions from a political viewpoint for improvements to the Town's website.

6. Single Call Policy

CAO, M. Freimanis met with John Ouellette, Bell Aliant to discuss options for the Town's Single Call Policy. CAO Freimanis will provide Council with a full briefing, definitive action plan, and implementation schedule at the next Public Meeting of Council, October 7.

5. Approved Additions

Community Health Centre (CHC)

Mayor MacLean and Councilor J. Janega met with Associate Deputy Minister Frances Martin and representatives to discuss the status of the Community Health Centre (CHC) proposal. Associate Deputy Minister Frances Martin was supportive of the proposal and the facility identified for the centre. She recognized the shortage of doctors in our area as critical and the need for a community health centre however; timing and funding were major challenges. Mayor MacLean and Councilor Janega are confident that a meeting will take place at the end of October to provide guidance and to discuss next steps in which funding will be discussed. The CHC committee will be asked to compile infrastructure information for the Associate Deputy Minister and staff. It was stressed time is of the essence to deal with the shortage of doctors in our area. Councilor J. Janega was commended for his work on this file.

The Committee of the Whole recessed In Camera at 7:45 p.m. to discuss: 1) Richmond County Fire Services Agreement; 2) Personnel Item; 3) Transfer of Lands – Former Vocational School Site; 4) Grant of Easement – Town of Port Hawkesbury and Nova Scotia Power; and, 5) Strait Area Gas Corporation

The Committee of the Whole Meeting reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

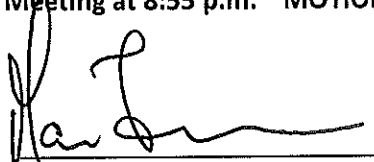
MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by B. Chisholm-Beaton "to accept the recommendations of CAO, M. Freimanis as discussed In Camera regarding 1) Richmond County Fire Services Agreement; 2) Personnel Item; 3) Transfer of Lands – Former Vocational School Site; 4) Grant of Easement – Town of Port Hawkesbury and Nova Scotia Power; and, 5) Strait Area Gas Corporation". MOTION CARRIED.

6. Adjournment

MOVED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau "to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:55 p.m." MOTION CARRIED.

Oct 14, 2014

Date



Approved by:

Maris Freimanis, CAO



Recorded by:

Dawna MacDonald