

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday, March 15th, 2016 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administrative Centre, 285 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish NS.

Present were:

- Warden Russell Boucher, Chair
- Deputy Warden Owen McCarron
- Councillor Mary MacLellan
- Councillor Pierre Boucher
- Councillor Angus Bowie
- Councillor Rémi Deveau
- Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
- Councillor Bill MacFarlane
- Councillor Donnie MacDonald
- Councillor Hughie Stewart
- Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
- Shirlyn Donovan, Interim Deputy Clerk
- Angus MacGillivray, Antigonish Affordable Housing Society
- Bob Hale, StFX University Interim Head of Student Services
- Bridget Burgess, Internal VP StFX Students Union

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden Boucher, at 5:34pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

- RCMP

Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Boucher that the Committee of the Whole minutes March 2nd, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

ACQUISITION, SALE, LEASE AND SECURITY OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY (In-Camera)

This subject matter falls within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as a matter that a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session.

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Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss contract negotiations. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Stewart that the In-Camera session be adjourned at 5:49pm. Motion carried.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Recreation Director, Marlene Melanson talked to the Committee about the Active Transportation plan. If the plan is adopted, it doesn't mean that the Recreation Department has to go out and do everything in the plan. If we are to adopt the plan as a guiding document she would like Municipal Council to adopt the Active Transportation Plan, define the municipality's role as it relates to Active Transportation, and establish a committee made of municipal personnel and community partners to review the plan and to identify and prioritize actions and strategies based on the guiding principles.

Councillor MacDonald asked if there is support from the province on active transportation projects. Ms. Melanson said provincially DOT is at the table and there are supports from the province.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that the Municipality adopt the Active Transportation Plan as a guiding document/vision for AT in Antigonish County. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Deveau and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that the Municipality defines its role as it relates to Active Transportation. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Councillor Stewart that the Municipality establish and Active Transportation Committee made up of municipal personnel and community partners to review the plan as well as to identify and prioritize actions and strategies. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT REQUESTS

Mr. Horne reviewed an option for Council to consider undergoing a comprehensive curb and gutter in the serviced areas of the county. Mr. Horne wanted to get direction from Council if this is something they would like to pursue. Council came to the consensus that they would not at this time but will continue to look at street improvements as petitions are received.

An unofficial request has been received from a resident at Somers Road to extend the Municipality's sewer line from its current end point at approximately 59 Somers Rd an additional 200m (approx.) to allow for the future development of four residential lots. Staff

have informed the resident that under the Local Improvement's Bylaw they would be required to contribute financially to such a project if it were approved by Council.

A similar sized project was estimated last year at a cost of approximately \$100,000 (included sanitary sewer, street reinstatement and engineering costs). This project may require pumping which would increase the estimated cost again.

Council agreed to send letters to the residents to see if they are in favour of the upgrade.

BULKY WASTE COLLECTION

The proposed dates for the bulky waste collection are: **May 23 – 27 and May 30 – June 3**
Staff is looking for approval of these dates for the bulky waste collection to go to tender.

Council is interested in getting prices on offering a second bulky waste pick up in the fall.

Moved by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor Chisholm that Municipal Council approve the dates for the bulky waste collection as May 23-27 and May 30-June 3 so a tender can be issued. Motion carried.

AWARDING PROPOSAL FOR SOLAR PV SYSTEM FOR MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION CENTRE

The recommendation from SNC Lavalin has come in for awarding the installation of solar panels on the Municipal Administration Building to Appleseed Energy Inc for a cost of \$67,788 +HST.

Moved by Councillor Boucher and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that Municipal Council award the installation of solar panels on the Municipal Administrative Building to Appleseed Energy Inc. with a cost \$67,788 + HST. Motion carried.

ANTIGONISH AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

Council was provided with a staff report for EDP. They are recommending that Council give assurances to the Antigonish Affordable Housing Society, sufficient to their needs, that the Municipality will not exercise their discretion to discharge the development agreement as outlined in clause 5.7 so long as the first phase of the development is completed within the required three years and the second phase is completed within an extra three years commencing at end of the first three years.

Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that Municipal Council give assurances to the Antigonish Affordable Antigonish Affordable Housing Society, sufficient to their needs, that the Municipality will not exercise their discretion to discharge the development agreement as outlined in clause 5.7 so long as the first phase of the development is completed within the required three years and the second phase is completed within an extra three years commencing at end of the first three years. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT TO EASTERN MAINLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

We received a letter from the Honourable Joanne Bernard, Minister of Community Services stating that the Municipality of the County of Antigonish's representative on the Board of the Eastern Mainland Housing Authority will expire on April 24, 2016. Jim MacIntyre is the current County representative on the Board. The minister is requesting the municipality's recommendation for the reappointment or replacement for the vacancy.

It is recommended to ask Jim MacIntyre if he wishes to remain on the committee.

AGREEMENT FOR THE SHARING OF DATA IN THE LIST OF ELECTORS

The Municipal Elections Act gives three clear choices to Municipality's for the preparation of the preliminary list of electors:

1. Enumeration (door-to-door canvassing);
2. Use of a list of electors from the most recent provincial or federal election, or in an election held pursuant to the Municipal Elections Act, or;
3. Use of a permanent register of electors maintained for provincial or federal elections.

Moved by Councillor Chisholm and seconded by Councillor MacLellan that Municipal Council use the list of electors from the most recent provincial or federal election for preparation of the preliminary list of electors. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Horne reviewed the outcome of the recent tax sale.

- 226 – "14 Day Notices" were mailed on September 09, 2015
- By the end of February 28, 2016 - full payment was received from 79
 - 6 were sold at Tax Sale
- Partial payment (with ongoing payments) received from 82
- No payment received from 65
 - 4 went to Tax Sale and did not sell
 - 18 considered unsellable.

A total of **\$170,152.00** was collected through the tax sale process to the end of February 2016.

Councillor McCarron asked if we can put an updated list on our website to keep the list current as properties are taken off the tax sale list.

RCMP MONTHLY REPORT

Municipal Council was provided with a report from Staff Sgt. Glassford.

RCMP

Councillor Stewart would like to have a letter sent to RCMP officials outlining Council's concerns.

Moved by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor MacFarlane that Municipal Council send a letter to RCMP officials outlining concerns. Motion carried.

BURMAC CUP

Representatives from StFX University Administration, Bob Hale and Students' Union Vice President Internal, Bridget Burgess were on hand to meet with Council.

In 2002, the BURMAC Cup was held at the Keating Centre and that year, \$5000 damage done to the Keating Centre. The University has not allowed the game to come back to the university. In its current magnitude the university cannot support the game. This year there was \$7000 damage done at Maclsaac Hall after the game. There were many posts on social media which were very vulgar.

The university does have a risk assessment process. Even though it is held off campus they still do approve it every year. Mr. Hale is not sure what the committee would do in terms of approving the event based on this year

There are 5-6 other house cups which do take place on campus and they do have a few issues but not of the same magnitude as BURMAC.

Mr. Stewart asked if there are any repercussions to the students who cause the damage on campus. Mr. Hale said if they catch them then they go through the community code.

Councillor Chisholm asked if Mr. Hale would be in favour of cancelling them game. Mr. Hale responded saying that the university made their decision back in 2002. They have been working with the organizing committee in years since to put safety precautions in place because at the end of the night it is going back to campus. He suggested that perhaps a break is a good idea. The university is making some changes to Maclsaac Hall this coming year so it will be all first year students. This is an effort to try to change the culture.

Mr. Hale said there is a lot of fun around BURMAC but he wants people to be safe and be respectful of others.

Councillor MacFarlane asked Mr. Hale if other events such as Homecoming cause as much damage as BURMAC. Mr. Hale said other events on campus do cause damage as well; some of it is wear and tear.

Ms. Burgess chatted with students to get their take on some of the more positives that came from BURMAC. Leading up to BURMAC the houses co-hosted Bingo at the RK MacDonald Nursing Home, they had dinners, movie nights, and spirits were generally pretty positive.

Mr. Burgess addressed the social media issues. YikYak is an anonymous social media app, your phone automatically syncs to the 500 closest people to you who have the app. Some of the stuff that happened on YikYak around BURMAC was pretty terrible but there is no way to prove whether it was StFX students.

When it comes to BURMAC itself, the Arena, and the town and the county, Ms. Burgess put together some collaborative approaches on how to create a fun, engaging event. In the document she addresses safety and security, game day issues on campus and at arena, reputation risk mitigation, personal health and well-being and accountability.

Some of the issues identified include having more trained security at the games, security barriers, not selling tickets on day of event, move BURMAC to a Friday instead of Wednesday.

Ms. Burgess has no idea where the money from the game went. She also suggested maybe raising the prices of the tickets should be an option.

Accountability, have meetings with the students to let them know they are responsible for their actions and tell what expectations should be.

Ms. Burgess confirmed that students really want BURMAC to happy next year, it would be a crushing blow to the students if this event were to be lost. Students are more than willing to work with the arena, town and county to bring BURMAC back to the successful event it once was.

Councillor Deveau suggested one of the issues was the students hanging from the glass around the arena. If one of those panes of glass were to fall on a player or coach, it would cause some serious injuries. Ms. Burgess said at the House Cups on campus they do not let students in the first 2 rows closest to the glass. They actually put up barriers blocking those rows. She suggested the same thing could happen at the arena as a mitigation strategy.

Councillor MacFarlane asked who was responsible for security at the arena. Ms. Burgess said it is typically rural league players. She suggested it could be the primary responsibility of Burke and MacIsaac Hall to provide the security as they do have house budgets.

Warden Boucher thanked Ms. Burgess and Mr. Hale for coming in to speak with Council.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DINNER

A request has come in for Council sponsor the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner for \$250.

Moved by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor Boucher that Municipal Council sponsor the annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner for \$250. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Deveau that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:36pm. Motion carried.

Warden Russell Boucher

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer