
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 4, 2019, 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 John Dunbar
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor Neil Corbett

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance
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 7:01 pm

2. **Approval of Agenda**

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

- Pomquet Bursary
- Dry Hydrants
- Linwood Station Safety Hazard

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Deputy Warden Stewart

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of May 21, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

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

Moved By Councillor MacLellan
Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of May 21, 2019 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. **Continuing Business**

a. **Antigonish Bikeway Study**

Ms. Melanson provided the Committee with an overview of the responses to the Request for Proposals for a consultant to do the design and concept plan for the feasibility study for the Bikeway Study.

Moved By Councillor MacFarlane
Seconded By Councillor Deveau

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council endorse the recommendation that Bicycle Nova Scotia engage the services of WSP Canada Inc. to conduct the study and reinforce that the final design/plan of the corridor is to capture complete streets in addition to the Bikeway Corridor.

Motion Carried

b. **Municipal Mural Program**

Mr Horne noted that two murals were budgeted for this fiscal year. A draw was held for districts that had not already received murals. Three districts were drawn; the first two for the program, with one as a backup if one of the selected communities didn't work out. The districts selected, in order, were:

- District 1
- District 5
- District 6

c. **Discussion about Request to Consider Private Roads Maintenance Levy By-law**

Mrs. Schumacher presented a staff report summarizing the information gathered regarding a constituent request to look the possibility of a by-law for private road maintenance levies. Overall, staff questioned the ability for a by-law to be truly effective if homeowners cannot be compelled to join the association that is looking to have the Municipality collect fees on its behalf. Discussion followed. Staff was requested to draft a letter to the constituent outlining the findings and Committee's decision to not proceed further with developing the by-law.

7. **New Business**

a. **Antigonish Event Strategy**

Mrs. Donovan provided an introduction to a collaborative effort between the Town, County, and St. FX looking at creating a formal approach to attracting events as a means to promote year-round tourism. The proposal is conceptual at this time, but any questions or comments were welcomed. Discussion followed.

b. **Funding Request: Antigonish Stoirm Volleyball Club**

Mrs. Melanson spoke to a request that was made by the Antigonish Stoirm Volleyball Club for financial support for volleyball court sand replacement. Councillor MacFarlane and Councillor Chisholm offered to cover the request from their district grants.

c. **National Health and Fitness Day**

Staff spoke to a request that was received late in the day on Friday May 31st regarding a proclamation for National Health and Fitness Day. Recreation staff prepared and posted information for residents regarding this event for the Municipality's social media outlets for Saturday June 1st. Staff was directed to prepare a proclamation for June being Recreation Month in Nova Scotia for consideration at the next Council meeting.

8. **Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions**

a. **Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

Nothing to report.

d. **Eastern District Planning Commission**

Board meeting was held this month. Mayor Laurie Boucher is the new Board Chair.

- e. **Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee**
Highlights from the last Board meeting were circulated to the Committee earlier in the week. Recycling information sessions are being held in the community.
 - f. **Eastern-Straight Regional Enterprise Network**
Mr. Horne provided an update of the wrap-up process.
 - g. **Pictou Antigonish Regional Library**
Nothing to report.
 - h. **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**
Nothing to report.
9. **Staff Reports**
- a. **Dog Park**
Mr. Horne reviewed the summary provided in the agenda.
10. **Community Events**
June 16th Mini Trail Association having a Father's Day Lobster Dinner.
11. **Additions to the Agenda**
- a. **Pomquet School Bursary**
Councillor Deveau requested that the Municipality provide a bursary of \$200 to the Ecole Acadienne du Pomquet for this year, and that this bursary contribution be a standing item to happen each year.

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Councillor MacFarlane

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council provide a bursary of \$200 to Ecole Acadienne du Pomquet, and that this bursary recur each year.

Motion Carried
 - b. **Dry Hydrants**
Councillor Deveau has received a request for the installation of dry hydrants in his district. Several fire departments in the Municipality have asked for this in the past. Staff was requested to look into the issue further to evaluate need and interest for the Committee's consideration.

c. **Linwood Station Safety Hazard**

Councillor Mattie received a call from a constituent who received notice that the school will no longer permit a bus to run down Linwood Station Road due to safety concerns with the large hole that the railway dug on either side of the tracks, and a student must now travel 1.5 kms to the main road. The holes are now full of approximately 8 feet of water and a foot of mud with gravel hills around the hole; small children live in and visit the immediate area. Staff were asked to extend an invitation to the local MLAs to attend that meeting and were asked to look at what ability under the Dangerous and Unsightly By-law.

Moved By Councillor Mattie

Seconded By Councillor MacFarlane

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council send a letter to the railway noting concerns with the dangerous situation at Linwood Station Road.

Motion Carried

13. **Adjournment**

Moved By Councillor MacLellan

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer