
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 5:30 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 Neil Corbett
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Staff Present: Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator
Vera Rhynold, Assistant to the Director of Finance

Also Present: Meghan MacGillivray, EMM Law

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 5:34pm

Approval of Agenda

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

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Discussion on Pictou County Internet
- Community Signage

Moved By Councillor MacLellan
Seconded By Deputy Warden Stewart

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of October 1, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes

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

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Councillor Corbett

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 1, 2019 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

In Camera Items

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Councillor MacFarlane

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss the Acquisition, Sale, Lease, and Security of Municipal Property and Contract Negotiations at 5:38pm

Motion Carried

Moved By Councillor Dunbar
Seconded By Councillor Corbett

That the In-Camera session be adjourned at 6:17

Motion Carried

Continuing Business

a. Antigonish Farmers Market

Deputy Warden Stewart brought up that he is disappointed that the Farmers Market bid was awarded without going to tender, a \$1.4 million project. Contractors have been calling Councillors complaining that they didn't have the opportunity to bid on the project.

The Municipality did not stipulate on our contribution that it had to be tendered. Ms. MacGillivray suggested to the Committee that the funding has been committed.

The Committee wishes to have the Board in to have a discussion, and requested that staff make arrangements.

b. **Private Roads Maintenance Discussion**

Councillor MacFarlane asked to further the discussion on Private Road Maintenance. The Committee would like staff to create a toolbox for private road residents to use for maintenance. Mrs. Schumacher has been in touch with planning and is currently working on a first draft.

c. **Proposed Hospitality Policy Discussion**

Mrs. Schumacher reviewed the hospitality policy and how it was developed. If there are any questions or comments, please send along to Mrs. Schumacher. The Committee did not feel it necessary for the Municipal Advisor to come to the next meeting.

d. **Tax Sale by Tender**

Ms. Rhynold reviewed the tenders that were sent out for 13 properties. Bids were received for 12 of the properties, and staff provided an overview of those bids. The remaining property is recommended to be brought into the Municipality. Discussion followed.

Moved By Councillor Deveau

Seconded By Councillor Corbett

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council accept all bids on the tax sale by tender that closed on October 4th, 2019 as presented, with the exception PID 01282219, which will be bought into the Municipality, and further recommends that the Municipality accept the write-offs for the Tax Sale Expense and Unsightly Premises as outlined.

Motion Carried

New Business

a. **Request for Travel Voucher Assistance - Aqua Arthritis - Aging Well in Antigonish Town and County**

Mrs. Schumacher reviewed the request from Aqua Arthritis - Aging Well in Antigonish Town and County. They are looking for funding to help support transportation for attendees in the amount of \$500. Councillor Corbett recommends that they apply through the Community Partnership Grants program. Staff will send a letter back to the group.

b. **NSHA Living With Mental Illness and Addiction Conference**

Mrs. Schumacher reviewed the conference details and asked if any Councillors would like to attend to contact Joyce.

c. **Streetlight Requests**

Deputy Warden Stewart and Councillor Chisholm both spoke to requests received from constituents for streetlights in their districts.

Moved By Deputy Warden Stewart

Seconded By Councillor Chisholm

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the installation of streetlights at:

- Keppoch Road where it intersects with St. Josephs Road
- In the cul-de-sac of Brookside Way

Motion Carried

d. **Sale of Tractor by Tender**

Staff reviewed the report and recommendation included in the agenda package.

Moved By Councillor MacFarlane

Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

Staff recommends that the Committee accept the bid from Mr. Gary Chisholm of \$2311.00 for the 1998 JOHN DEERE TRACTOR – MODEL 4200 that was advertised for sale by Tender.

Motion Carried

e. **Antigonish Arena Association Board Vacancy**

A public member of the Arena Association Board has stepped down after relocating for employment. Staff requested permission from the Committee to proceed with advertising the vacancy in order to find a new board member.

Moved By Councillor Deveau

Seconded By Councillor MacFarlane

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve advertising a vacancy on the Antigonish Arena Association.

Motion Carried

Additions to the Agenda

a. **Discussion on Pictou County Internet**

Councillor Dunbar shared a headline from Pictou County regarding their community-owned network for high-speed Internet. Mrs. Donovan provided an update on the provincial RFP for high-speed Internet, and that Pictou County was approved by the province as a qualified supplier as part of that RFP process. The financial risks of the municipality taking on such a project were raised; discussion followed.

b. **Community Signage**

Councillor Corbett brought forward a request from Havre Boucher residents who wanted to know if they could put up notification and directional signs on Nova Scotia Power Poles for their Remembrance Day Ceremonies. Mrs. Schumacher noted that she would ask staff to contact Councillor Corbett to discuss.

Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions

a. **Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

Next meeting October 28

b. **Antigonish Arena Commission**

Discussions have been taking place on the following topics:

1. George Arsenault's letter
2. Antigonish Minor Hockey has a request for more ice time
3. What will be done after May 31; will the ice remain in.

c. **Antigonish Crime Prevention**

Committee is thankful for the Municipality for providing a refurbished laptop.

d. **Eastern District Planning Commission**

No update.

e. **Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee**

No Update.

f. **County – Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee**

Staff are waiting until after the elections before scheduling a meeting.

g. **Pictou Antigonish Regional Library**

Had an emergency meeting last Thursday regarding one card for all of Nova Scotia. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library agreed to take on ownership.

h. **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**

Councillor MacLellan Provided a brief update on the operations at the RK, and the success of the family council that has been established.

Community Events

- October 27 - Pomquet Community Breakfast PJ Baccardax Hall
- October 18 - Jimmy the Janitor Heatherton and Area Community Centre
- November 3 - Arisaig Christmas Bazaar
- November 3 - Havre Boucher Remembrance Day Ceremony.
- November 2 - Merchandise Bingo Monsignor Donnelly Hall

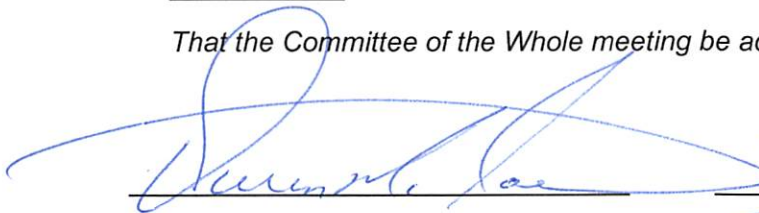
Staff Reports

a. **EDPC Building Permit Report Jan 1 - Sept 30 2019**

The building permit report was received for information.

13. **Adjournment**

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:34pm.


Warden Owen McCarron
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Municipal Clerk