
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 3, 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 Neil Corbett
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor Gary Mattie

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Also Present: Colleen Cameron, Antigonish Affordable Housing Society
Angus MacGillivray, Antigonish Affordable Housing Society

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 6:47pm.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. The following additions were made:

- St. Joseph's Community Centre

- Intersection of Beech Hill and Trunk 4
- Streetlight in Havre Boucher

Moved By Councillor Corbett

Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of November 19, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

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

Moved By Councillor MacDonald

Seconded By Councillor Deveau

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of November 19, 2019 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. **Delegations**

a. **Antigonish Affordable Housing**

Colleen Cameron and Angus MacGillivray from Antigonish Affordable Housing brought forward a letter from the society regarding their proposal for a development on Appleseed Drive, as well as a budget for the project. The society will be applying to other levels of government for funding to support the development as well. Discussion followed. The request from Antigonish Affordable Housing is a commitment from the Municipality for \$100,000 over five (5) years at \$20,000 a year.

A question of clarification was asked as to whether the land contribution provided earlier in the year was included, or in addition, to the financial request; clarification was given that the land would be considered separate from the financial request. The Warden thanked the representatives from the Antigonish Affordable Housing Society for their presentation; the request will be taken under consideration.

6. **Continuing Business**

a. **Consideration of Council and Committee Meeting Nights**

The Committee reviewed the proposed changes to the regular meeting nights. Discussion followed. The Committee wanted to explore looking at the

second Monday of the month; staff was asked to look at potential conflicts with holidays and to report back at the next Committee meeting.

b. **Consideration of Appointment to the Antigonish Arena Management Board**

Mr. Horne spoke to the two applications that were received for seats on the Antigonish Arena Management Board. Discussion followed.

Moved By Deputy Warden Stewart

Seconded By Councillor Chisholm

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council appoint Mike Stewart as the representative on the Antigonish Arena Management Board.

Motion Carried

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

a. **Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

Met on November 25th. The Museum Board inherited the Casket archives and will be working to store and digitize them. They will be going through an accreditation in 2020. A question was asked about fundraising plans at the museum; discussion followed.

b. **Antigonish Arena Association**

The Saucy Sandwich will be taking a lease on the canteen area; the lease is expected to be signed soon. An update was given on the plans to close the ice season earlier in the summer.

c. **Antigonish Crime Prevention**

The Committee met in November. They are actively recruiting for Board members and are in the process of selecting a new chair.

d. **Eastern District Planning Commission**

The budget has been approved.

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

The next meeting is December 13th.

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

An update on the Band Council elections was provided; Chief Prosper and all of the previous councillors were re-elected, with one new member.

h. **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**

The nursing home will be working on an accreditation process during the week of December 9-13th.

i. **Police Governance Board**

An update was provided on the board; a new chairman was brought in and is making good headway in advocating on behalf of the municipalities with the local law enforcement organizations.

9. **Community Events**

The following community events were shared:

- The Heatherton Group Home Concert has been rescheduled for Friday December 6th
- Sunday December 8th is the Christmas Fair in Paqtnkek at the Community Centre
- Girls Provincial Volleyball tournament December 7th and 8th in Pomquet

11. **Additions to the Agenda**

a. **St. Joseph's Community Centre**

Deputy Warden Stewart spoke to the circumstances of a lease situation at the community centre in St. Joseph's, where the community centre sits on land owned by the local parish. The parish is looking to sell the land and has accepted an offer of \$20,000 for the property from the community centre. Deputy Warden Stewart brought forward a request for the Municipality to make a \$20,000 donation to the community centre to acquire the land.

Moved By Councillor MacLellan

Seconded By Deputy Warden Stewart

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council makes a \$20,000 donation to the St. Joseph's Community Centre to enable them to purchase the land that the community centre sits on.

Motion Carried

b. **Beech Hill Road and Trunk 4 Intersection**

Councillor MacFarlane expressed condolences to the gentleman who passed at the intersection on December 2nd.

Previous requests for modifications and changes made by Council have not been implemented by the Province; another letter to the Minister with the local MLA and Premier copied asking for action to be taken was requested to be sent. Having the Transportation Minister, local MLA, and senior Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal staff meet with Council immediately to discuss the

intersection was also made. A suggestion was also made to request the intersection study that was done on the intersection and has been requested on numerous occasions over the past year.

c. **Streetlight in Havre Boucher**

A resident in Havre Boucher has been paying for a streetlight at the end of the roadway where the roadway dead-ends and is used as a turn-around. Councillor Corbett will follow-up with the exact location for staff to confirm the circumstances regarding the streetlight and the request.

d. **Antigonish Affordable Housing Request**

Further to the presentation made earlier in the night, the Committee took the opportunity to discuss the request that was made.

Moved By Councillor MacDonald

Seconded By Councillor Deveau

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council provide the Antigonish Affordable Housing Society with a contribution of \$100,000 over five (5) years, for the proposed development on Appleseed Drive, contingent on the rest of the funding being secured and construction work being tendered.

Motion Carried

12. **In Camera Items**

Moved By Deputy Warden Stewart

Seconded By Councillor Deveau

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 8:19pm.

Moved By Councillor Dunbar

Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

That the in-camera session be adjourned at 8:45 pm

Motion Carried

Moved By Deputy Warden Stewart

Seconded By Councillor Chisholm

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council hire Maria Fraser as Physical Activity Coordinator, to be for a term from December 9, 2019 to May 8, 2020.

Motion Carried

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Deputy Warden Stewart

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council support the awarding of the Sport Hub design contract to Laura Duggan, Independent Consultant.

Motion Carried

13. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Chisholm

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Motion Carried

A blue ink signature of Warden Owen McCarron, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Warden Owen McCarron

A black ink signature of Glenn Horne, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer