

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 13, 2020, 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 Neil Corbett
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor Gary Mattie

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer
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 5:32pm.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

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

The following items were added to the agenda:

1. Extension of Leave
2. Northern Pulp Discussion

Moved By Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of December 17, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

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

Moved By Councillor Corbett
Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of December 17, 2019 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Streetlights in Havre Boucher, there has been no formal approach from what we can tell. There are 43 LED lights scattered throughout the former Village Commission. The request came from a streetlight at the end of a street and the homeowners would like it to be taken over by the municipality and moved to face the street.

Deputy Warden Stewart joined the meeting at 5:38 pm.

Moved By Councillor Corbett
Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council take over the streetlight at the end of Hill Road in Havre Boucher and arrange to have it moved to face the street.

Motion Carried

6. **Continuing Business**

a. **Job Posting for Returning Officer**

Mr. Horne presented the job posting to the Committee.

Moved By Councillor Deveau
Seconded By Councillor Chisholm

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the job posting for the Returning Officer for the upcoming Municipal Election.

Motion Carried

b. **Redesign of Trunk 4 in Antigonish County**

Mr. Horne reviewed the letter which will be sent to Mr. Hackett regarding the redesign of Trunk 4 stating that the Municipality would like to be included in these design plans and provided early and formal opportunities to share our vision for our community to ensure Department initiatives align.

Warden McCarron reviewed some concerns that have been brought to his attention from businesses along the corridor. It is important to residents that the road does not remain closed for a long period of time. Council would like to keep Government Officials engaged throughout the process.

Councillor MacFarlane recommended sending a thank you letter to Minister Hines for acting on the Beech Hill/Trunk 4 intersection. Council would like to make sure there is a police presence and that our speed signs are put up. Committee came to the consensus to send the letter.

c. **Jeux L'Acadie Organizing Committee Request**

Councillor Deveau reviewed the ask that was made by les Jeux de l'Acadie committee members to Joint Council in December

Moved By Councillor Deveau

Seconded By Councillor MacDonald

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council provide a \$10,000 sponsorship to les Jeux de l'Acadie from the 2020/21 budget.

Motion Carried

7. **New Business**

a. **Consideration of an Event Permit - Summerfest 2020**

Mr. Horne reviewed the Special Event Permit from Nova Scotia Summer Fest.

Moved By Deputy Warden Stewart

Seconded By Councillor Deveau

- The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the conditional Special Event Permit with the following conditions:
 - A complete operational plan including a site plan/map, an on and off-site parking plan, and provisions for emergency access. Severe weather and sewage management shall be provided to the Municipality for its consideration on or before April 3, 2020, at 4pm. Any deficiencies with the plan identified by the Municipality shall be addressed to the satisfaction of the Municipality.

- o Proof of insurance shall be provided to this office on or before April 3, 2020, at 4pm. The insurance coverage must name the Municipality as a covered party in the insurance policy and to indemnify and hold harmless the Municipality for any potential claim made against Nova Scotia Summer Fest.

Motion Carried

b. Discussion Regarding the Licensing of Dogs

Deputy Warden Stewart reviewed an incident that happened in this district in the past few weeks where a dog attacked a runner who was passing by. He is recommending to Council to consider a licensing program for dogs. Mr. Horne said if Council wants to pursue it further, staff can look into it. Councillors came to the consensus that they do not want staff to pursue it. Staff will do a promotion blitz regarding the Responsible Dog Ownership By-Law.

c. Festival Antigonish 2020 Season Launch and Fundraising Dinner

The Committee decided not to purchase a table for the Season Launch and Fundraising Dinner.

8. Community Events

The following community events were shared with the group:

- St. Josephs Friday Night - Chase the Ace
- Pomquet Winter Carnival - February 14 - 23
- Heatherton Club 500 Draw - Fridays from January - May
- Antigonish Affordable Housing Curling Bonspiel St Andrews
- Cultural Connections Antigonish January 19th St. James United Church 5:30pm

9. Staff Reports

Mr. Horne reviewed the staff report that was included in the agenda package.

10. Additions to the Agenda

a. Extension of Leave

Mr. Horne noted that Councillor Mattie's would be absent from Council due to illness. The excused absence that was provided for the month of December was proposed to be extended for one month.

Moved By Councillor MacFarlane

Seconded By Councillor Deveau

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council extend the leave of absence for Councillor Mattie for one month.

Motion Carried

b. Northern Pulp Discussion

Warden McCarron wanted to open a discussion among committee members. Concerns that were brought forward included:

- Many local residents and businesses will be affected by the closure of the mill.
- Land values are going to be affected across the whole province.
- Northern Pulp used \$1 million tonne of wood.
- There will be a lot of ripple effects across the whole province.

11. In Camera Items

Moved By Councillor Corbett

Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss personnel matters at 7:06pm.

Motion Carried

Moved By Councillor Deveau

Seconded By Councillor Dunbar

That the in-camera session be adjourned at 7:26pm.

Motion Carried

Moved By Councillor MacLellan

Seconded By Councillor Corbett

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the installation of 12 streetlights along Catherine Drive.

Motion Carried

Moved By Councillor Corbett

Seconded By Councillor MacLellan

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council appoint Allison Duggan as acting Municipal Clerk Treasurer from February 3, 2020 until March 27, 2020 to facilitate the parental leave of Municipal Clerk Treasurer, Glenn Horne.

Motion Carried

12. **Adjournment**

Moved By Councillor Chisholm

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:26pm

Motion Carried

Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer