

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Tuesday, March 20th, 2018 at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administrative Centre, 285 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish NS.

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron, Chair
 Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart
 Councillor Mary MacLellan
 Councillor Donnie MacDonald
 Councillor Vaughan Chisholm
 Councillor Rémi Deveau
 Councillor John Dunbar
 Councillor Gary Mattie
 Councillor Neil Corbett
 Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance
Tammy Feltmate, Director of Sustainable Communities
Daryl Myers, Director of Public Works
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator
John Beaton, CEO, Eastern-Strait Regional Enterprise Network
Casey Van de Sande, Casey's Vegetables (Antigonish Farmer's Market)
John Quinn, Quinn Farm (Antigonish Farmer's Market)
Margaret Cornect, Cornect Family Farm (Antigonish Farmer's Market)
André Lafrenière, Antigonish Farmer's Market

Regrets: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Deputy Warden Stewart, at 5:31pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Streetlight in Frasers Mills

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Deputy Warden Stewart called three times for any errors or omissions in the March 6th Committee of the Whole minutes. Councillor Dunbar requested an amendment to the wording of a motion that he had made regarding the graffiti in Monastery.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that the Committee of the Whole minutes of March 6th be approved as amended. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

DELEGATIONS

Antigonish Farmer's Market

Representatives from the Antigonish Farmer's Market provided the Committee with a presentation, outlining the work done on the project since their presentation a year ago, such as further building design work, fundraising, and expanded partnerships including Perennia and the Department of Human Nutrition at St. FX. The building is being called the "Antigonish Agriculture Centre". Public fundraising efforts will be starting at the Legion; the pre-tax target is about \$1,997,000, with one third being targeted to be raised at the local level (\$700,000). Members of the Committee were asked to consider a request for a contribution of \$200,000.00 from the Municipality. Discussion followed. The presenters were thanked, and Warden McCarron noted that their funding request would be considered as part of the budget deliberations.

Eastern-Strait Regional Enterprise Network

Mr. Beaton provided members of the Committee with a review of the activities of ESREN over the past year, and presented copies of the 2018-2019 Business Plan. Further details were provided on projects such as Start-Up and post-secondary connector work. Discussion followed. Mr. Beaton was thanked for his presentation, and it was noted that ESREN is looking for additional Board members; the Committee was asked to pass along names of anyone they might think is interested.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

Mr. Horne reviewed the changes that were being proposed to the layout of the Committee of the Whole agenda, based on feedback from the Committee. This layout will be adjusted if necessary as it is tried out over the next few meetings.

REC/MPAL OPERATIONAL PLAN TENDER AWARD

Ms. Melanson provided the Committee with an overview of the bids that were received in response to the tender call for the Rec/MPAL Operational Plan. Based on bid price in conjunction with the format of public consultation pitched in each bid, staff is recommending that the tender be awarded to Peak Experiences Consulting & Rick Gilbert Consulting at a cost of \$16,098 + HST. Discussion followed, and staff outlined the anticipated timeline for the project as well as the desired outcomes of the plan.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, Seconded by Councillor MacDonald that the Committee recommends that award the Rec/MPAL Operation Plan Tender to Peak Experiences Consulting & Rick Gilbert Consulting at a cost of \$16,098 + HST. Motion carried.

APPROACH TO GRANT REQUESTS FOR CLASS OR TEAM EVENTS

Mr. Horne introduced the staff report that was included in the agenda package, and gave a brief background to the circumstances leading up to staff being requested to look into options for funding requests for class or team events that do not otherwise qualify for funding under the current recreation grant system. Mrs. Donovan presented the staff report, outlining the provisions proposed to address requests for support for trips that are not of a competitive nature (e.g. international school trips) and a

proposed method for consideration. The funds for this program are proposed to be drawn from the Special District Grants provided to each Councillor and pooled for the year. Discussion followed. Members of the Committee were divided, with some wanting to keep the status quo while others were interested in the proposed idea. A decision was made to try the proposed approach for one year, to allow the opportunity to evaluate whether it is of any assistance to Councillors.

Moved by Deputy Warden Stewart and seconded by Councillor Corbett that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council adopt the recommendations in the Request for Decision dated March 20, 2018 regarding amendments to the Community Partnerships Grant Policy (Policy 36) to include "Elective Travel Assistance Grants" for a one year period.

SMART CITIES CHALLENGE

Ms. Feltmate reviewed a staff report providing an update on the Smart Cities Challenge, and looking for direction from the Committee on whether staff should continue with developing a "Challenge Statement". Doing so would involve staff's time, as well as a small investment in for community engagement sessions. Discussion followed. Staff was directed to proceed with the project.

GRAND KILTED SKATING PARTY

A request was received from Festival Antigonish for the County to participate in the 4th annual Grand Kilted Skating Party, taking place on Sunday, March 25th. The cost for entering a team is \$500. The County has entered a team in past years; however, last year it was difficult to find participants for the County's team. Discussion followed. The Committee felt that they would pass on the event this year.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROVINCE'S PROPOSED ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 OF THE ACTS TO 1998, THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT RESPECTING CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

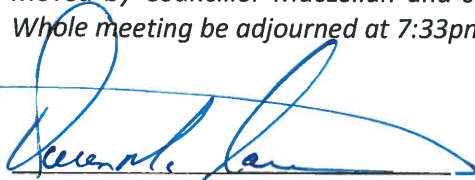
Mr. Horne provided a brief background of the legislation and the timing of its consideration in the House. Reasons why this proposed legislation was a concern were provided to the Committee for consideration. Mr. Horne further explained that the Municipality of the District of Guysborough, as well as the Town, had already expressed their concerns about the proposed legislation as well. To date, the UNSM has not stated their position. Discussion followed.

Moved by Councillor MacFarlane, Seconded by Councillor Deveau, that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council write letters noting concerns regarding the Province's proposed Act to Amend Chapter 18 of the Acts to 1998, the Municipal Government Act Respecting CBRM. Motion carried.

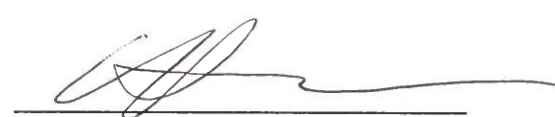
ADJOURNMENT

Due to the time, a motion was made to adjourn from the Committee of the Whole and defer any remaining reports.

Moved by Councillor MacLellan and seconded by Deputy Warden Stewart that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:33pm. Motion carried.



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer