

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 22, 2022, 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 Remi Deveau
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Councillor Harris McNamara
Councillor Shawn Brophy

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

Also Present: Gallery

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 7:34pm.

Approval of Agenda

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

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Approval of November 8, 2022 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes from the November 8, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of November 8, 2022 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Delegations

There were no delegations.

Continuing Business

Review of Committee & Board Appointments

Mr. Horne introduced a discussion to the Committee regarding the opportunity to discuss the current allocation of Councillors to the various standing committees that Council participates in. Councillors were asked to provide their feedback by December 2nd, so that the final list could be approved at the December 13th meeting. Councillor MacLellan requested to come off of the RK MacDonald Board and was thanked by the Warden on behalf of Council for the years of service that she has provided to that Board.

New Business

Havre Boucher & Area CDRA Community Partnership Grant - Request to Re-Allocate Funds

Mr. Horne introduced a request that has been submitted by the Havre Boucher and Area CDRA asking to re-allocate some of the funds that they have been granted under the Community Partnership Grant program, to add an asphalt play surface that will be developed into a basketball/games court in the future. Councillor McNamara noted that community volunteer support for the project has been extraordinary.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the request from the Havre Boucher and Area CDRA to reallocate some of their 2022/23

Community Partnership Grant to allow for the creation of an asphalt surface for a future basketball court / games court.

Motion Carried

Streetlight Request - Havre Boucher Park

Councillor McNamara requested a streetlight for the new park in Havre Boucher on the Cape Jack Road.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the installation of a streetlight at the Havre Boucher Park on Cape Jack Road, across from Civic 1470.

Motion Carried

Streetlight Request - District 2

Councillor MacDonald has received a request for a streetlight in Lakevale on Highway 337 at the intersection with MacNeil Road on a turn in the highway just beyond civic # 4414.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves a streetlight in Lakevale on Highway 337 at the intersection with MacNeil Road on a turn in the highway just beyond civic # 4414.

Motion Carried

Notice of Amendments to the Tourist Accommodations Registration Act Regulations re: Short Term Rentals

Mr. Horne provided an overview of the notice of amendments to the Tourist Accommodations Registration Act Regulations regarding short term rentals, requiring them to register with the Province and comply with zoning. These amendments are pertaining to Airbnb's, which is expected to increase the volume of zoning confirmation letters that are requested from the Municipality through the Eastern District Planning Commission.

A question was asked about whether any grace period will be provided if operators are delayed in receiving their registrations due to the requirement for zoning confirmation letters, whether tax assessments would change to commercial, and whether any

grandfathering would be considered. Staff noted that they would have to follow-up with the Province in order to find out those answers.

Antigonish Golf & Country Club Sewer Refund

Councillor MacFarlane declared a conflict and removed himself from the room.

Mr. Horne reviewed a memo prepared by staff, noting that the Golf Course has been paying a sewer levy for years although they are not connected to the municipal sewer system. Staff has written off the levy amount for the current fiscal year, which is all that they are able to do without approval by Council. The golf course has requested a refund going back ten years.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council refunds the sewer levy charged to the Antigonish Golf Course going back ten (10) years.

Motion Carried

Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions

Councillor MacFarlane rejoined the meeting.

Antigonish Heritage Museum Board

No meeting was held.

Antigonish Arena Association

The next meeting is being scheduled for the end of the month.

Eastern District Planning Commission

Next meeting is Wednesday November 30th.

Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for November 24th.

Pictou Antigonish Regional Library

Information from this Committee will be discussed in-camera (Contract Negotiations).

RK MacDonald Nursing Home

The Board meeting is scheduled for November 24th.

County Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee

Nothing to report.

Consolidation Steering Committee

Nothing to report.

Community Navigation & Physician Retention Services Association

Sarah O'Toole has moved on to work with the Province. A meeting will be held later in the month to review the process to hire a new staff person.

Community Events

- Councillor MacFarlane asked about Red Cross and residents who haven't heard back yet after registering. Mr. Horne noted that staff would follow-up with the EMO Coordinator regarding those enquiries. Discussion followed.
- Warden McCarron noted that Santa's Tour would be through the community on December 3rd and 4th. A street festival and concert will be taking place on Main Street on Friday November 25th. The parade will be taking place on November 26th.
- Councillor Deveau noted that on December 4th a hot turkey meal will be provided to seniors (65+) in District 5.
- Councillor McNamara shared a newsletter advertised in District 9 listing a number of events taking place in the area, including food drives, Santa visits, and music events.
- Warden McCarron shared that a Zoom session was held with MP Mike Kelloway to discuss a fiscal update earlier in the month, as well as a drive-around in the eastern part of the County to look at the damage from Hurricane Fiona. He also noted that the Jazz festival was held in the community over the weekend and went well, the Antigonish CareVan just purchased a new van and had the official launch of the new vehicle earlier in the day at the Legion, that an online meeting was held with the Department of Environment regarding new guidelines for construction debris, and that the tree lighting in St. Andrews will take place at the Senior's Complex on December 2nd.

Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

In Camera Items

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss Contract Negotiations at 8:10pm.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

That the in-camera session adjourns at 8:20pm.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:21pm.

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, CAO