

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Regular Meeting
Monday January 9, 2012**

MEETING, DATE & TIME:

The regular meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was held on Monday January 9th 2012, commencing at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, NS.

ATTENDING:

Warden David Clark	Deputy Warden Michael Mosher
Councilor Kevin Pye	Councilor James Harpell
Councilor Donald Dunbar	Adam Rodgers, Solicitor
Councilor Jacqueline Dort	

ABSENT:

Councilor Shelley Bowen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ANY ADDITIONS:

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DORT COUNCIL APPROVED THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS; MOVE 7B to 5B.
MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HARPELL COUNCIL APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 14, 2011.
MOTION CARRIED.**

BUSINESS ARISING:

a) Strait Engineering:

-David Gillis, Municipal Clerk, presented a letter received from Basil Mattie and Strait Engineering. He then requested that the topic be moved to the next Committee of the Whole.

**ON MOTION OF DEPUTY WARDEN MOSHER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DUNBAR THAT THE INFORMATION FROM STRAIT ENGINEERING BE MOVED TO THE NEXT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.
MOTION CARRIED**

- 5b) Destination Eastern and Northumberland Shores Presentation- Carmel Avery-MacDonald:
-Antigonish Eastern Shore Tourism Association (AESTA) dissolved at the end of August 2011. The Eastern and Northumberland Shores-"sister shores".
-Cindy MacKinnon, Executive Director, DEANS gave presentation on DEANS, Report on file.
- Working on regional Visitors Guide for Eastern and Northumberland Shores
 - Assisting with regional content for Doers and Dreamers
 - Requested a destination assessment from the province similar to the Roger Brooks Assessment on the Eastern Shore.
 - Working on a lot of radio/print/television advertising
 - Re-development of an Inclusive Eastern Shore visitor map.

- Museum Brochure and Festival and Event brochure for DEANS region.
- Participation in many tradeshows.
- Looking for overall municipal investment for the 13 municipal units affected by DEANS as \$75,000.
- Funding formula of 50% tax assessment, and 50% membership investment. For St. Mary's there are 10 members- \$1091, tax assessment is \$160923.75, so 4.8% of overall investment of 75, 000 is 3597.60 (St. Mary's contribution).
- Two additional requests- A link to the municipality website and an appointed Council liaison.

Correspondence:

a) Tax Request- East Loon Lake:

-William Wallace is requesting that the taxes for the common area on East Loon Lake be written off due to an error in the assessment of the property. There is \$782.74 principal owing and \$1046.68 total owing.

-Mr. Rodgers, Solicitor, feels that it is a fair request, but thinks it would be nice to have a copy of the letter from the Utility and the Review Board regarding their findings on the property issue. Mr. Gillis explained that we would have received this information from Property Valuation Services Corporation.

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DORT THAT THE SUM OF \$1046.68 BE WRITTEN OFF THE COMMON AREA OF EAST LOON LAKE.
MOTION CARRIED**

b) Premier Dexter-Information Letter:

REPORTS:

A) Guysborough County Regional Development Authority-Carmel Avery MacDonald

-The strategic plan is in the final stages of draft and will be submitted with the report package.

-The Newcomer Event in December was very well attended, with ten people from the Sherbrooke area.

-Trailblazers starts in February and runs to May.

-Christa Webber, Development Officer, helped the St. Mary's ATV club to receive funding for a new roof for their club house

-Ms. Webber met with Gerard MacIsaac, Health and Wellness January 16th

-Ms. Avery-MacDonald, and Ms. Webber met with a group in Glenelg. They are looking at building a new building in Glenelg, shutting down the Fire Department in Aspen. The fire trucks would be kept in Caledonia and Glenelg would be the central area.

-Ms. Avery-MacDonald and Ms. Webber did a BRE visit with Nimrods Campground which is a non-profit group. The members of the Nimrods Campground group will go through some strategic planning. They have been tax exempt for the last couple of years and previous to that they paid a portion of taxes for the community hall part.

C) Recreation Update:

-Report on file

-Wants approval for the Community Bulletin Board, Marian Fraser, Finance Officer/Deputy Clerk explained that it might be better discussed at a Recreation Committee meeting.

- Councillor Dort explained that nothing can be started until the New Horizons Grant comes through.
- Josh Corkum, Recreation Coordinator wants approval to get recreation jackets for him and Emily Morton, Physical Activity Coordinator. It would cost \$150 total. Council approves one for Ms. Morton.
- There was a discussion regarding what fee to charge Recreation budget for ice time at Recplex. It was decided to charge \$110 because it is generally a student program.
- Ms. Morton is requesting exercise equipment for each community centre. It would be for Community Centres, \$50 each.
- Councillor Dort thinks that there should be caution taken as to where it would be left in the centres.
- Mrs. Fraser will ask Mr. Corkum to arrange a Recreation committee meeting with Councillor Bowen to discuss Recreation needs, fees for Fitness Centre and Fitness Centre Hours etc.
- Warden Clark felt that Ms. Morton was very energetic and prepared at the previous Recreation meeting. Warden Clark explained that Recreation needed approval before changing anything with the Fitness Centre.
- Councillor Pye expressed a desire for a balance between Fitness Centre and fitness classes in communities.

D) Recplex- Councillor Pye:

- Minutes on file.
- The sand has been moved.
- The quality air test is running around 25. Councillor Pye is going to go up there and see it himself.
- There was a holiday skate on December 28th that was well attended. Other places seemed to have 4 or 5 through the holiday season.
- There were two ice time rentals for the Holiday promotion of \$110/hr.
- Working with the Recplex staff to put down the time that they worked on their time sheets, to compare it to the ice rentals.
- There will be another Recplex meeting shortly, next week possibly.

E) IT update- Finance Officer/Deputy Clerk:

- Mrs. Fraser distributed another IT System Training Schedule
- All payables are on the new system.
- Data extractions were completed last week.
- Warden Clark thanked Mrs. Fraser for her initiative in taking on this project.

Solicitors Report-Adam Rodgers:

- Examined the agreement between the Municipality and the owners of the property next door, and realized that the owners had the right to ask for removal of the steps to the upper level.
- The Marie Joseph Community Centre deed is in effect, but there needs to be something else done for the formality regarding registering the deed. They did not have a seal, so it needs to be signed without a seal as it was previously signed under seal.
- Applied for the Solicitor's job at the County of Antigonish and has been approved for it. Mr. Rodgers met with Allan Bond, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer this week. This will not affect Mr. Rodger's representation here.

Other Matters of Business:

A) New Administration Building update- Report from Dale Archibald.

- There needs to be a meeting when more information is received from Dale Archibald. There needs to be more information from contractors etc before Rene Frigault can be consulted.
- A discussion was held regarding how many meetings are required prior to a public meeting on the new building.
- Dale Archibald will be contacted, with a preference of a meeting with him and contractors at the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 19th at 6:30.

B) Recreation Facility Association of Nova Scotia (RFANS):

- Brad Burns, Recplex Manager, is requesting to attend. This is a one day session in Berwick and he would have to go up the day before.

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY WARDEN MOSHER THAT BRAD BURNS ATTEND RFANS SESSION.
MOTION CARRIED.**

C) Goshen Enterprises Follow Up:

- Letter was written and sent to Trevor MacKenzie regarding his intentions for the property. No response has been received, although the letter was not returned to sender. The community is really looking for something to be done as the property is dangerous.
- A discussion was held regarding the legal responsibility of the Municipality regarding the property, and the next appropriate step regarding its condition.

9D) Porcupine Lake and other Subdivision Roads:

- A discussion was held regarding the Municipality taking over Porcupine Lake Road, and potentially other J Class roads.

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PYE THAT THE MUNICIPALITY CANNOT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLOWING OF PRIVATE ROADS.
(2 NAY-COUNCILOR HARPELL, WARDEN CLARK)
MOTION CARRIED.**

E) February Date for Committee of Whole:

- February 7th at 6:30 pm.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PYE THAT COUNCIL MOVE IN CAMERA.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR HARPELL THAT COUNCIL RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Councillor Harpell: read letter from Laura Embry regarding former headquarters employee of Eastern Counties Regional Library who has died.

- Fish plant: they have a rock wall around the water side of the property. They haven't removed the cement, and he wonders if it is because of the environmental impact of disturbing the ground.
- Attended the Seniors supper in Port Bickerton.

Councillor Dunbar: attended the Sherbrooke Village meeting December 8th. Sherbrooke Village is getting ready for Union negotiations. Applications are in for the Director's position.
-Lions Club delivered 24 meals, and gifts for over 20 kids through Christmas Daddies.
-Attended family skate on December 28th.

David Gillis: was notified of a surplus piece of land in Glenelg Department of Transportation is putting up. Other provincial agencies and an adjoining land owner have expressed interest in buying the property.
-The Municipal Elections- need a returning officer named by March 15th and by April 15th need to decide if the Municipality is going to remunerate again or get information from the province.
-Put call in to Ruth Legge regarding whether she would be interested in being returning officer again.
-In 2008 the whole election cost was around \$13 000.

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT SECONDED BY DEPUTY WARDEN MOSTHER THAT TREVOR MACKENZIE BE PERSONALLY SERVED 60 DAY NOTICE AND IT BE POSTED ON BUILDING.
MOTION CARRIED.**

Deputy Warden Mosher: School Steering Committee met December 13th. Between the province and the school board they will build the exterior walls for the Kids/Adult Learning spaces this summer. The School Steering Committee is confident that between the private sector and the government that the money will come.
-Need to talk about the Police Advisory Board members and wants it put on the agenda for the Committee of the Whole.
-Need to set a date for a meeting at the Ecum Secum Fire hall regarding Marie Joseph Community Centre. This should be mid to late February.

Councillor Dunbar: Will act as liaison with DEANS

Warden Clark: Attended St. Mary's Speakout. Every kid did a great job. It was won by Lisa Smith.
-Attended the Sherbrooke tree lighting and brought greetings from the Municipality.
-Attended Seniors dinner in Port Bickerton.
-Attended SHOPS dinner with Deputy Warden Mosher. It was very inspirational.
-Attended the Municipal Action Committee (MAC) meeting in Port Hawkesbury, where information on the Newpage situation was discussed. It is a very positive situation now, compared to a few months ago, but a lot of work is to be done yet.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR HARPELL THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:50 PM.

Approved by:

Recorded by:

Warden David Clark

Administrative Assistant