

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Regular Meeting
Monday September 10, 2012**

MEETING, DATE & TIME:

The regular meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was held on September 10, 2012 commencing at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, NS.

ATTENDING:

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

David Gillis, Municipal Clerk
Marian Fraser, Finance Officer/Deputy Clerk
Jody Cook, Administrative Assistant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ANY ADDITIONS:

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HARPELL COUNCIL APPROVED THE AGENDA WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS; CORRESPONDENCE 6. b) RIGHT TO KNOW PROCLAMATION, NEW BUSINESS 8. d) ASPEN POST OFFICE, 8. e) UNSM LED STREET LIGHTS
MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR HARPELL AND SECONDED COUNCILOR PYE COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JULY 9th, 2012 AS PRESENTED.
MOTION CARRIED.**

BUSINESS ARISING:

- Port Bickerton Lighthouse divestiture agreement paperwork has been referred to Solicitor
- Florescent bulbs at Transfer Station have been removed by bulb eater
- Councilor Dort reported the second dump site and was on crown land and Department of Natural Resources are looking after the cleanup.

CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Health and Wellness - Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program

The leadership grant will be increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per year effective April 1, 2012. The municipality will not have to match the increase. A memo of understanding will follow

b) Right to Know Week - proclamation request

- Provided by Dulcie McCallum via email a proclamation request. Purpose is to celebrate the right of all Nova Scotians to access information under the control of public bodies as guaranteed by freedom of information legislation as such the accountability of governments by ensuring they operate with transparency and openness.

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DORT, COUNCIL PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER 24 TO SEPTEMBER 28 AS "RIGHT TO KNOW WEEK"
MOTION CARRIED**

REPORTS:

a) Regional Development Authority - Christa Webber

- Dan Gillis is on the panel in Sydney for the Strait Area Regional Development Authority
- Carmel attended NS Tourism stakeholders meeting regarding marketing focus on information kiosks update, social media
- Port Bickerton Lighthouse requested a website setup and funds from Councilor Harpell
- Friends of Stonewall park group have decided to fix what's there currently for now with held from funding thru ACOA and Health and Wellness
- Have made over 95 visits around Guysborough county business builders where the year end closing in Sherbrooke and Guysborough.
- Eastern Sportfish Association - salmon wars video schedule

b) Solid Waste

i) Heavy Haul - Seasonal Employee at Transfer Station

ii) Tender for incinerator wall: Municipal Clerk opened 2 tenders received

- Steve Pinkham Excavating price \$3,600 plus h s t
- Doug Richard \$7,290 plus h s t

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HARPELL, COUNCIL AWARDED CONTRACT TO STEVE PINKHAM FOR SECURING THE FORMER INCINORATOR WALL
MOTION CARRIED**

c) Recreation Summer Update - Councilor Bowen

- Report on file
- Having upcoming recreation meeting on Wednesday
- Inventory complete - on file

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Tender - Dry Hydrants

- Tenders were opened September 5th and results brought forward
- Still awaiting on Environmental approval for Jordanville and Ecum Secum locations

**ON MOTION OF DEPUTY WARDEN MOSHER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DUNBAR
COUNCIL AWARD THREE (3) TENDERS TO DOUG RICHARDS FOR LOCATIONS; GOSHEN, DENVER
AND JORDANVILLE AND TWO (2) TENDERS TO STEVE PINKHAM FOR LOCATIONS; ECUM
SECUM, AND LISCOMB AS PRESENTED
MOTION CARRIED**

- Based on the individual pricing council awarded based on lowest prices totaling \$39,300 plus inspection fees
- Council will require in writing each fire department's willingness to take responsibility of the dry hydrants.

b) Tender Bulletin Board

- The Port Bickerton board was advertised incorrectly as they want a stand alone, Ricky is making adjustments.

- Clerk open tenders:

1. Doug Richards price for all 6 boards \$1,485
2. Steven Pinkham price for all 6 boards \$3,200

ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PYE, COUNCIL AWARD TENDER FOR INSTALLATION OF BULLETIN BOARDS TO DOUG RICHARDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$1707.75

Councilor Dort added to ensure it is completed in accordance to community centre's guidelines

MOTION CARRIED

c) October Council Meeting

Council agreed to move regular council meeting to October 9th due to Holiday

d) Aspen post office

Warden Clark met with Adam Lintaman from Canada Post in July regarding the future of retail services for Aspen as the Post Master has retired. Warden Clark discussed a couple of options with Mr. Lintaman and presented them to council. The mail delivery in Aspen would remain the same regardless. One option is to replace the Post Master or have services provided from the Sherbrooke or Antigonish Post Office's. Warden has left message with Peter MacKay. Council discussed how every federal job in the community is a benefit to the municipality, and don't want erosion of services and to keep supporting the aspen post office as long as possible.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HARPELL, CLERK WILL SEND LETTER TO CANADA POST SHOWING COUNCIL SUPPORT TO CONTINUE OPERATION /SERVICES AS IS TO ASPEN

MOTION CARRIED

-Deputy Warden Mosher abstains from any decisions regarding Canada Post as wife is employed thru them.

e) UNSM - NSPI's approach to the conversion to LED Streetlights

Council held discussion on why municipality should pay for NSPI's stranded assets when province is asking for it. Deputy Warden Mosher wants this issue to the forefront of next week's UNSM conference.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DORT COUNCIL AGREED TO ENDORSE THE LETTER FROM UNSM

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCE UPDATE - Finance Officer/Deputy Clerk

a) Audited Financial Statements - Finance Officer's concerns with Audit were addressed during meeting with Deloitte partner last week.

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PYE, COUNCIL ACCEPTED THE AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR MUNICIPALITY 2011-2012 FISCAL PERIOD AS PRESENTED
MOTION CARRIED**

b) Banking Agreement - reviewed with Claus, RBC representative and rates remain the same

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PYE, COUNCIL RENEWED BANKING AGREEMENT WITH RBC EFFECTIVE APRIL 2012 FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS
MOTION CARRIED**

c) Sales Tax Workshop - Marian and Jody request to attend. St. Mary's will be applying for H S T by first of November due to the Recplex transactions. ON

**MOTION OF COUNCILOR PYE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HARPELL, COUNCIL APPROVED ATTENENCE TO SALES TAX WORKSHOP FOR FINANCE OFFICER AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ON SEPTMEBER 24, 2012
MOTION CARRIED.**

d) August Financial update

- Finance Officer provided hard copies of statements to the end of August and if councilors had any questions to see her

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Rodgers reported on receiving the memo of agreement and instrument of transfer for the lighthouse property in port Bickerton to transfer to municipality. Noteworthy items; property is transferring as is, in particular the environmental status; whatever emerges will be municipally owned. The intent is to transfer control/responsibility to the Port Bickerton & Area Planning Association. Municipality will remain liable to federal government; solicitor recommended receiving periodical reports from association. Municipality will take care of the migration, and ensure the association has liability and property insurance set up with municipality as beneficiary. Lastly to have the grant amount of \$50,000 inserted in the agreement as was left blank.

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR HARPELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DUNBAR, COUNCIL ACCEPTED THE TRANSFER AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED BY FEDERAL GOVERNEMENT WITH CLARIFICATION ON GRANT AMOUNT
MOTION CARRIED**

Other Matters of Business

a) UNSM Conference September 18-21st
Everything is booked and confirmed

Round Table:

Warden Clark

- Attended Mayors and Wardens today; spoke on Richmond's tax difficulties with the mill agreement. Also held discussion on RDA and their options of restructuring in the counties,

Warden Clark feels that this may result in St. Mary's losing their voice. Deputy Warden Mosher mentioned they need a cost comparison to see which quad county structure would be best. Consensus is council is open for discussion around this issue.

- Warden attended the Federal boundary review; line will separate right and left sides of the No. 7 highway and feels this is counterproductive.

On motion of Councilor Bowen, Council moved to in camera session.

On motion of Councilor Dunbar, Council reconvened to regular session

Councilor Bowen

- Mentioned how the tender for the new administration building was a learning process

Deputy Warden Mosher

- Older Adult Games
- Royal Caucus meeting, wrote to Utility and Review and Board in reference to water rate study guidelines

Councilor Dort

- Have not received any applications for roadside litter cleanup yet
- Wants to meet with Paul Colton and Jim Boudreau and push to see #7 Highway paved
- Council set Committee of the Whole meeting for Monday October 1st at 6:30pm

Solicitor

- New judge has been appointed in Antigonish
- Also attended boundary review; Warden made a good presentation
- Attends the Cape Breton partnership collection of business groups and will mention the RDA quad county restructuring

Municipal Clerk

- Attending the Climate Control Action Plan workshop in Truro

Councilor Pye

- Attend viewing of "Salmon Wars" - open fish farms which was eye opening
- Wished councilors good luck in upcoming election

Councilor Dunbar

- Attended Walkathon in Guysborough \$3500 was raised. It was the last one in Guysborough and would like to see one organized here.
- Attended Boat rally where money raised helps keep Sherbrooke Warf going.
- Attended Village meeting, the visitor numbers are down from beginning of season
- Attended Show and Shine which is great event to draw people to the area

Finance Officer

- Attending Financial Conditions index on Thursday

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DORT COUNCIL
AWARDED A ONE TIME BONUS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY FOR MRS. FRASER IN THE AMOUNT
OF \$1000.**

MOTION CARRIED

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DUNBAR COUNCIL
EXTENDED THE SEASONAL TRANSFER STATION EMPLOYEE'S TERM UNTIL OCTOBER 13, 2012
DUE TO HEAVY HAUL 2012 SCHEDULE**

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR DORT MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:38PM

Approved By:

Recorded By:

Warden Clark

Administrative Assistant