

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's  
Committee of the Whole  
Wednesday February 15, 2017**

**MEETING, DATE & TIME:**

The Committee of the Whole meeting of St. Mary's Council was called to order on Wednesday February 15, at 9:00 am in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke.

**ATTENDING:**

Warden Mosher  
Councillor Findlay  
Councillor Malloy  
Councillor Kaiser-Kirk  
Councillor Baker

**ABSENT:**

Deputy Warden Dort

**ALSO ATTENDING:**

Marvin MacDonald, CAO  
Jody Cook, Executive Assistant  
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR FINDLAY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BAKER COUNCIL APPROVED THE AGENDA WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS; RESCHEDULE COUNCIL MEETING MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR FINDLAY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BAKER COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 8, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

- Warden spoke with MLA Lloyd Hines who was also disappointed with procedure to relocate EHS post and unaware that the decision was made. Mr. MacDonald will email and work with EHS to arrange a public meeting.

**2017/18 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS:**

Director of Finance highlighted budget items:

- Transfer station: revenue from solid waste area rates needs to be reviewed. Discussion was held on pros and cons of using area rate vs. lumping cost into general rate. Marian to breakout impacts on both scenarios for further consideration. There is an increase in estimated cost of universal garbage collection contract and in general repairs at facility to cover clearing and surveying of land etc.
- Public Works: projected surplus for 2016/17 to go towards paying down accumulated deficit. Water rate study is to be completed and cost is included in the total project for upgrades. A new sewer pump is included in equipment upgrade and rates remain the same
- Economic Development: Regional Enterprise Network investment is including, special projects yet to be identified, startup cost for Economic Development committee, and to attend Saltscapes Expo.
- Community Development and Recreation: Recplex facility total cost for operating is \$35000 and the Roy Steed Fund remains at \$80,000. The fitness center cost per user has dropped and membership has increased. Budget includes Municipal Physical Active Living position and a reduction in summer staff. Majority of budget for department is grant based.

*Deputy Warden Dort joined the meeting*

- Municipal Operating budget: revenue budgeted based on actuals. Deed transfer Tax revenue increased along with fine revenue.

***On recommendation of Deputy Warden Dort and Seconded by Councillor Baker, council moved to in camera session for purpose of general government services discussion***

***On recommendation by Deputy Warden Dort, council reconvened to regular session.***

- Municipal Operating Budget continued: expenditure budget for protective services will increase due to figures not yet in from Department of Municipal Affairs; RCMP and Education.

#### **OTHER MATTERS OF BUSINESS**

- a. Volunteer of the Year Nominations
  - Councillor Kaiser-Kirk declared a conflict of interest in the process as her husband was nominated and she left the room.

***On recommendation by Deputy Warden Dort and Seconded by Councillor Baker, Council moved to in camera to discuss choosing a volunteer of the year for St. Mary's***

***On recommendation of Councillor Findlay, council reconvened to regular session***

- Councillor Kaiser-Kirk joined the meeting

***On recommendation of Deputy Warden Dort and Seconded by Councillor Malloy, that after review of all nominations that council nominate Jim Kirk, as Volunteer of the Year to represent St. Mary's at the Halifax Volunteer Awards.***

- b. Reschedule Council meeting: Regular council meeting was postponed due to weather on February 13<sup>th</sup> and will now be held on Wednesday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at 7pm.

#### **Presentations:**

- a. Strait Regional School Board representatives were unable to attend and will be rescheduled

- b. Guysborough District RCMP – Quarterly Policing Report for Municipality of the District of St. Mary’s
- Sgt. Addie MacCallum provided council with an overview on meeting the goals set out in the report.
  - A challenge has been accessing the school during the job action
  - Successful partnership with DOTIR regarding traffic safety
  - 52% of all calls are self-generated; members in St. Mary’s are proactive.
  - Const. MacDonald has been identified to fill vacancy and should be a quick deployment; and in the meantime, Sgt. MacCallum assured that it doesn’t impact the service delivery and officers travel from Guysborough and Canso to cover.
  - Working further with DOTIR, Village and Municipality with traffic services for Old Fashion Christmas event.
  - There are recent reclassifications of positions.
  - Currently Municipality pays for 3.5 positions
  - Sgt. MacCallum informed council is has accepted a promotion and will be departing within approximately 6 months, with a new District Commander coming from Labrador

**ADJOURNMENT**

***On recommendation by Deputy Warden Dort there being no further matter of business, council adjourned meeting at 2:45PM***

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*Recorded By*  
*Executive Assistant*

*Approved By*  
*Warden Mosher*