

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

June 21, 1999

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at St. Andrew's Parish Hall, Neil's Harbour, on Monday, June 21, 1999, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Warden John Graham MacInnes in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 - Gerald Yetman
District #2 - Shane Toms
District #3 - Bruce Morrison
District #4 - John Graham MacInnes, Warden
District #5 - Gerald Sampson, Deputy Warden
District #6 - Lawrence Barron
District #7 - David Donovan
District #8 - Robert MacLellan

Also present were:

Brian Trask, CAO
Heather MacLean, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Warden MacInnes called the meeting to order and extended Council's pleasure in being in Neil's Harbour and having the opportunity to bring local government to the people. He welcomed the public in attendance.

AGENDA

The agenda was presented for approval. The addition of approval of a borrowing resolution and an EMO update are to be added to the agenda.

It was moved by Councillor Yetman, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that the agenda be accepted with the noted additions. Motion carried.

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 25, 1999, Council Session and the June 14, 1999, Committee of the Whole meeting were presented for approval.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson, that the minutes of the May 25, 1999, Council Session be approved as presented and the minutes of the June 14, 1999, Committee of the Whole be approved with the exception of the section regarding the generator. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

White Point Land Exchange

The land exchange is now complete and work has commenced on the documentation for the sale of the lots. The costs to date associated with this property were discussed. How the sale price of the lots will be determined was also questioned.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Barron, to obtain an independent appraiser to assess the lots at their fair market value prior to July 1, 1999, if possible, and commence the sale of the lots for the appraised value or the cost of expenses, whichever is greater. Motion carried.

Councillor Donovan indicated that the public are anxious to purchase these lots and begin to build homes on same. The time factor for the sale is very important.

The restrictive covenants to be placed on the lots were reviewed. The lots are to be for residential purposes only and a home must be built and occupied within a period of 18 months. Discussion took place on the restrictive covenants.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Barron, that the restrictive covenants associated with the lots be adopted and every prospective purchaser be given a copy of same. Motion carried with Councillor Morrison casting a dissenting vote.

Richard G. Ramsey Management Consultants Inc.

Mr. Ramsey will be forwarding his Assessment and Evaluation of Councillor Remuneration to Council shortly and a meeting will be arranged at that time and Mr. Ramsey will make a presentation on his findings.

Northeast Highlands Shuttle Service

Brian Trask presented a draft letter to be forwarded to Melvin Burton, Northeast Highlands Shuttle Service, regarding the County including \$500/month in the budget for the 1999/2000 fiscal year for his

service. This letter was discussed and revised.

It was moved by Councillor Yetman, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson, that the letter be forwarded to Melvin Burton with the suggested revision. Motion carried.

Test Composting Facility

The test composting facility is up and running at the Baddeck Landfill. Notices were forwarded to area businesses and an advertisement of same was placed in The Victoria Standard.

The status of Deputy Warden Sampson's investigation of a solid waste site for northern Victoria was questioned. Deputy Warden Sampson advised that this matter has been put on hold until after the July 27, 1999, Provincial Election.

Highland Manor

Councillor Barron previously advised of his resignation from the Highland Manor Board. Dr. Murray has also submitted his resignation.

Brian Trask advised that the Highland Manor Board consists of 7 members - 3 Council Members and 4 citizens.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson, that Warden John Graham MacInnes be appointed as Council's representative on the Highland Manor Board to replace Councillor Barron. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Yetman, that Susan Fricker be appointed as the replacement for Dr. Murray on the Highland Manor Board. Motion carried.

Department of Transportation

A letter was forwarded to the Honourable Clifford Huskison, Minister, Department of Transportation and Public Works expressing Council's concern on the possible relocation of the mechanical branch from the Baddeck Transportation Depot.

Page 4, VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, June 21, 1999

Warden MacInnes advised that he wrote a letter to the Honourable Clifford Huskison, Minister, Department of Transportation and Public Works, requesting the government pursue infrastructure funding to erect a bridge at Englishtown for the economy of northern Victoria County. Motion carried.

RRF Board Inc.

No reply has been received to Council's request for a Derelict Vehicle Program for Victoria County.

Bras d'Or Lakes - Baddeck Sewage Treatment Plant

Councillor Morrison indicated that a letter has been forwarded to Premier Russell MacLellan, regarding the Bras d'Or Lakes and the Baddeck Sewage Treatment Plant.

Department of Natural Resources

A letter was forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources regarding the location of a dry hydrant at Ingonish adjacent to Roper's Brook.

Ottawa Brook/MacKinnon Harbour Water

Councillor Yetman indicated with the defeat of the provincial budget, all financial matters, such as the funding for a study for Ottawa Brook/MacKinnon Harbour water, have been frozen until after the July 27, 1999, Provincial Election.

Ewen MacLean

A letter has been forwarded to Gordon Matheson, Department of the Environment, requesting that an assessment of Ewen MacLean's present water supply be undertaken.

Generator

At the June 14, 1999, Committee of the Whole meeting a motion was passed that the generator transferred to the Municipality from the old Buchanan Memorial Hospital, be given to the Neil's Harbour/New Haven Volunteer Fire Department for their fire hall.

Warden MacInnes advised that Lawrence Walsh was in attendance to discuss this issue.

Page 5, VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, June 21, 1999

Courtesy of Council was extended to Lawrence Walsh. Mr. Walsh indicated that the generator should go to the Cape North area, as Neil's Harbour has generators at Cabot High School, Buchanan Memorial Hospital and Highland Manor, that could service that area. The Cabot Fire Department hall will house 500+ people in the event of an emergency and he felt it would be the best place to house the generator.

Whether Gary Collins, EMO Coordinator, had made a recommendation to Council was questioned. Mr.

Collins has made no specific recommendation to Council. Councillor MacLellan indicated that he would like to see the generator go the Cape North.

Discussion took place and Councillor Donovan expressed his views in favour of the generator going to Neil's Harbour.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor Yetman, that the recommendation contained in the June 14, 1999, Committee of the Whole, that the generator be given to the Neil's Harbour/New Haven Volunteer Fire Department for their fire hall, be put to a vote.

Councillor Donovan voted in favour of the motion.

Those voting against the motion were Councillors Barron, MacLellan, Morrison, Yetman, Toms, Deputy Warden Sampson and Warden MacInnes.

Motion defeated.

It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Councillor Barron, that the generator be placed in Cape North. Motion carried with Councillor Donovan casting a dissenting vote.

Brian Trask advised that an invoice has been forwarded to the County for a generator rented in April, 1998, during the ice storm in northern Victoria. An investigation to determine who authorized obtaining the generator is to be undertaken.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters from Doug Smith and Charles MacDonald, Department of Transportation and Public Works, regarding the support building for the Little Narrows Ferry.

Page 6, VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, June 21, 1999

Councillor Yetman indicated that he would be having a meeting with Department of Transportation representatives in this regard.

Letter from Paul Miller, Operations Manager, NSPI, regarding street light information for the Municipality of the County of Victoria.

3. Correspondence from Peter Mancini, M. P., Sydney-Victoria, acknowledging Council's letter regarding the rotating strikes of federal government employees and the issue of regional pay rates.

4. Memorandum from Tom C. Wilson, Recreation/Tourism Director, regarding E-Commerce Seminar to

be held at the Inverary Inn, Baddeck, on June 24, 1999, and the Entrepreneurship Conference to be held in Sydney on June 25-26, 1999.

RCMP

Courtesy of Council was extended to Sgt. Pat Pembroke, Ingonish Beach Detachment, RCMP.

Sgt. Pembroke introduced himself to Council and advised that he is 27 year member of the RCMP. All of his tenure with the RCMP has been spent in Newfoundland until his transfer to Ingonish Beach in January, 1999. Along with himself, there are four other members in the Ingonish Beach Detachment.

Sgt. Pembroke indicated that he is still in the familiarization mode in Ingonish Beach. He finds the people of the area accommodating and law abiding. Impaired driving and substance abuse are two problems he does see. He indicated that he looks forward to serving this area.

Sgt. Pembroke was questioned on the status of the Ski Cape Smokey LT investigation. He indicated that Cst. Sampson is working on this file and they are optimistic that there will be charges in the near future.

It was moved by Councillor Yetman, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson, that Sgt. Pembroke's report be received as progress and he be extended a vote of thanks for his report. Motion carried.

CHILD CARE CONNECTIONS NS

Page 7, VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, June 21, 1999

Correspondence was received from Anne Smith, Child Care Connections NS, requesting that August 23-September 10, 1999, be proclaimed as Child Care Awareness Days in the Municipality of the County of Victoria.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Toms, that Warden MacInnes proclaim August 23-September 10, 1999, as Child Care Awareness Day in Victoria County. Motion carried.

Deputy Warden Sampson requested a copy of this proclamation and ad advertisement is to be placed in The Victoria Standard.

CABOT SPORTS FIELD

Courtesy of Council was extended to Linda Murray, Cabot Sports Field representative.

Ms. Murray indicated that it has been 10 years since the process of developing a sports field at Cabot High began. She explained the funding received and work done to date and the innovation used to get to this point.

The initial request to Council was for \$7,700, however, this included fencing. Ms. Murray indicated that the revised request from Council is now \$2,500.

It was moved by Councillor Yetman, seconded by Councillor Toms, that this financial request be referred to Council's budget talks. Motion carried.

VICTORIA COUNTY HOMEMAKERS SOCIETY

Council has yet to make two appointments to the Board of the Victoria County Homemakers Society.

Councillor Toms brought forth the name of Judi Grant, Big Baddeck. Deputy Warden Sampson nominated Joan MacDonald, Kempt Head and Councillor Morrison nominated Sandy Hudson and Harold Montgomery, both of Baddeck.

Council then voted on the nominations by secret ballot. Warden MacInnes reported that the two successful candidates were Judi Grant and Joan MacDonald.

Page 8, VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, June 21, 1999

Previous to these two appointments the following members were chosen to serve on the Board:

Deputy Warden Gerald Sampson - Victoria County Municipal Council
Flora Canning - Victoria County Hospice Society
Richard Gwinn - North of Smokey Palliative/Hospice Care Society
Vanessa Morrison - Eastern Regional Health Board
Josephine Barron - Victoria County Community Health Board

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor Yetman, that all the appointments to the Victoria County Homemakers Society be approved. Motion carried.

BORROWING RESOLUTION

Brian Trask advised that the current borrowing resolution expires on July 13, 1999.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Yetman, that a borrowing resolution in the amount of \$1,800,000.00 be approved. Motion carried.

EMO UPDATE

A meeting was held earlier this afternoon with Gary Collins, Emergency Measures Coordinator. Mr. Collins indicated that the Emergency Measures Plan for Victoria County is 87% complete.

He requires information from Council to include in this plan. The inventory of fire departments is not a part of his plan - this is part of the individual community plans. Mr. Collins will go in an assist fire departments.

It was moved by Councillor Yetman, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson, that the interim EMO report be accepted. Motion carried.

OPEN PERIOD/DISTRICT CONCERNS

District #7

It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Yetman, that a letter be forwarded to Arnold Robars, EMC, requesting clarification on the rumored decrease in ambulance services in northern

Page 9, VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, June 21, 1999

Victoria County from the present two ambulances to one ambulance and further requesting that the status quo be maintained. Motion carried.

The Neil's Harbour/New Haven Waterline was discussed. Outstanding deficiencies still remain and Councillor Donovan felt that the contractor has not operated in good faith. He felt that further monies should not be authorized for this project. Brian Trask indicated he would contact Wayne Vervet, Washburn & Gillis Associates, in this regard.

It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that Washburn & Gillis be advised that the final monies outstanding on this contract with Doug Burns Contracting be withheld until all work is completed to our satisfaction. Motion carried.

District #6

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson, that a letter be forwarded to the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources requesting that this department explore a possible emergency fire exit in the area of the MacKrous Subdivision, Ingonish. Motion carried.

Copies of this letter are to be forwarded to the Honourable Kennie MacAskill, Ronnie Dauphinee and

Steve Banfield.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that a letter be forwarded to Charlie MacDonald, Department of Transportation and Public Works, with a copy to Bob Sweet, requesting a reduction in the speed limit in the area of Ingonish Ferry to 50 km/hour and this request be a top priority item due to the increasing tourism traffic. Motion carried.

District #3

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Yetman, that a letter be forwarded to the Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency requesting they provide us with a printout of current projects they are involved with in Victoria County. Motion carried.

Councillor Morrison advised that the Planning Advisory Committee will be meeting to recommend to Council the successful bidder for the flow monitoring study for the Baddeck Sewer Treatment Plant. This recommendation will be submitted to Council for approval.

Page 10, VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, June 21, 1999

THANK YOU

Councillor Donovan and the public were extended a vote of thanks for the hospitality extended to Council.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Deputy Warden Sampson, the meeting adjourned.

John Graham MacInnes, Warden
Brian E. Trask, CAO