

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
April 28, 2008

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, April 28, 2008, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Warden Wayne Budge in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 – Paul MacNeil
District #2 – Keith MacCuspig
District #3 – Bruce Morrison
District #4 – John Graham MacInnes, Deputy Warden
District #5 – Fraser Patterson
District #6 – Lawrence Barron
District #7 – Wayne Budge, Warden
District #8 – Robert MacLellan

Also present were:

Sandy Hudson, CAO
Heather MacLean, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Budge called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacCuspig, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 10, 2008

The minutes of the March 10, 2008, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that the Victoria County Municipal Council minutes of March 10, 2008, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Crowdis Mountain Septage Site Close Out

Sharon Munroe, Department of the Environment, is to be invited to attend the next Council meeting to discuss the Crowdis Mountain Septage site close out.

Dog Control

The advertisement for 2 part-time dog control officers was published in the last Victoria Standard. Deadline for applications is May 6, 2008.

NORTH HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Warden Budge extended the courtesy of Council to Jim Wilkie and Kevin Chiasson, North Highlands Community Organization.

Mr. Wilkie thanked Council for the opportunity to appear before them. Kevin Chiasson distributed copies of their presentation to Council for review (copy attached).

Mr. Wilkie indicated that the organization is requesting funding in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the Municipality.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Deputy Warden MacInnes, that the North Highlands Community Organization request for funding be referred to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Warden Budge extended a vote of thanks to the gentlemen for their presentation.

SILVER DART CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION

Courtesy of Council was extended to Eleanor Anderson, Project Manager, Silver Dart Centennial Association.

Ms. Anderson was in attendance to update Council on the Silver Dart Centennial Association and the planned celebrations. She outlined her pleasure in being the Project Manger for the exciting anniversary celebrations and acknowledged Board Members, Sandy Hudson, Bruce Morrison, Hugh Muller and Jim Morrow, who were in attendance.

Ms. Anderson then gave the following power point presentation to Council outlining what has been accomplished to date by the Silver Dart Centennial Association, the legacy project and the events planned for 2009 (copy attached).

A presentation that will be made by Honourable Colonel George Canyon, 14 Wing Greenwood, to CBC requesting that they participate in the National Centennial Kick-Off of the centennial of manned powered flight in Canada at Baddeck on February 23, 2009, was also viewed by Council (copy attached).

A general discussion took place and Ms. Anderson answered questions of Council.

Warden Budge extended a vote of thanks to Ms. Anderson for her presentations.

RECESS

Warden Budge announced that Council would recess for 10 minutes.

EMO – MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Sandy Hudson presented a document compiled by Barry Campbell, EMC, concerning municipal responsibilities and preparedness for emergency measures. This document requires Council approval and must be filed with EMO Nova Scotia in compliance with the regulations.

Sandy Hudson indicated he has reviewed the document and is recommending Council approval.

It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that the EMO document be approved and submitted to EMO Nova Scotia as required. Motion carried.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

District #5

Councillor Patterson indicated that he is having inquiries about a heavy garbage pickup in his district. Councillor MacNeil indicated the same.

Sandy Hudson indicated that the collection done last year cost the Municipality \$17,878.00. The cost of such a collection has not been included in the budget.

It was felt that if it was going to be done, it should be done earlier in the year.

It was moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil, that it be referred to budget deliberations that a maximum of \$10,000 be included in the budget to undertake a heavy garbage collection and any excess costs come from the district budgets of the Councillors who participate in the collection. Motion carried.

Councillor Patterson, Chairman of the Community Development Committee indicated that a meeting of the Committee is required. The date for the meeting was set for Monday, May 5, 2008, at 5:00 p.m.

Councillor Patterson questioned on the change in the taxation of the Nova Scotia Liquor Commission and how this would affect Victoria County. It was indicated that the amount received by Victoria County for the 2008/09 fiscal year will decrease by more than one half.

District #1

Councillor MacNeil indicated that the street light at the Bucklaw waterspout has been out of service for some time. Along with reporting this to NSP, he has also spoken to Donnie Campbell of NSP in this regard.

Contact will be made with Ken Paruch, Customer Service, NSP, in regard to having this light repaired.

District #2

Councillor MacCuspic indicated that he had 3 streetlights he wished to have relocated. He is to provide the appropriate information to Heather MacLean and the order will be placed.

Councillor MacCuspic also advised that he had inquiries from Shore Road residents with regard to connecting to the Village sewer line. The residents are to be advised to contact the Village of Baddeck to request an expansion to the system.

District #3

Councillor Morrison requested that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to Ted Stonehouse on receiving the Jack McLaughlin Junior Leader of the Year Award from the Canadian Professional Golf Association.

Councillor Morrison also requested that letters of congratulation be forwarded to Baddeck Academy and Rankin School of the Narrows in achieving the top ten in the recent AIMS Annual Report Card on Atlantic Canadian High Schools.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Deputy Warden John Graham MacInnes, that a letter be forwarded to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal requesting that:

- **the catch basin at the corner of Chebucto and Jones Street be repaired**
- **the condition of MacKay Lane be investigated and improved**
- **the catch basins at the intersection of Chebucto and Queen Streets and Old Margaree Road by St. Michael's Parish Hall be repaired**
- **that it be a priority that all necessary highway maintenance be commenced in all areas of Victoria County**

- **repairs be done to the signage and guardrails throughout the Municipality**
Motion carried.

District #4

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Barron, that congratulations be forwarded to Tamara Blakeney on her achievement in participating in the National Spelling Bee. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Deputy Warden MacInnes, that Roy MacDonald, Area Manager, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, be invited to attend the June session of Council. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Neal Conrad, Director, Community and Rural Development, Office of Economic Development, regarding the update of Victoria County's strategic plan advising that Ross Kennedy, Regional Manager, will be in contact to further to process of a formal application and approval.
2. Copy of letter to Keith Bain, MLA, Victoria-The Lakes, from the Honourable Cecil Clarke, Minister of Justice, regarding the retention of the mapper position within Victoria County.
3. Copy of letter from Charlie Parker, MLA, Pictou West, to Honourable Jamie Muir, SNSMR, supporting the move to grant all municipalities the same by-law making powers as currently exist with HRM with regard to managing pesticide use
4. Letter from Sister Helen Wallace, Sister of Charity, suggesting to mayors and wardens in Nova Scotia that greenhouses be constructed in recognition of the United Nations designating 2008 as the "Year of the Planet".
5. Letter from Sam MacPhee, Executive Director, Gaelic College, requesting that the Municipality provide financial assistance in funding the new wastewater treatment plant.

Deputy Warden MacInnes advised that under Section 25 of the *Municipal Government Act* societies who have a Revenue Canada Charitable Tax Number can be exempt from taxes. The Gaelic College have this tax number and could be included in the Municipality's Tax Exemption By-Law.

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that the Gaelic College be included on the list of properties exempted from taxation in the Tax Exemption By-Law for Fire Companies, Charitable and Non-Profit Organizations. Motion carried.

6. Correspondence from Lindsay MacDonald, Pickup MacDowell, regarding Order for Demolition – PID #85131407.

Sandy Hudson advised that the owner of this property is to be provided with at least 7 days notice that a public hearing will be held on this property. After the hearing, a decision can be made on whether to issue the order for demolition.

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that the owner of the property be given the required 7 day notice for a public hearing at the next session of Council. Motion carried.

Bruce Morrison requested that a copy of the letter sent be forwarded to him.

7. Sandy Hudson received an email from Joan MacInnis concerning the review of Enterprise Cape Breton's mandate and the request for a community meeting with interested people in the north of Smokey area. Universalis is undertaking the study of ECBC's mandate.

Sandy Hudson will check with Joan MacInnis on whether the south of Smokey area can also participate in this undertaking and advise that names will be provided. Council members are to come up with names of people to participate in same.

8. Letter from Brian Holland, Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of the District of Barrington, concerning the possibility and detrimental affect of cusk being added to the list of wildlife species at risk. If this species is added to the list as an endangered species, no fishing would be permitted in the habitat area of these fish which could include ½ to ¾ of the lobster fishing grounds located off the coast of Nova Scotia.

It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Councillor Barron, that the Municipality go on record opposing the inclusion of any species on the list of wildlife species at risk that threatens our lobster fishing industry. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Sandy Hudson brought up the matter of the use of the provincial list for the upcoming municipal election. The use of this list would be time saving. A number of sessions could be conducted to make revisions to the list.

Discussion took place on whether to use the provincial lists or conduct our own enumeration.

It was moved by Councillor MacCuspic, seconded by Councillor MacNeil, that the provincial list be used for the October municipal elections and 3 revision sittings be conducted in each polling district to update the lists. Motion carried.

Election Day is Saturday, October 18, 2008. Discussion took place on advance polling days.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Patterson, that Saturday, October 11, 2008, and Tuesday, October 14, 2008, be the advance polling dates for the October 18, 2008, municipal election. Motion carried.

The election staff will choose the workers for the polls from within the districts.

DISTRICT BUDGETS

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that Council be permitted to access ½ of their 2008/2009 district budgets prior to budget approval. Motion carried.

2008/2009 BUDGET

Sandy Hudson presented the 1st draft for the 2008/2009 budget for Council's review. Council are to review the document and a date is to be set for a Budget meeting.

A Budget Committee meeting will be held after the Community Development Committee meeting on Monday, May 5, 2008, at 6:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY REQUEST

In conjunction with the planned Silver Dart Centennial celebrations, it was felt that February 23, 2009, should be designated as a holiday in Nova Scotia.

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Barron, that a letter be forwarded to the appropriate authorities/Ministers, with copies to all

School Boards in Nova Scotia, requesting that consideration be given to designating February 23, 2009, a holiday in recognition of the 100th anniversary of manned powered flight in Canada. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Councillor Morrison, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Wayne Budge, Warden

Sandy Hudson, CAO