

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

October 29, 2018

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, October 29, 2018, beginning at 4:30 p.m. with Warden Bruce Morrison in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 – Paul MacNeil
District #3 – Bruce Morrison
District #4 – Merrill MacInnis
District #5 – Fraser Patterson
District #6 – Larry Dauphinee
District #7 – Wayne Budge
District #8 – Norman MacDonald

Also present were:

Leanne MacEachen, CAO
Heather MacLean, Recorder

Absent was:

District #2 – Perla MacLeod

IN CAMERA

It was moved and seconded to move In Camera to discuss personnel issues. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to return to the regular session of Council. Motion carried.

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Warden Morrison called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. He indicated he would like to add Committee review to the agenda.

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved with the noted addition. Motion carried.

DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

Courtesy of Council was extended to Jonathan Martin, Administrator, Dangerous and Unsightly Premises, and John Bain, Director, Eastern District Planning Commission (EDPC).

John Bain introduced Jonathan Martin to Council. He is the new Assistant Building Inspector and Administrator for the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises.

Dennis Buchanan and Brenda Billard

Jonathan Martin indicated that a building on the property assessed to Dennis Buchanan and Brenda Billard, located at 36 Tamarack Lane, Baddeck, N.S. – PID 85013811 is in a ruinous and dilapidated condition.

The property is not abandoned, but the building in question is severely neglected. The exterior is not maintained and it is open and accessible. There are several structural issues with the building. The foundation has failed and is caved in. There is no power connected to the building.

Mr. Martin presented the Certified Building Officials report, along with pictures of the premises and his recommendation as Administrator. The dwelling meets the *Municipal Government Act* definition of “dangerous and unsightly”. It is recommended that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to the owners and it be a 30 day Order that the dwelling is to be demolished and all debris be removed and disposed of in the appropriate manner. If the property owners fail to comply, the Municipality will complete the work and recover costs.

The property owners have been notified of the proposed demolition by 2 Registered Letters which have not been picked up and the building was posted with a demolition letter on October 15, 2018.

Warden Morrison questioned whether there was any representation for the owners in attendance. The owners or their representative were not in attendance.

It was moved and seconded that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued and that Order be a Demolition Order issued by Council to Dennis Buchanan and Brenda

Billard and it be a 30 day Order that the dwelling be demolished and all debris be removed and disposed of in the appropriate manner. Motion carried.

Warden Morrison extended a thank you to Jonathan Martin and John Bain for their attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 15, 2018

The minutes of the October 15, 2018, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

It was moved and seconded that the Victoria County Municipal Council minutes of October 15, 2018, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval was received from both the EDPC and the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to rename private road 6106, Baddeck Bay, to Lighthouse Lane.

It was moved and seconded that Council approve the private road name of Lighthouse Lane, Baddeck Bay. Motion carried.

Warden Morrison advised that Councillor Perla MacLeod was absent due to illness and Council wished her well and hoped to see her return to the next Council meeting.

Leanne MacEachen updated on the Family Physician Forum to be held in Toronto in November. She and Warden Morrison met with Lisa Hardy, NSHA, on this matter. An application has been made for a Victoria County booth at the Forum and representatives have been contacted from both areas of the Municipality to man the booth. Promotional materials are being compiled for the booth and the possibility of having a draw at the booth was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

A road name petition was received to name a private road in Ingonish Centre as Stuart's Lane.

It was moved and seconded that the petition be forwarded to the EDPC and Department of TIR for approval. Motion carried.

Leanne MacEachen advised that a new collection truck was put into service this week and a used truck has been sold to Inverness County.

The CAO advised that there is now 7 day coverage for the water utilities in the northern area of the County.

Deputy Warden Dauphinee questioned whether the fire hydrant before the toll gate in the Cape Breton Highlands National Park was repaired. This will be investigated.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations from the Committee of the Whole and the In Camera meetings be approved. Motion carried.

TAXATION UPDATE

Taxes owing this year are down approximately \$84,000.00 – from \$2.393 million last year to \$2.3 million this year. This is not as far ahead as we would like to be. Reminder notices have gone out in the mail.

The CFO is developing a spreadsheet that the Tax Department will use to highlight the taxes owing, arrangements and allow for notes. This will help in many ways.

RECESS

Warden Morrison announced that Council would recess for 10 minutes.

COMPLIANCE PROGRAM UPDATE

An update was provided on the solid waste compliance program. 70 bags were tagged and not collected this week. The CAO outlined the numbers per collection day, except for Monday as the tags were not received prior to that day.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

District #1

Councillor MacNeil brought up the flooding issue at the beach in Little Narrows. There is a contractor on site today to hopefully correct the issue. He also indicated that there is flooding on the east end of the Barra Glen Road. These will be addressed with the Department of TIR.

District #4

Councillor MacInnis advised that he received a request from the Wreck Cove General Store for support on their application for a NSLC Agency Store.

It was moved and seconded that a letter for support be approved for the Wreck Cove General Store's NSLC Agency Store application. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that tentative permission be approved to relocate an existing street light to Ephraim Scott Presbyterian Church, South Haven (exact civic addresses to be provided). Motion carried.

District #8

It was moved and seconded that \$500.00 be approved from the District #8 budget for the purchase of recycling units for the 5 non-profit organizations in the District. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that \$200.00 be approved from the District #8 budget for the Alex Capstick Manor for a seniors' social. Motion carried.

The water survey in the Cape North/South Ridge Road has been completed and a meeting will be held at the Cape North Cultural Centre on Friday, November 2, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. to outline the results.

District #6

Deputy Warden Dauphinee questioned if a reply was received to the application for transit.

The CAO read a letter from Hon. Leo Glavine, advising that he has asked Greg Sewell, Manager of Municipal Operating Grants, to work with Jessie MacDonald, Strait Area Transit. A decision on the funding request will be made after this report.

District #5

Councillor Patterson questioned on the Scotia Windfield's community investment fund. This fund was received by the Baddeck Lions Club this year. There is a public application process and information on this process will be obtained.

District #3

Warden Morrison indicated that at the meeting with TIR officials on October 17, 2018, they agreed to lower the speed limit by the Irving/Tim Hortons while the construction was taking place. To date the speed signs have not be erected and the construction has begun. TIR is to be contacted in this regard.

Warden Morrison has been requested to sit on the Committee for a new library in CBRM. As Victoria County is a member of the Cape Breton Regional Library, it was felt it would be beneficial to have a presence on the Committee.

It was moved and seconded that Warden Bruce Morrison be authorized to serve as a member of this Committee. Motion carried.

Warden Morrison extended congratulations and thanks to Leanne MacEachen and the AMA Conference Planning Committee on a job well done.

District #2

Warden Morrison indicated he had items to bring up for Councillor Perla MacLeod.

The Department of TIR is to be contacted regarding the patching of Beverly's Hill Road, Baddeck Inlet, and adding this road for RIM or capital project funding.

It was moved and seconded that a street light order be placed for locating a light at 1803 West Side Big Baddeck Road (Kim Carroll residence). Motion carried.

Councillor MacLeod also wished to bring up the issue of children not being allowed to wear Halloween costumes to school. They are to dress in orange and black.

It was moved and seconded to send a letter to the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional Centre for Education asking for an explanation to why Halloween costumes are not permitted to be worn to school. Motion carried.

District #1

Councillor MacNeil indicated there is a CEPI meeting tomorrow in Eskasoni which he is unable to attend. If any Council member is available, he requested that they attend.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The list of Council Committees were reviewed and are as follows:

Public Works Committee - All Council

Economic Development Committee - All Council, Alicia Lake, Amy MacKinnon, Jeremy White

Housing Committee - Larry Dauphinee, Norman MacDonald, Bruce Morrison, Fraser Patterson

Broadband Committee - Paul MacNeil, Larry Dauphinee

Planning Advisory Committee - Perla MacLeod, Bruce Morrison

Cape Breton Regional Library Board Rep – Bruce Morrison

Pitu'paq Committee Rep - Paul MacNeil

CEPI Rep - Paul MacNeil

Inverness-Victoria Federation of Agriculture Rep - Perla MacLeod, Merrill MacInnis (alternate)

LFA27 Management Board Reps - Merrill MacInnis, Wayne Budge

Victoria County Home Support Reps - Norman MacDonald, Merrill MacInnis, Fraser Patterson and Bruce Morrison

Age-Friendly Communities Committee - Larry Dauphinee, Bruce Morrison, Fraser Patterson

Highland Manor Board - Merrill MacInnis, Wayne Budge, Larry Dauphinee, Norman MacDonald

Alderwood Management Board - Fraser Patterson, Paul MacNeil, Bruce Morrison, Perla MacLeod, Merrill MacInnis

Eastern District Planning Commission Board - Bruce Morrison, Perla MacLeod, Paul MacNeil (alternate)

Audit Committee - All Council and Graeme Steele

Budget Committee - All Council

Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve – Paul MacNeil

It was moved and seconded that the Committee appointments be approved. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETINGS

A meeting has been scheduled with Janet Knox, NSHA, on Thursday, November 15, 2018, at 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Victoria County Municipal Council will meet following this meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Victoria County Municipal Council will meet again on Thursday, November 29, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 15, 2018. Further details will be sent out when available.

EMO TRAINING

Lyle Donovan, EMC, is to be requested to send out the information pertaining to the EMO training in December to those who are to attend.

INGONISH BARRIER BEACH

Councillor Dauphinee questioned if a reply has been received from any of the four Ministers concerning the Ingonish Barrier Beach.

No replies have been received as yet.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Bruce Morrison, Warden

Leanne MacEachen, CAO

