

**VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
**January 5, 2004**

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, January 5, 2004, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with Warden Wayne Budge in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 – Dan E. MacNeil  
District #2 – Shane Toms  
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/TIME TO ADJOURN**

**It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Patterson, that the agenda be approved as presented and the time to adjourn be set at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.**

**KEN PARUCH, NOVA SCOTIA POWER**

Courtesy of Council was extended to Ken Paruch, Regional Customer Service Manager, Nova Scotia Power.

Mr. Paruch indicated that street light problems can be reported on the Nova Scotia Power website – [www.nspower.ca](http://www.nspower.ca). A confirmation acknowledging receipt of the report will be forwarded by email and the repair is usually completed within 7 business days.

Mr. Paruch then showed Council a video presentation on the aftermath of Hurricane Juan. He outlined Nova Scotia Power's effort in pooling resources and deploying staff where needed during this crisis.

A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Paruch for his presentation and he was excused at this time.

**JOHN P. ASAPH, SENIORS COMMUNITY PARK**

John P. Asaph was extended the courtesy of Council to make a presentation on the proposed Seniors Community Park.

Mr. Asaph indicated that he was in attendance as a representative from the Seniors Community Park Committee. The main objective of this Committee is to develop on seniors parks on the southside of the present Alderwood Rest Home.

At present the seniors outdoor area is on the northside of the Alderwood Rest Home. The present location was never meant for recreation purposes and when the sun hits this area adjacent to the parking lot, the temperatures sore to 105 to 107 degrees F. It allows for no safe place to exercise and seniors cannot go outside without permission.

The proposed site on the southside of the building will have a view, a breeze, gardens, walkways all housed in a fenced in area giving seniors the freedom to come and go as they please. There are many plans for the park area including hot houses, gardens, barbecues, etc.

The key part of this proposed park is the veranda area – the entrance to the park. This veranda will be on the same level as the ground floor of the Alderwood building. An estimate of the cost of the veranda is \$47,500 and Mr. Asaph is requesting that Council given consideration to covering this cost.

Funding is being investigated from other sources to help with other areas of the Park. A major funding raising for this project will commence in February, 2004.

A general discussion took place on this matter.

**It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that this request be referred to budget deliberations. Motion carried.**

Mr. Asaph was extended a vote of thanks and will keep Council up to date on the projects and costs as information becomes available.

**MIDDLE RIVER CONCERNED CITIZENS GROUP**

Courtesy of Council was extended to Lillian MacLeod, representing the Middle River Concerned Citizens Group.

Mrs. MacLeod was in attendance concerning the malfunctioning sewage disposal site at Hunters Mountain owned and operated by George's Vacuum Service & Portables Ltd.

She presented a brief update on the matter. George's Vacuum Service has been charged with illegal dumping and this matter will be again before the Courts on January 23, 2004. Mrs MacLeod indicated that her group have applied to the Courts and it is a first for Nova Scotia in that they have been given permission to present a victim impact statement.

Since the last meeting with Council, the group has obtained over 1000 pages of information under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Property (FOIPOP). This information shows a long history of non-compliance.

Mrs. MacLeod presented a letter to Council requesting Council to send a strongly worked letter to the Minister of Natural Resources, with a copy to the Minister of the Environment and Labour, asking that no more Crown Lands on Crowdis Mountain be granted, sold, leased or given to George's Vacuum Service and Portables Ltd.

**It was moved by Councillor Toms, seconded by Deputy Warden MacInnes, that a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Natural Resources, with a copy to the Minister of Environment and Labour and Gerald Sampson, MLA, conveying Council's concerns over the environmental and health concerns with regard to the sewage disposal lagoon on Hunters Mountain and requesting that no further land be permitted for the expansion of the solid waste disposal site on Hunters Mountain.**

Discussion took place on the motion and Councillor Morrison indicated by passing this motion, it is not to be viewed as endorsement of the letter received from the Middle River Group. He further indicated that a letter from Council may not have any influence on the decision made in this regard. Council also reiterated that by passing this motion, they were not singling out George's Vacuum and Portables Ltd., but any firm in this business making application for further lands.

**The motion was then put and carried.**

**RECESS**

Warden Budge announced that Council would recess for 5 minutes.

**RECONVENE**

Council reconvened.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the November 3, 2003, session of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

Sandy Hudson indicated that a change was required in Page 1 of the minutes in that the Oath of Allegiance and of Office was administered to Fraser Patterson, not Wayne Budge.

**It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor MacNeil, that the minutes of the November 3, 2003, Council meeting be approved with the noted correction. Motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**National Flag Day**

**It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Toms, that February 15, 2004, be proclaimed “National Flag Day” in Victoria County. Motion carried.**

**District #1**

Councillor MacNeil requested Sandy Hudson to contact Duart MacAulay concerning the recent meeting with regard to water for Orangedale.

**District #2**

Councillor Toms presented a road name change request, which he will provide for submission to the Department of Transportation and Rural Cape Breton District Planning Commission.

**District #3**

Councillor Morrison indicated that there are streetlights available for private companies that are more in keeping with the heritage of communities and he indicated he would like to see two (2) purchased for the Village to be located in front of the Court House property. The Village of Baddeck will also purchase a couple and over time all the lights may be changed.

**It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Toms, that two (2) streetlights, at an approximate cost of \$600 and \$1000 be ordered, to be installed in front of the Court House property. Motion carried.**

**District #5**

Councillor Patterson indicated that he hosted a New Years Levee in both Big Bras d'Or and Ross Ferry with 35 and 45 people attending respectively.

Councillor Patterson indicated he also had a request for a road name change in his district, which he would forward to the County office.

**District #4**

Deputy Warden MacInnes indicated that both the Gaelic College and the Englishtown Community Hall are interested in obtaining special premises licenses and as a result a plebiscite is requested in the district. The area to be included in the plebiscite is the boundaries of the Old District #6.

**It was moved by Deputy Warden MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Patterson, that a request be forwarded to the Nova Scotia Alcohol and Gaming Authority for a plebiscite to be held in the Old District #6 area (Englishtown/St. Ann's), Victoria County. Motion carried.**

**District #6**

The Ingonish Barrier Beach Project is progressing and the funding for this project has been received from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

**District #8**

Councillor MacLellan indicated that the Bay St. Lawrence Community Centre has reopened and are requesting assistance with the cost of a security camera.

**It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Deputy Warden MacInnes, that up to a maximum of \$1,000 be approved towards the cost of a security camera system for the Bay St. Lawrence Community Centre. Motion carried.**

Councillor MacLellan requested that \$300 be approved for the Community Learning Association North of Smokey from his district budget.

Councillor MacLellan questioned on the status of the tax bills for community halls. This matter can be addressed at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**IN CAMERA**

Council requested a 5-minute In Camera Session at the conclusion to tonight's meeting.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

The RCMP Sergeants from both the Baddeck and Ingonish Beach Detachments will be in attendance at the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 12, 2004.

Also the 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Solid Waste Landfill proposals will be discussed at this meeting.

Sandy Hudson indicated he would provide Council with financial information to December 31, 2003 at next Monday's Committee of the Whole.

**IN CAMERA**

**It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that Council adjourn to In Camera. Motion carried.**

**RECONVENE**

Council reconvened to regular session.

**COUNCIL STIPEND**

**It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Deputy Warden MacInnes, that Council stipends increase by the same percentage, with the same signing bonus as Union and Non-Union staff and all future Council stipend increases coincide with increases received during Union negotiations. Motion carried.**

**ADJOURN**

**There being no further business, on motion of Councillor MacLellan, the meeting adjourned.**

**Wayne Budge, Warden**

**Sandy Hudson, CAO**

