

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
January 10, 2005

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, January 10, 2005, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Warden Wayne Budge in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 – Dan E. MacNeil, Deputy Warden
District #2 – Keith MacCuspic
District #3 – Bruce Morrison
District #4 – John Graham MacInnes
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.

SGT. MIKE BEZANSON, BADDECK DETACHMENT

Before proceeding with the agenda, Warden Budge introduced the new sergeant for the Baddeck Detachment, RCMP, Sgt. Mike Bezanson, to Council.

Sgt. Bezanson indicated that today was his first day on the job in the Baddeck Detachment. He has 23 years completed with the RCMP – 15 years in Newfoundland/Labrador and 7 years in organized crime in Ontario. He has been with the Cole Harbour Detachment for the past year and indicated he is looking forward to the challenges ahead in his new position.

Sgt. Everett Densmore, Ingonish Beach Detachment, RCMP, was also in attendance and indicated he would return to a future meeting with an updated report from his detachment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was presented for approval.

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

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES – NOVEMBER 29, 2004

The minutes of the November 29, 2004, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that the November 29, 2004, Council minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Victoria County Website

Councillor Patterson indicated that on looking at the Victoria County Website, there are areas that require updating and it was felt that it was important to keep the website current.

It was felt that this matter would be referred to the Tourism or Broadband Committee.

C.A.R. ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESSING

Courtesy of Council was extended to Charles and Louise Iannetti, C.A.R. Environmental Processing, who presented the following report to Council. (copy attached)

Mr. Iannetti answered questions of Council and advised that he will pickup derelict vehicles anywhere in the County at no charge.

Warden Budge extended a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Iannetti for their presentation and they were excused at this time.

PITU'PAQ PRESENTATION

Warden Budge extended the courtesy of Council to Sharon Carter, Bras d'Or Lakes Coordinator, Department of Environment and Labour.

Ms. Carter presented Council with an update on the Pitu'paq Committee. (copy attached). This Committee was established in 2001 with a mandate of addressing issues of sewage contamination in the Bras d'Or Lake Watershed. The Committee has accomplished a great deal in that time – the 10 commitments, the mapping project,

Canada Shipping Act Designation for the Bras d'Or Lakes, an enabling by-law to allow the establishment of wastewater management districts and they have hosted two Bras d'Or Workshops. She also outlined works that are in progress and the future goals of the Committee.

On behalf of the Pitu'paq Committee she presented Warden Budge with a copy of the *Bras d'Or Lake Fisheries Resources and Pollution Sources – A Working Atlas Based on the Pitu'paq Database*”.

Discussion took place and Ms. Carter answered various questions of Council. Warden Budge extended a vote of thanks to Ms. Carter for her presentation and she left at this time.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The minutes of the December 14, 2004, Committee of the Whole meeting were presented for approval.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Patterson, that the Committee of the Whole minutes of December 14, 2004, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

FCM ANNUAL CONFERENCE – JUNE 3-6, 2005

The Annual Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference will be held in St. John's, Newfoundland, from June 3-6, 2005. Warden Budge and Councillors MacInnes and Morrison have expressed an interest in attending this event.

It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Councillor Barron, that Warden Budge, Councillor MacInnes and Councillor Morrison be authorized to attend the Annual FCM Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland from June 3-6, 2005. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LITTLE NARROWS WATER

Sandy Hudson advised that with the extension to the Little Narrows Water Utility to include the Little Narrows Gypsum Company, an application must be made to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board to revise the rates and charges for the water utility to include the Gypsum Plant.

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacNeil, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that the County apply to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for the revision of the Interim water rates and charges for the Little Narrows Water Utility as set out in the Water Rate Study prepared by W. H. Gates Utility Consultants Ltd., in association with Syntel Consultancy Inc. Motion carried.

Sandy Hudson indicated that a transfer of money is required from the reserve account to the Little Narrows Water Project.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Barron, that \$200,000.00 be transferred from the reserve capital account to the Little Narrows Water Project. Motion carried.

BUILDING INSPECTION

Sandy Hudson advised that Paul Burt has resigned his position as Building Inspector with the Rural Cape Breton District Planning Commission and commenced duties today with the Cape Breton Island Housing Authority.

The Planning Commission will advertise for a replacement Building Inspector and in the meantime, Cyril LeBlanc from Inverness County, will fill in on a temporary basis.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

BADDECK NURSERY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

At the last Council Session, Councillor Morrison made a notice of motion concerning funding for the Baddeck Nursery School Association.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic that the Municipality approve \$7,500.00 for the current year operation of the Baddeck Nursery School Association and their request for annual funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 for each of the next three years be forwarded to budget talks. Motion carried.

ROSS FERRY STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY

At the previous meeting, Councillor Patterson made a notice of motion concerning funding for the Ross Ferry Stewardship Society of up to \$40,000 over two fiscal years.

It was moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Barron, that \$20,000.00 be provided to the Ross Ferry Stewardship Society this fiscal year, contingent of ECBC funding. Motion carried.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

DISTRICT #3

Councillor Morrison indicated that he attended the Cape Breton Business Partnership's press release today and indicated that it was a very positive event regarding new jobs, new investments and new prosperity.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Patterson, to approve in principle, the announcement made by the Cape Breton Business Partnership. Motion carried.

The initial meeting of the Partnership will be held at the Inverary Resort in March, 2005.

DISTRICT #2

Councillor MacCuspig expressed concern over the power outages in his district.

It was moved by Councillor MacCuspig, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that a letter be forwarded to Nova Scotia Power requesting additional maintenance on the power lines in the Middle River area. Motion carried.

Council felt that the maintenance of power lines is a problem all over the County.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor MacCuspig, that the County issue a press release indicating their concerns over the lack of maintenance on NSP lines throughout Victoria County. Motion carried.

DISTRICT #1

Deputy Warden MacNeil indicated that he is requesting an additional 3 streetlights for his District.

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacNeil, seconded by Councillor MacNeil, that three (3) streetlights be allocated for the District #1 area. Motion carried.

DISTRICT #5

Councillor Patterson indicated that he hosted two New Year's levees again in his district this year – one in Ross Ferry and one in Big Bras d'Or. Both were well received.

DISTRICT #6

Councillor Barron requested an advance of \$1,500.00 on his 2005/2006 district budget to allow for the purchase of a second snow blower for the Ingonish Outdoor Rink.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that Councillor Barron be permitted a \$1,500.00 advance on his 2005/2006 district budget and \$1,500.00 be provided to the Smokey Recreational Society for the purchase of a snow blower and \$300.00 be approved for the local Theatre Group from the District #6 budget. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Charles J. MacDonald in reply to Council's request for permission to pursue a beautification program at Exit 10 (Baddeck Bay) advising that the Department will permit the erection of a sign, provided it is located at the end of the existing guardrail on Route 205, opposite Atlanta Drive, and the request for replacement or painting of existing guardrail will be considered when they prepare their guardrail replacement program for 2005.
2. Correspondence from Department of Canadian Heritage regarding the National Flag of Canada Day – February 15, 2005.

Warden Budge will sign the proclamation that February 15, 2005, be National Flag of Canada Day in the Municipality of the County of Victoria.

3. Letter from the Nova Scotia Health Promotion Office regarding the preliminary process for the hosting of the 2011 Canada Games in Nova Scotia.

This matter will be referred to the Recreation Committee for inclusion on the agenda of their initial meeting.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Councillor Morrison, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Wayne Budge, Warden

Sandy Hudson, CAO