

**VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
**July 26, 2005**

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Tuesday, July 26, 2005, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Warden Wayne Budge in the Chair.

Present were:

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

Absent was:

District #1 – Dan E. MacNeil, Deputy Warden

**CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Warden Budge called the meeting to order.

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

**MINUTES – JUNE 20, 2005**

The minutes of the June 20, 2005, Victoria County Municipal Council meeting were presented for approval.

**It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Barron, that the June 20, 2005, minutes of Victoria County Municipal Council be approved as presented. Motion carried.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

- Sandy Hudson met with the SPCA again last week regarding dog control in the Municipality and a proposal will be submitted by the SPCA which will be reviewed by Council.
- Councillor MacCuspic questioned on the procedure for conducting a plebiscite in Middle River. The Middle River Recreation Association has requested that a plebiscite be conducted in the Middle River area to enable them to obtain a special premises license. Sandy Hudson advised that the request will be forwarded to the Nova Scotia Alcohol and Gaming Authority for further action and the plebiscite area boundary will have to be determined prior to application being made.

### **SEPTIC TANK PUMPING PROGRAM**

Courtesy of Council was extended to Robert Anderson, Department of the Environment. Mr. Anderson was in attendance with regard to the proposed septic tank pumping pilot project. He then introduced Marvin MacDonald, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

Mr. Anderson distributed an information package on the Municipal Septic Tank Pumping Program to each Council Member for their review. The budget tables outlining costs were included. Mr. Anderson suggested that if Council approves participation in the program, he would recommend Option A which provides a subsidy to homeowners to participate in the program. Option B was based on the homeowners covering 100% of the pump out cost and Option C was based on a lesser-subsidized amount to homeowners.

How this program would be implemented was discussed and Mr. Anderson felt that if approved, a Committee should be established consisting of representatives from the Department of the Environment, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations and Council to manage the program as it proceeds.

Mr. Anderson also suggested that other member units from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities be invited to view the truck in operation if the program proceeds.

The total cost of the pilot project is \$63,000. The cost of Option A to the Municipality would be \$24,833.33. This includes 1/3 share of the pump out cost (\$66.67 per tank – 200 tanks @ \$200 per tank), tank location cost of \$5,000, education cost of \$2,500, administration cost of \$2,500 and sludge management costs of \$1,500. The province will pay the same amounts.

Altinex are sending a pumper truck from Norway that will arrive on August 20, 2005. This unit is being shipped at their cost as they are looking to Nova Scotia to be a gateway to the North American marketplace for their technology.

Discussion took place on Wastewater Management Districts as an alternative means for sewage disposal in small communities. Information on this disposal method was included in the information package.

The effect of this program on residents who do not have a proper sewage system was discussed. This program is just a pilot project and its mission is not to scare property owners. Marvin MacDonald indicated that Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations mandate is to work with municipalities. The Department cannot work individually with homeowners and homeowners can only obtain access to government funding through their municipal unit.

A lengthy discussion took place on the pros and cons of getting involved in the sewage pumping pilot project and Councillors expressed their views in this regard. Lillian MacLeod, who was in attendance in the audience, requested permission to speak and she questioned Mr. Anderson on the agent used to aid in the dewatering process and outlined other concerns she had with regard to the program.

**It was moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that the Municipality accept the Septic Tank Pumping Pilot Project as presented with further discussions to be held with regard to financial and cost sharing formulas.**

**Councillor Barron moved an amendment to the motion that Council Members not have to contribute funding from their district budgets to fund the Septic Tank Pumping Pilot Project. Councillor MacInnes seconded the motion. Motion carried with Councillor Morrison casting a dissenting vote.**

**The main motion was then put. Those voting in favour of the motion were Councillors MacInnes, MacLellan, Patterson, Barron and Warden Budge. Those voting against the motion were Councillors Morrison and MacCuspic. Motion carried.**

Mr. Anderson and Mr. MacDonald left at this time.

### **RECESS**

Warden Budge announced that Council would recess for 10 minutes.

### **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

Sandy Hudson advised that four members of the public have expressed an interest in serving on Council Committees. The individuals are Dave Parkinson who expressed an interest in serving on the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), Elliot Siteman on Highland Manor Board and Wayne Crawford and John Berk who did not indicate a Committee preference. A motion was passed at the last Committee of the Whole meeting recommending Dave Parkinson's appointment to the PAC.

**It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Patterson, that Dave Parkinson be appointed to the Planning Advisory Committee, Elliot Siteman be appointed to the Highland Manor Board and Council sit down with Wayne Crawford and John Berk to identify which committee they would prefer to serve on. Motion carried.**

Destination Cape Breton Association has also requested that Council appoint someone to serve on the Marketing Levy Steering Committee.

**It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Patterson, that Councillor Keith MacCuspic, Chairman of the Tourism Committee, be appointed to serve on the Marketing Levy Steering Committee. Motion carried.**

Councillor MacCuspic was advised that the first meeting of this Committee will be held at the Membertou Trade & Convention Centre on Monday, August 8, 2005, at 11:00 a.m.

### **TEMPORARY BORROWING**

**It was moved by Councillor MacInnes that a notice of motion be given that at a future meeting of Municipal Council a resolution be approved for temporary borrowing of up to \$2.5 million dollars to fund expected expenditures for the Baddeck Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and the Ingonish Beach Water System.**

Mr. Hudson will commence discussions with the East Coast Credit Union regarding the required borrowing.

### **DISTRICT CONCERNS**

#### **District #4**

The Municipality assumed ownership of the North Shore School and Councillor MacInnes advised that a local committee has been formed to review the use of the North Shore School. This Committee will form a Society and once established, will enter into an agreement with the County regarding the School.

**District #6**

Councillor Barron indicated that he has received a number of inquiries regarding a heavy solid waste collection. The tender documents for solid waste collection are now out and included in the documents is a request for a price per district to carry out a heavy solid waste collection.

**District #8**

**It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that a letter be forwarded to Charlie MacDonald, Department of Transportation and Public Works, requesting that guardrails be installed along both sides of the road at Bay Road Valley, Dingwall and also be installed along a section of road in the River Bennett area. Motion carried.**

A section of guardrail on the Switchback Turn is also missing as a result of a truck accident on Saturday passed. It is anticipated that the Department of Transportation will replace this guardrail.

**District #3**

Councillor Morrison indicated that at a previous meeting a motion was passed regarding funding to pave Hilltop Crescent, Baddeck. The cost of the paving was to be \$60,400, shared between the Province and Municipality/Village. When the tenders were received for the paving, the cost increased to \$90,000 total.

**It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that an increase from \$5,000 to \$7,500 be approved from the District #3 budget for the fiscal years 2005-2006, 2006-2007 and 2007-2008, for a total of \$22,500 and it be combined with an equal financial commitment from the Village of Baddeck, for a total contribution \$45,000, towards the cost of paving Hilltop Crescent, Baddeck. Motion carried.**

**LITTLE NARROWS WATER EASEMENTS**

Sandy Hudson advised that the Little Narrows Water System does not have all the required easements in place and he will be working with the Solicitor to have these documents completed and registered with the necessary property owners.

**NEXT MEETINGS**

Sandy Hudson indicated that a Public Works Committee meeting should be held to deal with the Septic Tank Pumping Program. A date will be set for this meeting in early August and Council Members will be advised.

The next Committee of the Whole meeting will be held on Monday, August 15, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. and the next session of Victoria County Municipal Council will be held on Monday, August 29, 2005, at 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

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

**Wayne Budge, Warden**

**A. W. (Sandy) Hudson, CAO**