

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

September 10, 2001

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, September 10, 2001, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with Warden Gerald Sampson in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 – Dan E. MacNeil

District #2 – Shane Toms

District #3 – Bruce Morrison, Deputy Warden

District #4 – John Graham MacInnes

District #5 – Gerald Sampson, Warden

District #6 – Lawrence Barron

District #7 – Wayne Budge

District #8 – Robert MacLellan

Also present were:

Brian Trask, CAO

Heather MacLean, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

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Warden Sampson called the meeting to order.

PRESENTATION – SMOKING BY-LAW

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Courtesy of Council was extended to a delegation in attendance to make a presentation on a Smoking By-Law for Victoria County. Gordon MacIver, Chair of the Victoria County Community Health Board, was the first to speak on this topic, followed in succession by Dr. Ken Murray and Dr. Andrew Holmes. Each speaker presented statistics with regard to the effect of smoking on the health of the citizens (copy attached).

Various discussion and questions were addressed by the delegation in attendance.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that the Municipal Council pursue the adoption of a Smoking By-Law for the Municipality. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION – WATERFRONT ASSESSMENTS

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Courtesy of Council was extended to Lloyd Stone, representing a group of Baddeck Taxpayers who live along the waterfront. He was in attendance to make a presentation concerning the dramatic increases in assessments proposed for 2002 (copy attached).

Warden Sampson indicated that Council forwarded a letter to Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations in July in this regard and he read the reply received by the County.

Mr. Stone requested that Council take whatever action necessary to redress this injustice to property owners in Baddeck and all other communities in the County who are affected.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Deputy Warden Morrison, that Victoria County Municipal Council facilitate a meeting with the Assessment Department, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, to address concerns from residents of Victoria County with regard to their assessments. Motion carried.

GARY COLLINS, EMC

Courtesy of Council was extended to Gary Collins, EMC. Mr. Collins indicated that as a member of the Nova Scotia Highlanders he has been requested to go to Sierra Leone in Africa on an 8 month United Nations posting. Before he can accept such a position he would like confirmation that his job will be secure and he can resume his duties when he returns. He is recommending that Gary

Stockley, Alternate EMC, fill his duties during his absence.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that permission be given to Gary Collins to accept this position and during his absence Gary Stockley, Alternate EMC, assume his duties until his return. Motion carried.

AGENDA

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The agenda was presented for approval. Warden Sampson indicated he would like to report on the recent meeting of Mayors and Wardens he attended.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Barron, that the agenda be approved with the noted addition. Motion carried.

MINUTES

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The minutes of the August 20 and September 4, 2001, Council meetings were presented for approval.

Brian Trask indicated that in the September 4, 2001, Water Committee minutes it was decided that an immediate solution to repair the well servicing the Dingwall Water Utility was required. Ed

Carey agreed to oversee the repairing, installation of a backwash, flushing of the reservoir/tank, and work on a bypass system on the existing water system to improve the quality of the water to the residents. This would alleviate the problems in the short-term and then further consideration could be given to the long-term solution for this system.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that Ed Carey be authorized to proceed to have the necessary repairs carried out on the Dingwall Water System.

Discussion took place on this matter and concerns were addressed. Brian Trask indicated that John Anderson, C. A., is in the process of doing a consolidation of all the water utilities and would like to come to future meeting to outline his findings and review the options open to Council.

The motion was then put and carried with Councillor Budge casting a dissenting vote.

Brian Trask indicated that the Inverness-Victoria Federation of Agriculture would like to address Council. It was indicated that there would be a Council Session on October 1, 2001, and this organization would be given time on the agenda of this meeting. The October 15, 2001, Council Session will be held in Boularderie.

It was moved by Councillor Budge, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that the August 20 and September 4, 2001, Council Minutes be approved.

Councillor MacNeil indicated that in the list of schools receiving \$2,000 for recreation programs, the Christmas Island School was not included. He indicated that students from his district attend this school and \$2,000 should also be presented to this school. Council agreed to provide this funding to Christmas Island School.

The motion was then put and carried.

RECREATION/TOURISM BUDGET

Courtesy of Council was extended to Tom Wilson, Director of Recreation and Tourism.

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Mr. Wilson was off work for an extended period of time due to medical reasons and was in attendance to clear up some matters pertaining to his budget. He indicated that there are applications for program assistance still outstanding and organizations are contacting him to determine the status. The Councillors were given these applications for review and consideration. Mr. Wilson indicated that he would contact each Councillor to settle this matter.

Discussion took place on the Recreation/Tourism budget and the effect the Director of Development position would have on same. It was indicated that the CED Committee are responsible for setting the job description for the Director of Development position. The next meeting of the CED Committee will be held at St. Ann's Church Hall, Barrachois, on September 18, 2001, at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion took place on the municipal budget and the 1% of the taxes for general municipal purposes that can be allotted for grants for the year. This amounts to \$45,600 which has been divided into the 8 districts - \$5,700 per district. Some of the recreation grants funded through the district funds are to be reversed and taken from the tourism/development budget.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor MacNeil, that the

recreation/tourism budget be approved and Tom Wilson allocate his budget as he has done in the previous year. Motion carried.

SHRDA PROPOSAL

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Brian Trask had previously distributed to Councillors a settlement proposal for the Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Morrison, seconded by Councillor Barron, that Brian Trask offer the Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency \$12,000 as a settlement for withdrawal from the Agency and have the authority to go up to \$15,000, if the first offer is not acceptable. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

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The recommendation of the Interview Committee for the Director of Development position was that the position be offered to Lyle Goldberg. This position is a 2-year contract position, with a review at 6 months, and is to be effective October 1, 2001. The salary for this position was discussed and the starting salary is to be \$30,000, with a range of up to \$36,000.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Morrison, seconded by Councillor Budge, that the CAO be given permission to offer the Director of Development position to

**Lyle Goldberg at a starting salary of \$30,000, with authorization to negotiate up to \$36,000.
Motion carried.**

It was indicated that there is a second choice for this position should Mr. Goldberg not accept.

NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

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Ingonish Beach Water

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At the last meeting, Councillor Barron gave notice of motion that he would be requesting that \$80,000 be allocated from the reserve for the Ingonish Beach Water. Discussion took place on this matter.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, to proceed with land allocation and well drilling for Ingonish Beach Water. Motion carried.

Ottawa Brook Water

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Councillor MacNeil also gave notice of motion at the last meeting pertaining to Ottawa Brook Water.

It was moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Budge, to proceed with well drilling and testing for the Ottawa Brook Water, once approval is received from the required property owners. Motion carried.

Baddeck Community Playground Association

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It was moved by Deputy Warden Morrison, seconded by Councillor Toms, that \$2,500 be allocated for the Baddeck Community Playground Association from the Recreation/Tourism Budget if the funds are available. Motion carried.

Community Learning Association – North of Smokey

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A request for funding in the amount of \$4,500 for the cost of facility rental was received from the Community Learning Association North of Smokey. This is a non-profit organization that assists adults achieve higher learning.

It was moved by Councillor Budge, seconded by Deputy Warden Morrison, that the Councillors from Districts 6, 7, and 8, approve \$500 from each of their district budgets to the Community Learning Association North of Smokey – a total

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of \$1,500 and the remaining \$3,000 be referred to the CED Committee for consideration for funding from the development budget. Motion carried.

District #3

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It was moved by Deputy Warden Morrison, seconded by Councillor Budge, that \$172.00 be approved for the Village of Baddeck for garbage removal from the Baddeck Government Wharf. Motion carried.

District #5

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It was moved by Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that \$200 be approved for the Munro Crafters/Boularderie Hookers from the District #5 budget. Motion carried.

It was moved by Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that a letter be forwarded opposing the increase in phone rates in Nova Scotia. Motion carried.

Warden Sampson brought up that matter of the plans to sell the sound stage and whether the Municipality should forward a letter opposing this sale. As it was not in our County, Council did not feel a letter opposing this sale would be required.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Barron, that a letter be forwarded to the Department of Transportation and Public Works requesting that when undertaking the work on the Seal Island Bridge, consideration be given to installing a lighting package on the Bridge. Motion carried.

Warden Sampson presented a report on the Mayors and Wardens meeting he recently attended.

It was moved by Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor MacNeil, that a letter be

forwarded to Rick Beaton, ECBC, requesting that he come to Council. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

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The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, September 24, 2001, at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

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There being no further business, on motion of Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Barron, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.