

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
November 2, 2005

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Wednesday, November 2, 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 MacCuspig
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.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 3, 2005, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacCuspig, that the Victoria County Municipal Council minutes of October 3, 2005, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Silver Dart Centennial Committee

Councillor Morrison advised that the Silver Dart Centennial Committee has requested additional Council membership on their Committee. Councillor Morrison presently serves on this committee.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that Warden Budge and Councillors MacInnes, MacNeil, MacCuspic and Patterson, be appointed to serve as Council representatives on the Silver Dart Centennial Committee. Motion carried.

Notification of the appointments is to be forwarded to Hugh Mueller, Secretary, Silver Dart Centennial Committee.

RCMP

Sgt. Mike Bezanson, Baddeck RCMP, was to be in attendance tonight, but was called out of town. The RCMP presentation will be added to the agenda of the December, 2005, Council meeting.

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION/MANAGEMENT UPDATE

At the last meeting of the Public Works Committee, a recommendation was made to proceed to tender for three separate contracts for four year duration for solid waste management, including three-stream curbside collection - north, three-stream collection - south, and trucking from Dingwall to Baddeck and transporting solid waste to Guysborough on an as required basis.

Since this meeting, Sandy Hudson and Lindsay McDonald, Pickup MacDowell, have met on the tender requirements. Sandy Hudson advised that Lindsay McDonald was in attendance this evening with copies of the draft tender documents for Council's review.

Courtesy of Council was extended to Lindsay McDonald, who distributed copies of the draft documents to Council. The draft documents were reviewed and some changes were noted.

The question was raised as to whether there was a provision for heavy solid waste collection in the tender documents. Mr. Hudson advised that there was not, but if such collection is required, it will be done by other means and be paid for out of the solid waste budget.

The tender advertisement was reviewed and will be forwarded to *The Victoria Standard* for publication in their next two issues and to the *Cape Breton Post* for insertion in their Saturday, November 5, 2005, issue.

Tenders will be received until 12:00 noon on Thursday, November 24, 2005. Council will meet on December 5, 2005, to hopefully award to the tenders.

The necessary changes in the documents will be coordinated between Sandy Hudson and Lindsay McDonald tomorrow and the tender documents will be compiled and be available for pickup on Monday, November 7, 2005.

BORROWING RESOLUTION

Sandy Hudson advised that a temporary borrowing resolution is required for \$2,500,000.00 for various purposes (Ingonish Water and Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station). Mr. Hudson then presented the borrowing resolution to Council (copy attached).

It was moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that the temporary borrowing resolution from the East Coast Credit Union in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 be approved. Motion carried.

Mr. Hudson indicated that he also required a motion authorizing funds be withdrawn from the reserve account and deposited to the general account to cover expenditures.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Barron, that authorization be given to withdraw funds from the reserve account for transfer to the general account to cover expenditures. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LAND EXCHANGE – DNR

Mr. Hudson advised that negotiations are underway with the Department of Natural Resources for exchange of lands. The Municipality will be obtaining land adjacent to the Baddeck Landfill site and in exchange give two 50 acre parcels in the Little River area to DNR.

As the municipal property is assessed at over \$10,000.00, a public hearing is required to permit this land to be exchanged. Council will have to set the date and time for the public hearing on this matter.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that the date for the Public Hearing be set for December 5, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. Motion carried.

DOG CONTROL POSITION

Sandy Hudson advised that he met with the Union regarding the Dog Control position and it was agreed by both the Union and himself that the first step required was to review the current Dog and Animal Control By-Laws and develop one current Animal By-Law. This is necessary before a job description can be developed.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Deputy Warden MacNeil, to begin the process to draft a new Animal Control By-Law. Motion carried.

GAS TAX AGREEMENT

Sandy Hudson advised that the Gas Tax Contract has been received and authorization is required to allow the Warden and Clerk to sign the document. The Municipal share of the gas tax revenue is \$1,179,000.00 over a five year period.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that the Warden and CAO be authorized to sign the Gas Tax Agreement Contract. Motion carried.

EMO

An EMO tabletop exercise will take place at the Court House, Baddeck, on Tuesday, November 15, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. All Council members are requested to be in attendance.

Council members who have registered for the Basic Emergency Preparedness Course in Baddeck on November 29, 30 and December 1, 2005, were reminded of the dates and the requirement for their attendance.

INGONISH WATER

Sandy Hudson advised that the Ingonish Water project is proceeding on schedule and it is anticipated that the water will be flowing by mid-December, 2005.

In the spring, advertisements were published for an operator for the system. Four applications were received. Mr. Hudson advised that one applicant would be ideal for the position and he requested permission to negotiate with this individual and his current employer concerning the position requirements.

Mr. Hudson was authorized to begin these negotiations.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

District #3

Councillor Morrison updated Council on a recent meeting with Rick Beaton, ECBC, regarding the Baddeck Mainstreet upgrade project. It was suggested at that meeting that funding for solar street lighting may be available through the Municipal Green Fund and Councillor Morrison requested Council permission to make application to this fund.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Barron, that authorization be given to make application to the Municipal Green Fund for upgrading the Village Street lighting with solar technology. Motion carried.

ECBC has committed \$400,000.00 to the Baddeck Mainstreet upgrade and any funding accessible through the Municipal Green Fund would be over and above this funding.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that a letter be forwarded to the Department of Transportation requesting that 10 to 15 foot section between MacDonald Street and the new pavement on Hilltop Crescent be paved. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that \$5,000.00 be included in the budget for the 2006 Cabot Trail Relay. Motion carried.

District #2

Councillor MacCuspic advised that Burland Murphy has approached the Village Commissioners concerning developing a mural on the waterside of the Baddeck Community Centre. The mural would be of bald eagles and Dan Banks, Biologist, would develop a write up to go with the mural. The Village Commissioners have agreed to pay ½ the cost and the Municipality is being requested to cover the remaining 50%.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor Patterson, that this matter be referred to the Victoria County Municipal Development Committee. Motion carried.

District #1

Deputy Warden MacNeil advised that a petition has been received to rename a section of the Washabuck Road from Cain's Mountain to Washabuck Bridge to either MacKinnon Road or Old MacKinnon Road.

It was moved by Deputy Warden MacNeil, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that the section of roadway between Cain's Mountain and the Washabuck Bridge be renamed to either MacKinnon Road or Old MacKinnon Road. Motion carried.

District #5

Councillor Patterson advised of a situation where he signed a form for a resident of his district as a Councillor to transfer vehicle ownership. The Registry of Motor Vehicles would not accept his signature and indicated that they had never heard of Council members having the authority to act as Commissioner of Oaths. Councillor Patterson provided the section of the *Municipal Government Act* that provides this authorization to the Registry of Motor Vehicles and was advised last evening that Councillors would be added to their list.

Councillor Patterson questioned on the future of the policing office at the Boularderie School. This will be discussed with Sgt. Bezanson when he appears before Council in December, 2005.

District #6

Councillor Barron indicated that he felt Council should be informed of the new regulations in effect with regard to the transfer to property and felt someone should be brought to Council to inform Council of the Registry 2000 system.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that Pickup MacDowell be requested to come to Council to provide information of the Registry 2000 System. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Barron, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that a letter be forwarded to the Department of Transportation requesting that the gravel roads in the Ingonish area be graded before the winter season. Motion carried.

District #8

Councillor MacLellan questioned on the school funding for the North Highlands Elementary School in Aspy Bay. This will be investigated.

It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Deputy Warden MacNeil, that \$1,000.00 be approved from both the District # 7 and District #8 budget for the North Highlands Nordic Ski Club. Motion carried.

District #4

Councillor MacInnes indicated that the North Shore School Committee will again advertise for interest in the North Shore School in the spring, but in the meantime the school building will be secured for the winter months to protect it for the winter. A final decision on the school will be made in 2006.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Cathi Pierrard has submitted her name to serve on the Victoria County Municipal Development Committee. It was decided previously that staff members could serve as citizens on Council Committees provided those committees did not relate to their positions with the municipality.

It was moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor MacInnes, that Cathi Pierrard be appointed to serve as a member of the Victoria County Municipal Development Committee. Motion carried.

District #1

Deputy Warden MacNeil indicated that he was advised that the municipality will be offered the existing Rankin Memorial School property in Iona when the new school is built.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council will be held on Monday, December 5, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. A public hearing on the land exchange issue will be held at 4:00 p.m. prior to Council on this date.

ADJOURN

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

Wayne Budge, Warden

Sandy Hudson, CAO