

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
April 12, 2010

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, April 12, 2010, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Warden Bruce Morrison in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 – Paul MacNeil
District #2 – Keith MacCuspic
District #3 – Bruce Morrison, Warden
District #4 – Merrill MacInnis
District #5 – Fraser Patterson, Deputy Warden
District #6 – Larry Dauphinee
District #7 – David Donovan
District #8 – Robert MacLellan

Also present were:

Heather MacLean, Acting CAO
Zina MacNeil, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Warden Morrison called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. A letter received by Councillor MacLellan and a report from Robert Dauphinee (instead of the Public Works meeting on Wednesday) would be added to agenda.

It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that the agenda be approved with the noted additions with Public Works update by Robert Dauphinee and an in camera session. Motion carried.

NORTH HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Courtesy of council was extended to Robert MacDonald from North Highlands Community Organization. Mr. MacDonald thanked council for giving him the opportunity to come to council to make a case for his organization for increased monetary support for capital and operating funding.

Previously Mr. MacDonald stated that council gave \$7500 for operating and they are looking to increase that amount to \$12,000 with an additional \$20,000 for capital renovations.

An overview was given on the existence of the organization since 1979 and its mandate to preserve, promote and cherish the heritage and culture of the community. The facilities have expanded over the years with a gift shop, archives, exhibition gallery and

cultural centre. They are in the process of converting the ground floor as a year round multipurpose facility. The roof, siding, exterior of the church are some of the renovations needed. The goal is to promote the integration of the church, the center and garden as a landscape of great beauty for the community.

They plan on matching county contributions with funding from other partnerships. Mr. MacDonald provided an outline of programs they had for 2009. The economic impact to the community ran around \$110,000 for the year between salaries for summer students, contractors, goods and services purchased. They had 3900 visitors in 2009. Currently they are trying to become a member of Nova Scotia Museum where there is access to more funding. They have a different mandate and approach than NS Highland Village so have a good chance of becoming a part of it. They want to raise the profile of the operation, get new revenue coming in such as bus tours.

It is an asset to Victoria County while promoting North Highlands it contributes to the economy. Mr. MacDonald extended a thank you to council for allowing him to explain the reasoning for their request for funding. The total cost to finish renovations was \$150,000. They are more than half way there with \$60,000 left to finish the project. An invitation was extended to council to come have a look at the facilities. The Warden thanked Mr. MacDonald for his presentation. As the request has previously been referred to budget discussions there was no need for another motion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 29, 2010

The minutes of the March 29, 2010, session of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnes, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that the Victoria County Municipal Council minutes of March 29, 2010, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING

RCMP UPDATE

Heather reported that Archie Thompson would be here on the April 26th meeting of council as he had nothing to report.

Capital Projects – list not ready yet will be later in the budget meetings.

Curfew in Inverness – Heather has a call in but nothing back on it.

Committee Reports – nothing to report.

UNSM SPRING WORKSHOP

Heather asked if any of the councillors were planning on attending the spring workshop. Deputy Warden Patterson was the only one who requested to go. No one else could make it at that time so it will just be Deputy Warden Patterson attending.

TRAINING POLICE ADVISORY BOARD TRAINING

Training is to be held around the first of May and is a day long session. Heather will advise them that someone will definitely be attending but we are just not sure who yet.

RECESS

Warden Morrison advised that Council would recess for 10 minutes.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – ROBERT DAUPHINEE

Mr. Dauphinee had a short report for council updating them on the collections. The support vehicle will be ready the week of the 19th. The other trucks will be about a week and half with two weeks for the drivers to get to know the trucks. The drivers started on the 8th and trained with CBRM drivers for two days last week. The 3 helpers will start on the 26th so they will have orientation as well before the county collection starts on May 3rd. Training and first aid is tomorrow the 13th for those who don't have it.

There is a bit of change in the routes and with council help the ads will get out to those areas affected by the change. Mr. Dauphinee will email council the changes to post in the areas. As well it will be in the local paper.

Mr. Dauphinee feels they have good experience staff hired and feels good going forward. Waste should be out by 7 am of the scheduled morning and it will be mentioned to put a rock or something on covers so they don't blow away when the garbage is picked up. There will be some adjusting for the first few weeks with the new schedule and drivers. Residents have been calling regarding a heavy garbage pickup. The date hasn't been finalized yet but looking at possibility of June.

NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

DISTRICT #5

Deputy Warden Patterson had concerns from some of his residents on Black Rock Road who haven't received high speed internet yet. Councillor Donovan gave him the information on who to call for service.

Deputy Warden Patterson has received many inquiries on heavy garbage pickup. Some people are starting to put stuff out now.

DISTRICT #6

Councillor Dauphinee updated everyone on the 1st day of Court in Ingonish held last Friday. The judge attended via video.

Secondly Councillor Dauphinee questioned on the lease for Smokey Recreation as it was just for downs tairs and the land. Nothing was signed for the use of the upstairs.

It was moved by Councillor Dauphinee, seconded by Councillor MacNeil, that the lease agreement with Smokey Recreation be approved for the entire premises. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Dauphinee, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, that the lease agreement for Smokey Recreation be approved for subletting to Parks Canada and the Department of Justice. Motion carried.

DISTRICT #7

It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Dauphinee, that Lyle Donovan, EMO be allowed to look into finding information regarding the dredging of South Harbour as he has the interest. Motion carried.

DISTRICT #8

Councillor MacLellan had one issue and it will be dealt with in camera.

DISTRICT #4

Councillor MacInnis requested a letter be sent to the Minister of Highways to request repairs be done on the Englishtown Ferry. It is scheduled to be out of service for 3 weeks for maintenance.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnis, seconded by Councillor Donovan that a letter be sent to the Minister of Transportation to request the repairs be done and the ferry back up and operating. Motion carried.

Heavy garbage is an important issue in his district as well.

DISTRICT #2

Councillor MacCuspig wondered if there was still a derelict vehicle program. Heather indicated that a new policy was to have been looked at but has been put on the back burner.

It was moved by Councillor MacCuspig, seconded by Councillor Dauphinee, to approve from his district budget a cheque to Baddeck Lion's Club for Heavy Garbage Pickup last year in the amount of \$1250.00 Motion carried.

DISTRICT #1

Councillor MacNeil received a request from the Rankin Playground Committee for funding to help with equipment for the elementary children. The total project cost is \$15,000.00.

It was moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Donovan, that the request for funding for the Rankin Playground be referred to budget discussions. Motion carried.

Councillor MacNeil requested that Lynk Electric be sent a letter to fix the street lights on the Grand Narrows Bridge.

Councillor MacNeil asked that the street light policy be looked at soon as possible as most intersections do not have lighting and it is dangerous. It will be looked at on the May council meeting.

DISTRICT #3

Warden Morrison had no district concerns.

CORRESPONDENCE

Heather received an email from the AMA on the change in rates for the provincial government in travel rates. As of April 1st the travel rates went down the .3813 and Victoria County has been following the provincial rates in their policy which is still being developed. Council will follow the provincial rate change.

Lars Willum sent in a request for financial assistance for a cookbook.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Patterson, seconded by Councillor MacCuspig, that Mr. Willum's request for assistance for a cookbook, in the amount of \$3613, be referred to budget discussions. Motion carried.

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Heather had a request by the animal controllers to purchase tranquilizer guns. Heather will request more information on the cost of purchasing tranquilizer guns as well as what is involved with training and licensing to carry them.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The successful applicant for Economic Development was contacted but to date has not responded back so it is still pending.

IN CAMERA

It was moved by Councillor MacLellan, seconded by Councillor Donovan, that council go to an In Camera Session. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor MacInnis, seconded by Councillor MacLellan, to come out of In Camera and return to the regular session. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council will be held on Monday, April 26, 2010, at 5:00 pm.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Councillor MacInnis, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.