

**VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
**April 26, 2010**

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, April 26, 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

Also present were:

Heather MacLean, Acting CAO  
Zina MacNeil, Recording Secretary

District #8 Councillor MacLellan was absent due to illness.

***CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

Warden Morrison called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval.

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

Warden Morrison wished to extend sympathy to the family of Ned MacDonald, Councillor of Inverness who died this week, and to the County of Inverness on behalf of Victoria County Council.

***RCMP UPDATE***

Staff Sergeant, Archie Thompson was welcomed at this time to provide council with an update. The annual performance plan (APP) shows that prosecution of impaired drivers is up by 29%. They have doubled their drug search warrants. Break and enters have gone down from 35 reports last year to 24 this year.

Traffic safety concerns are #1 Impaired Driving, #2 Speed, #3 Aggressive Driving, and #4 Seatbelts.

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Besides the regular drugs on the streets prescription pills are becoming a high problem. They are working with the youth at Wagmatcook on a regular basis and using role models. They are working with the band on increasing a Corporal Position based on the reserve funded through them. There is nothing signed yet but should be signed in the near future.

Councillor MacNeil commented that the complaints of Break and Enters in District #1 have slowed down but aggressive speeding is still apparent. Sergeant Thompson wished to extend thanks to the people from the Little Narrows who made calls and helped with the catching of culprits involved in break and enters in that area.

Councillor MacCuspic made reference to a quote that the "RCMP are only as good as the community helping them." You need community involvement.

Councillor MacInnis commented that the residents in his area are pleased with the noticeable presence of RCMP in the district.

Deputy Warden Patterson questioned whether with the extra presence and priority given to Wagmatcook if the members were needed elsewhere for an emergency would they be allowed to go. And yes they would be. Do the statistics actually show the impaired driving is down or are they just going by their own convictions? If you go back over 10 years it is down. There is a lot of advertising and promoting along with MADD, pamphlets are handed out at road checks and schools are being educated by presentations to students.

Councillor Dauphinee commented on the positive feedback on behalf of the Seniors Social held in Ingonish with RCMP presentations to educate seniors on fraud and other issues concerning them.

Councillor Donovan mentioned that there are more groups of youth out and about now with the good weather so it is great with the extra RCMP presence. It has increased positive feedback. Maybe they could provide youth programs to other parts of the county as well as Wagmatcook.

Chairman Morrison questioned whether prescription drugs were a problem in all communities. Sergeant Thompson commented that there was an increase in prescription drugs in certain communities but not all areas.

The RCMP Advisory Training is this Saturday, May 1 and it was decided that Deputy Warden Patterson would attend this session on behalf of Council. Heather MacLean would fax in the registration tonight.

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Warden Morrison made comment that council recognized that the RCMP have had a busy couple of years and they certainly appreciated Sergeant Thompsons update and comments.

Councillor MacInnis asked what the process was to get the Musical Ride Circuit to come to Victoria County. Sergeant Thompson would check into this and get back to council on it. Sergeant Thompson was thanked for his presentation and look forward to the next time.

***APPROVAL MINUTES APRIL 12, 2010***

Councillor Dauphinee corrected the comments on the lease for Smokey Recreation.

Councillor MacNeil corrected the total amount of the Playground Project for Rankin was for \$15,000 and not what the amount they were requesting.

***It was moved by Councillor MacCuspic, seconded by Deputy Warden Patterson that the minutes of the April 12, 2010 be approved with the noted corrections. Motion carried.***

**BUSINESS ARISING**

**CURFEW**

Heather spoke with Joe O'Connor on a curfew in Inverness and it is only at Halloween. They do not enforce it at any other time.

**HEAVY GARBAGE**

The new collections start on May 1 so it would be late June before heavy garbage will be done. It will be scheduled when the kinks are out of the new collection service. It will take a few weeks. Heather spoke with Mr. Dauphinee and one truck will be here next Monday and the other one the end of next week. They will rent two trucks along with the ton truck to get by until the new trucks arrive. They will make arrangements to train drivers after hours.

**STREET LIGHT POLICY/DERELICT VEHICLE POLICY**

The policies for the street lights and derelict vehicles should be looked at prior to the next meeting in May and added to the agenda for May meeting. Some in District 5 are being hauled away. Currently Mr. Dauphinee issues a purchase order for approval prior to them being hauled.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No Committee Reports.

**NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS/DISTRICT CONCERNS**

One issue will be dealt with in camera at the end of the meeting.

**District #5**

Heavy garbage is a big problem with CBRM starting there heavy garbage pickup on April 12. Some people started putting stuff out. Everyone wants to know when ours is as they are doing spring cleaning. Maybe we should look at contracting out for heavy garbage. Fraser and Keith both paid some out of district budget last year for it. Keith paid fire department and the lion's club as fundraisers. We should talk to Robert Dauphinee on the heavy garbage pickup.

**District #6**

Heavy garbage has to be done this year. The junk that was put out in Councillor MacInnis's area was cleaned up since last meeting. Thanks to Robert Dauphinee for that.

There are trees on the new road, the Old St. Ann's Loop a letter should be sent to transportation on this.

**District#7**

Controlled Access Highways said no before to changing this that it can't be done can we send another letter to Department of Tourism and Transportation to look at it again. It is handicapping our tourism industry.

Heather MacLean read a letter she had received in correspondence from April 12 from Roy MacDonald regarding the Control Access that transportation has not changed its answer on this.

***It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Dauphinee that a letter be sent back to Steve MacDonald, Area Manager, and the Minister of Transportation and Minister of Tourism asking them to review it again. Motion carried.***

Councillor Donovan received a request for sidewalks in Ingonish.

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*It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Dauphinee to refer a request for sidewalks in Ingonish to Capital Projects under budget considerations. Motion carried.*

*It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Dauphinee to hold June's session of Council in Neil's Harbour. Motion carried.*

It was requested that Six Ports be added to the agenda for that council session.

Councillor MacInnis asked if it could be arranged for Council to go on a tour of the Victoria Fisheries Coop in New Haven. Councillor Donovan will make arrangements and get a date.

**District#8**

Councillor Donovan had a letter from Councillor MacLellan's area from residents of Capstick Manor. They have applied for funding from New Horizons for furniture to replace the 25 year old furniture. They were wondering if council would help out with a couch, end table, recliner, card table, kettle, etc. Councillor Donovan spoke with a few of the ladies and \$5000 would help them tremendously. He recommended it be referred to budget talks. They have asked if they could go through Alderwood after the move to see if any of the old furniture could be used.

*It was moved by Councillor Donovan, seconded by Councillor Dauphinee to refer the request from Highland Manor to budget discussions. Motion carried.*

**District #4**

Councillor MacInnis asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to Author, Bill Conlan who was shortlisted to a list of six out of 60 people to be sent to Ottawa for an Award.

*It was moved by Councillor MacInnis, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic, that a letter of congratulations be sent to Bill Conlan on being shortlisted. Motion carried.*

**District #2**

Councillor MacCuspic wondered if we got a response back from CBDHA on the new MS procedure. Heather had a letter back stating they had no one to send up with information at this time on the new MS procedure.

*It was moved by Councillor MacCuspic, seconded by Councillor Donovan to send a letter to the Minister of Health, Maureen MacDonald, asking for more information on the New MS Procedure. Motion carried.*

#### **District #1**

The sections in District #1 that were to be paved will not be done again this year but the preliminary work will be done. Councillor MacNeil requested that a letter be sent to Department of Transportation requesting the Washabuck Road be patched again this year the same as last year.

*It was moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor MacCuspic that Transportation be sent a letter requesting that section of the Washabuck Road be patched again this year with the same patching as last year. Motion carried.*

Councillor MacNeil had a request to borrow the bell from the courthouse for a service in Little Narrows on May 2.

Councillor MacNeil commented on the Social Media Conference held last week at Inverary Inn. He said it was a great success and Tom Wilson should be commended and acknowledged for a job well done. The speaker from BC mentioned that Tom was known all across Canada for his work.

*It was moved by Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Donovan that Tom Wilson be commended for the work he did on the success of the Social Media Conference. Motion carried.*

Councillor Dauphinee made comment regarding the Ingonish Steering Committee on the great feedback on Tom Wilson and what a great asset he is and all the work he does for them.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **KELTIC LODGE**

A letter was received back from the Department of Tourism and Culture regarding the Keltic Lodge a Mr. Bob Book, Director of Development will be getting in touch to discuss the staff changes at the Keltic Lodge.

A letter will be sent back to the Minister asking him to attend a meeting along with his staff member Mr. Book and council to discuss the changes.

## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

A letter was received from the Department of Transportation, Area Manager, Steve MacDonald. The letter said that nine years ago it was looked at reducing the speed limit in the Middle River area due to the two churches and the traffic supervisor determined it was not warranted. Currently the speed limit is 80 km and the residents want it reduced to 50 km. They should be requested to review it again.

Roy MacDonald also said that the request to remove control access to TCH 105 from Irving to Boularderie has not changed. Council agreed we should ask Department of Transportation to review access from exits 10-13 this time.

Brush Cutting will be done this summer from Barrachois to Skir Dhu.

RIM work in the amount of \$104,000 is allocated to District #1 and committed other local improvements during summer season.

North of Smokey is in the process of their spring grading.

The need for street lights at TCH105 at Beverly's Hill eastern entrance has not changed. The required signage will be put in place.

## **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Correspondence was received stating there may be high to moderate Mi'kmaq archeological significance to this piece of crown land for exchange for addition to landfill. The Municipality has to have an Archaeological Impact Assessment completed on this piece of property before anything can be done. A list of contractors for this type of work was attached.

## **PETITION**

*It was moved by Councillor MacCuspig, seconded by Councillor MacInnis that the petition signed by citizens on the dirt road portion on the Westside Baddeck Road be sent to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. Motion carried.*

## **RRFB**

A letter was received from the RRFB looking for Council representation on the board.

## **SCHOOL REPORTS**

Reports came in for the three schools in Victoria County.

**VICTORIA COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN**

This is ongoing at this time.

**IN CAMERA**

*It was moved by Councillor MacCuspic, seconded by Councillor MacInnis that the meeting goes to an In Camera Session. Motion carried.*

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

**NEXT MEETINGS**

The next session of Council will be held on May 10, 2010 at 5 pm.

Committee of the Whole will be held on May 17, 2010 to deal with Broadband.

**ADJOURN**

It was moved by Councillor MacInnis to adjourn.