

VICTORIA COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
June 27, 2016

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held at the Court House, Baddeck, on Monday, June 27, 2016, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Warden Bruce Morrison in the Chair.

Present were:

District #1 – Paul MacNeil
District #2 – Athol Grant
District #3 – Bruce Morrison, Warden
District #4 – Merrill MacInnis
District #5 – Fraser Patterson
District #6 – Larry Dauphinee
District #7 – Wayne Budge

Also present were:

Sandy Hudson, CAO
Heather MacLean, Recording Secretary

Absent was:

District #8 – Johnny Buchanan

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Warden Morrison called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. He reminded Council members to speak clearly into their microphones. Ray Briand who was to have been in attendance will not be appearing and he indicated that the By-Law discussion would be moved up to this time slot. Angela Bresson, Seaside Communications is also in attendance for fire department presentations.

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

ANGELA BRESSON, SEASIDE COMMUNICATIONS

Warden Morrison extended the courtesy of Council to Angela Bresson, Coordinator of the Volunteer Fire Service Program with Seaside Communications.

Ms. Bresson indicated that Seaside is proud to support Volunteer Fire Departments throughout rural Nova Scotia. She advised that she was in attendance to present cheques to two Victoria County Volunteer Fire Departments – Ross Ferry Volunteer Fire Department and Cabot Volunteer Fire Department.

Accepting on behalf of the Ross Ferry Volunteer Fire Department was Dwayne Symes and for Cabot Volunteer Fire Department, Councillor Wayne Budge. Photos were taken and Warden Morrison offered congratulations on behalf of Council.

Ms. Bresson indicated that volunteer fire departments are the backbone of the community and she encouraged Council to spread the word on Seaside's Volunteer Fire Service Program. Application deadline is the end of November of each year.

Warden Morrison extended a thank you to Ms. Bresson.

VICTORIA COUNTY SUBDIVISION BY-LAW

A public hearing was held prior to Council on the proposed Victoria County Subdivision By-Law. Not written or oral submissions were received. Only Council members in attendance at the public hearing are eligible to vote on the by-law.

It was moved and seconded that the Victoria County Subdivision By-Law be approved. Motion carried.

MILE BROOK ESTATES

Courtesy of Council was extended to Wayne Ryan and Leo Fownes, Mile Brook Estates.

Wayne Ryan indicated that Mile Brook Estates is requesting approval through the Eastern District Planning Commission for a portion of Alexander Drive from Lot 29 to Lot 37 as a public road. This will allow Lots 31, 33, and 37, to be approved by the Planning Commission.

They request that upon the sale of two of the three lots, the paving of this continuation of Alexander Drive will be paved by Mile Brook Estates. In keeping with the requirements of the new Subdivision By-Law, Mile Brook Estates will provide the Municipality with a letter of credit from the East Coast Credit Union for the estimate of 110% of the cost of paving until such work is completed.

Mr. Ryan provided the documentation to Council outlining the letter of credit, estimate for paving and the plan showing subdivision of a portion of the lands of Mile Brook Estates, along with their letter of request.

Discussion took place. John Bain indicated that the new Victoria County Subdivision By-Law will not come into effect until it receives Ministerial approval and is published.

John Bain indicated that the By-Law will be submitted to the Director of Planning tomorrow and he will make contact to expedite this matter. In the meantime work will be

undertaken on the details for an agreement between the Municipality and Mile Brook Estates. The Solicitor will be involved in the process.

Warden Morrison thanked Mr. Ryan and Mr. Fownes for their proposal and indicated that Council would take this matter under advisement and refer to staff to report back at a later date.

ELECTRONIC VOTING BY-LAW

A public hearing on the proposed Electronic By-Law to Authorize the Voting by Telephone/Internet for the 2016 Municipal Elections (Electronic Voting By-Law) was held prior to Council today. No written or oral submissions were received. Only Councillors in attendance at the public hearing are eligible to vote on this matter.

It was moved and seconded to approve the By-Law to Authorize the Voting by Telephone/Internet for the 2016 Municipal Elections (Electronic Voting By-Law). Motion carried.

EXCUSED

Councillor MacNeil was excused from the meeting to attend Rankin School of the Narrows graduation ceremonies.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 13, 2016

The minutes of the June 13, 2016, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

It was moved and seconded that the Victoria County Municipal Council minutes of June 13, 2016, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

The striped bass issue is a serious problem for the lobster fishery and Ray Briand is to be contacted to appear at Council at a future time.

Sandy Hudson has made contact with Emily Pond, Municipal Advisor, concerning the medal of recognition for long serving fire fighters and she will reply with samples for consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

RIGHT OF WAY – HAMM PROPERTY

A request was received for a right of way to the Hamm property from Chebucto Street to their driveway off the Court House driveway. Discussion took place.

It was moved and seconded that the right of way easement be provided to the Hamm property conditional on the terms being acceptable to the Municipality. Motion carried.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

District #4

Councillor MacInnis questioned if there were any areas in the province that had central washroom facilities. The comfort station at Neil's Harbour was mentioned as was the system recently installed at Warren's Lake. Whether there was sewer and water available at the site of the former North Shore School was also discussed. Councillor MacInnis will investigate further with the information provided.

The internet service in the North Shore area is unacceptable at present. Councillor MacInnis requested that a representative from Bell Aliant be requested to come to Council.

District #7

Councillor Budge brought up "Children Playing" signage for the area at the beach at Neil's Harbour where cars park along the roadside and children are present.

The Department of TIR Sign Shop may be able to make these signs and Councillor Budge will be provided with contact information for Mike Peters at the Sign Shop.

District #6

Councillor Dauphinee questioned on the length of time the radar speed sign has been located in Wagmatcook. He had requested one for his area.

The speed limit in Wagmatcook has been reduced from 70 to 60 km and this was felt to be the reason for the sign.

Councillor Dauphinee will follow up on his request for a radar speed sign.

The designation of the Ingonish River Wilderness Area as a protected area was discussed. It is critical to any investment in Ski Cape Smokey that this designation not be approved.

It was moved and seconded that a letter be forwarded to Minister Miller, Department of the Environment, strongly opposing the designation of the Ingonish River Wilderness Area as a Protected Area. Motion carried.

The Ingonish Soccer Association has an enrollment of 85 children, with 18 coaches, this year. They require replacement of their nets.

It was moved and seconded that the \$450.00 net replacement costs for the Ingonish Soccer Association be split between the District #6, #7, and #8 budgets. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that Council be invited to come to Ingonish to hold their August 8, 2016, Council session at the Keltic Lodge. Motion carried.

A tour of Keltic Lodge is to be arranged prior to the meeting. The upgrades at the Keltic are phenomenal.

District #1

It was moved and seconded that \$1,200.00 be approved from the District #1 budget to the MacKinnon Harbour Survival Association for opening of the channel. Motion carried.

District #3

Warden Morrison requested that the CAO investigate a Loitering By-Law for the Municipality.

Warden Morrison indicated that the doctors at the office on High Street, Baddeck, will be relocating to the hospital in the future. They have years of patient files that they are looking to store and he felt that the vault space in the former Registry of Deeds office could accommodate same. This is to be investigated.

STUDENT GRANTS

The CAO advised that the Municipality received two 8 week student positions through Canada Summer Jobs.

The Heritage Asset Identifier has been filled. Lauren Matheson started work today.

The Street Light Inventory Researcher position was approved later in the process and has not been filled to date. What this position would do was discussed.

It was felt it would be beneficial to concentrate on one area at a time and Councillor MacInnis indicated he would assist in identification in District #4.

The position is to be re-advertised with the coverage area for the position being District #4.

KELTIC LODGE

It was moved and seconded that a letter of congratulations be sent to Jim Balsillie, GolfNorth, and to Graham Hudson, General Manager of the Keltic Lodge and Highland Links on the investment and official opening of the newly refurbished, Keltic Lodge. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, it was moved to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.

Bruce Morrison, Warden

Sandy Hudson, CAO