

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday December 10, 2019
Tusket, NS 6:00 p.m.

Present: Warden Danny Muise; Deputy Warden Guy Surette; Councillors Glenn Diggon, Lucien LeBlanc, Richard Donaldson, Kathy Bourque, and Calvin d'Entremont.; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Director of Public works Hans Pfeil, Director of Finance Marsha D'Eon, Solicitor Réal Boudreau, and Municipal Clerk/Recorder Lori Murphy.

Regrets: Councillor Albright, Councillor Murphy Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03p.m. by Warden Danny Muise.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque to recess the Regular Council Meeting and go In-Camera at 6:04PM.

Motion carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Consensus to return to the Regular Council Meeting at 6:38PM.

Motion carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Hans and Marsha excused themselves from the meeting at this time.

Agenda:

On a motion by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Guy Surette that the agenda was approved.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Warden Danny Muise asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor. Councillor d'Entremont asked if 11-d would be a conflict of interest. Decided it is not.

Presentations

Recreation Strategic plan - Natalie d'Entremont

Natalie presented the recreation strategic plan and explained the how and the why of the document attached to these minutes. Gave a brief highlight of the key learnings of the Citizen Survey. One general statement that came out of the Client survey would be: Improving accessibility of community-based physical activity opportunities by offering flexible, non-competitive, and low-cost activities may engage more community members. She also gave highlights of the online survey and focus groups. Natalie also talked about the goals of the recreation strategic plan and highlighted the physical activity strategic plan goals. Presented timelines for increasing Argyle recreation's media presence.

Council requires financial information to support this plan. Staff will report back to Council in the new year on the budget and summary associated with the plan.

It is moved by Calvin d'Entremont and seconded by Lucien Leblanc to accept the Recreation Strategic Plan report as presented.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Presentation attached (121001)

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2019

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc that the November 12, 2019 minutes of the Regular Council Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

EMO Meeting Minutes September 4, 2019

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that the September 4, 2019 minutes of the EMO Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

Vacation policy

CAO Muise explained the housekeeping changes made to the policy based on the conversation from last Council meeting.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to accept the Vacation Policy as presented.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Simply Cast

Staff reached out to Simply Cast. Hoping to schedule a meeting for late March 2020

Financial Request-Communities in Bloom

CAO Muise explained the request for funding presented to Council.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to approve a \$5000.00 contribution to the Communities in Bloom organizing committee, with the amount paid through current year surplus funds.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Councillor LeBlanc declared a conflict of interest and opted not to vote on this motion.

East Pubnico Water Utility

CAO Muise explained the details of the memo and provided an update on the project.

Hipson Brook Bridge

CAO Muise provided an update on fixing the bridge. Based on further analysis it was determined to do all the work at once rather than a phased approach. Work on the bridge

is tender ready. Discussion about budget. Staff will provide Council with an updated budget at a later date.

Financial Statement

Financial director Marsha d'Eon absent. CAO Muise briefly highlighted the projected surplus and explained where we are with the collection of residential taxes.

It is moved by Lucien Leblanc and seconded by Kathy Bourque to accept the financial statement as presented

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Councillors' Report

Councillor Diggdon: Helped out with setting up Christmas tree and nativity scene at La glee St. Pierre, getting ready for Christmas party at the Legion, Helped plant tulips at cenotaph in West Pubnico. Councillor Diggdon would also like to send out a big thank you to Charlene LeBlanc our Community Development officer who helped the Community organization in West Pubnico with a grant for wheelchair accessible washrooms.

Councillor Bourque: Attended the Experience of Argyle, Yarmouth Industrial Commission meeting, Executive Board meeting and regular Board meeting for Nakile, Christmas tree lighting for Argyle and the Municipality Christmas party.

Councillor LeBlanc: Recruitment and nomination committee which will be meeting soon to try to come up with names for the WREN board. Road issues and dangerous & unsightly are still major issues.

Councillor Surette: Attended Yarmouth Industrial Commission, YMCA meeting, attended the Courthouse/archives 30th anniversary party. Participated in Christmas house tour and did FB live with Charlene LeBlanc.

Councillor Donaldson: Attended regular committee meetings. Attended a meeting with the Deputy Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and had good discussion about upcoming projects.

Councillor d'Entremont: Attended Experience of Argyle, YASTA is looking for a representative from Industry to sit on the board. CAO Muise referred to the Citizen Appointment Policy for Committees, Commissions, and Boards. We shall advertise all vacancies in local paper and on social media.

Warden's Report -

November 13. Choice Housing

November 14. Experience of Argyle. As usual, it was a great event. Thanks to everyone involved with organizing the event. I have heard a lot of good comments from the public.

November 18. Airport board meeting

November 20. Attended a meeting with TIR head office staff including Deputy Minister Paul Lafleche, Chief Engineer Peter Hackett as well as various executive directors from different TIR departments. It was an opportunity to discuss various issues we have in Yarmouth county. The meeting was joint with Yarmouth Town and municipality. Councillor Donaldson and I attended.

November 22. Attended the Christmas tree lighting at town hall. As usual, they have done a wonderful job in lighting up frost park. This year they had a special tree lit up in purple in memory of MaCali Cormier, the little girl killed in the Santa Claus parade in 2018.

November 25. Attended a executive meeting at Nakile to go over their pension plan proposals.

November 26. Had a meeting with staff from Compass Co op with an update of their work. They have one property in Shelburne which they will be converting into housing units and one in Barton which they are waiting on final closing of the deal. In October they took over a Dartmouth co op with 39 units. It was one that was struggling and were about to lose it , so Compass was able to save it. They are very interested in getting something done in our municipality

November 27. Attended a meeting with Wild Salt, CAO and our project manager to discuss and go over the class A estimate for the new admin building.

November 27. Nakile Board meeting

November 29. Attended the athletic awards at école par-en-bas. The event was very well attended. I would like to congratulate all the award recipients.

December 1. Attended our own Christmas tree lighting at the archives as well as the tree lighting in west Pubnico on Dec 4th. Both events were very well attended.

December 5. Attended Western Counties Library board meeting. Mahala Sears has been hired as Library Clerk at the Pubnico branch. Regular hours resumed on November 4th.

December 8. Attended the Christmas tree lighting at the Quinan club.

December 9. Attended waste check board meeting.

Recorded a Christmas greeting with CJLS on behalf of council and staff which will be aired daily

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2020

Staff Report

CAO Muise gave a brief highlight of the staff report attached to these minutes. Tender for new municipal building will go out in January 2020. Will provide public with additional information about design and look of new municipal building.

Report Attached (121002)

For Decision

Tax Relief

Properties that will be taken off the tax roll.

It is moved by Richard Donald and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont to approve the tax relief in the amount of \$328.44 as presented.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

COCMA 2024 -Board of Directors

Warden Muise briefly highlighted the board of directors.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque to approve the COCMA 2024 Board of Directors as presented

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Active Transportation Committee

CAO Muise explained that because it's a sub committee of Council a motion to approve members should be made.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Lucien LeBlanc to accept the committee members for the AT Committee as listed.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque to accept that Councilor Diggdon sit on the AT Committee.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Nakile-Partial tax exemption

Warden Muise explained the letter provided by Nakile. CAO Muise gave a brief explanation of the tax exemption and that it does not include the area rate. This only includes property taxes.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Nakile be approved for partial exemption status capped at \$25,000 as per the current year.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

License Agreement - MODA and Hubert Pothier

CAO Muise explained the License agreement as presented. Details of where the trail is located was provided. Very generous of land owner to provide the land for this purpose.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to approve that the CAO obtain legal advice, and be given authority to sign the license agreement between the Municipality and Hubert and Phyllis Pothier for access to PID 90049032 on Belleville Road

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and for Information

Rural Internet-Western group INSI

No action, for information.

Thank you letter-Kemptville Bicentennial Society

No action, for information.

Accessibility Act

CAO Muisse gave an overview of the Act and how this Act will impact restaurants. Municipalities will have to have a plan in place by 2021. Councillor Diggdon mentioned that there are grants/funds available to help with accessibility.
No action, for information.

Thank you letter-West Side Improvement Society.

No action, for information.

Municipal Affairs & Housing-Ad for board member for Western Regional Housing Authority

No action, for information.

Yarmouth County Landfill Income Statement

No action, for information.

Western Counties Regional Library Board Minutes

No action, for information.

Yarmouth & Area Chamber of Commerce-Letter of Support

No firm date on closure of Web.com. CAO Muisse confirmed that the closure will be gradual over time. Talks about other companies taking over are positive but nothing confirmed. Council will wait for partners to reach out.
No action, for information

Financial Requests

Jeux de l'Acadie Regionaux

CAO Muisse explained the request from Jeux de l'Acadie Regionaux.

It is moved by Lucien LeBlanc and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont to approve the CAO go back to the committee and offer that the funds of \$10,000 come from the surplus reserve.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

CAO wants Council to look at all capitol projects in January and decide if the priorities and order of the project are good or does Council need to make adjustment or alterations.

Question Period

None

In Camera

It is moved by Kathy Bourque to go in-camera to discuss the Ferry Terminal at 8:09 pm

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by consensus to give direction for solicitor Real Boudreau to respond to the ferry terminal letter as it is a political issue.

Motion Carried (6 in favour, 0 against)

Councillor Leblanc excused himself from the 2nd portion of the meeting

There being no further business, it is moved by Consensus to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 8:32PM.

Recorder

Lori Murphy

Date Approved:

Chairman/Warden

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer
