

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, April 26, 2022
Council Chambers, Tusket, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright, Councillors: Calvin d'Entremont, Glenn Diggdon, Kathy Bourque, Richard Donaldson, Gordon Boudreau, Ted Saulnier, Guy Surette; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Scott Surette, and Executive Assistant/Recorder Chantalle Newell.

Regrets: none.

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright.

2. Approval of Agenda/Conflict of Interest Declaration

a. Agenda

On a motion by Councillor Kathy Bourque and seconded by Councillor Ted Saulnier the agenda is approved as circulated.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

b. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Deputy Warden Nicole Albright asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor. None declared.

3. Presentation – Eel Brook Fire Department

Mr. Jonathan LeBlanc, the Eel Brook Fire Department Fire Chief was present to make a presentation to Council regarding the building of the new fire hall. He indicated that the tender package should be out in the middle of May. The mortgage should also be secured in the coming weeks. They are receiving their new pumper soon as well. Mr. LeBlanc is asking for funding for safety related things, such as new lockers that are required for their gear according to NFPA guidelines and an extractor washer that is meant to wash their gear rather than just a regular front load washer. CAO Muise mentioned that once the fire department received 71.66% of their HST back, the total cost would be around \$175,000.

Deputy Warden Nicole Albright thanked Jonathan for his service and mentioned they would discuss it at a later time.

His presentation is attached. (042601)

4. Adoption of Minutes

a. 142nd Annual Council Meeting Minutes – April 12, 2022

It is moved by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Warden Danny Muise to approve the 142nd Annual Council Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2022.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

5. Business Arising from Minutes

a. Proclamation Policy (Lyme Disease Awareness Month)

Deputy CAO Surette outlined this request. At the last Council meeting, Council advised staff to check to see if there was a proclamation policy. After staff's assessment, it was determined that there was talk of drafting a proclamation policy but there was nothing that came from that. Council passed a proclamation last year for Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

It is moved by Councillor Richard Donaldson and seconded by Warden Danny Muise to have staff draft a proclamation policy indicating that Council will not pass anymore proclamation requests.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

Attachment 042602

6. For Decision

a. Article C39 – Community Litter Cleanup Policy

Councillor Kathy Bourque asked a question around the number of kilometers to be cleaned in the municipality. She asked if there are kilometers leftover to be cleaned, if groups can clean them even if they didn't put an application in by the deadline. CAO Muise and Executive Assistant Newell explained that they could not see a problem with that, however, groups that put applications in by the deadline will have priority

It is moved by Councillor Richard Donaldson and seconded by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve the Community Litter Cleanup Policy as presented.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

b. Article C40 – Flag Protocol Policy Amendments

Council has been presented with two options to amend the flag protocol policy. The first option is to amend the policy to have five flags flying at the Municipal Administration Building. The second option is to have Special Flag Request flags replace the Acadian Flag from January 1-June 30 and from July 1-December 31 have the special flag replace the Mi'kmaq flag. Council debated this in great detail and eventually came to a decision.

It is moved by Councillor Richard Donaldson and seconded by Councillor Glenn Diggdon to pass the first option presented to have 5 flags flying at the Municipal Administration Building. This is considered a 7-day notice.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 1 against)

7. Notice to Council

a. Article C34 – Fire Services Capital Grant Program

CAO Muise explained this policy and advised council that this is considered their 7-day notice to consider this policy.

It is moved by Councillor Kathy Bourque and seconded by Councillor Richard Donaldson to pass the 7-day notice of this policy.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

b. Article C47 – Fire Services Registration Policy

CAO Muise explained this policy and advised council that this is considered their 7-day notice to consider this policy.

It is moved by Councillor Guy Surette and seconded by Councillor Glenn Diggdon to pass the 7-day notice to consider this policy.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

8. Correspondence and for information

a. Municipality of Barrington proposed amendments regarding Agricultural uses.

CAO Muise received correspondence from CAO Frotten at the Municipality of Barrington regarding their proposed amendments regarding Agricultural uses. No action is requested from Council.

b. Annual Accountability Report – Yarmouth County Trail Development Association.

This item is for information. No action is required from Council.

c. Draft Capital Budget 2022-2023

CAO Muise explained there was no action required upon council. This is just for information and will be revisited at the budget deliberation meetings.

d. Marc Periard

It is moved by Councillor Richard Donaldson and seconded by Councillor Kathy Bourque to have Marc Periard come down and interview some of Argyle's residents.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

9. Financial Requests – None.

10. Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motions by Councillors – None.

11. Question Period – None.

12. In Camera – MGA 22:2 (e) Contract Negotiations

It is moved by Councillor Kathy Bourque and seconded by Councillor Richard Donaldson to recess the Committee of the Whole Meeting and go to the In-Camera portion of the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

Council recessed the In-Camera portion of the meeting to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

13. Adjournment

It is unanimously moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:49 p.m.
Motion Carried. (9 in favour, 0 against)

Respectfully Submitted,

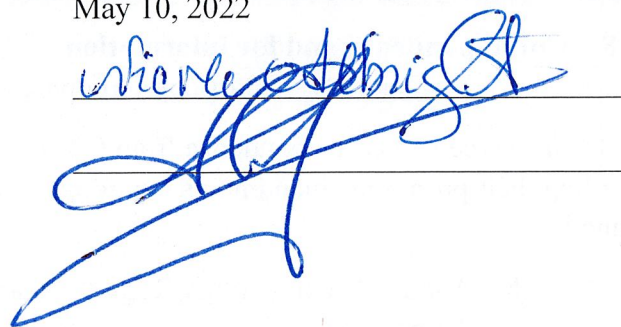
Chantalle Newell, Executive Assistant/Recorder

Date Approved:

May 10, 2022

Chairwoman/ Deputy Warden

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alain Muise", is written over two horizontal lines. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Construction of New Fire Hall

Attachment 042601



FIRE BROOK & DISTRICTS FIRE DEPT.

Project History

- Original plans included many rooms that would have provided benefits to the community we serve.
 - Comfort centre
 - Meeting room
 - Laundry facility
 - Public shower
 - Fitness centre
- Funding could not be secured to construct the new station as originally designed.
- Several revisions and alterations were made to the design of the floor plan in order to attempt to reduce cost.
- Increasing costs during the time of Covid made this process extremely difficult.
- Several attempts were made at all levels of government over the last few years to attempt to secure government grants and assistance, none were found to be available that matched our project criteria.
- With hard work put forth by all parties involved we were able to create a floor plan that fell within our abilities to finance the project.

Moving Forward

- We are currently making final arrangements to secure a mortgage to fund the construction project.
- Once a mortgage is secured we will have enough funding to complete construction of the new building.
- This will allow us to house our existing equipment including our new pumper/recue which should be arriving very soon, and give our members a safe place to work from, without fear or worry of structural instability.
- What our current funding does not account for is equipment to be used in daily operations and member safety.
- We will also be taking it upon ourselves to furnish the new station with the remaining items required, office furniture, filing cabinets, tables, chairs, etc.

Safety Improvements

- There are several pieces of equipment that would be required to function within the guidelines of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), whose rules and guidance direct the operations of the fire service, as well as some that are required for daily operations.
- On top of allowing us to function at a higher level of service, and providing additional safety for our members, much of this equipment could be beneficial to the entire fire service in the municipality as a whole.
- Cancer is now considered to be the number one killer of firefighters, having taken over this grim statistic from cardiac arrest. The province of Nova Scotia has recently included an additional 13 types of cancer to presumptive coverage for workplace injury insurance, bringing the total to 19 types of cancer.
- Proper equipment to wash our ppe is necessary to help reduce exposure to carcinogens and maintain a safe work environment for our members. An extractor washer is the proper method to achieve this, a regular residential or commercial washing machine is not sufficient to perform this function. Currently there are no extractor washers within the municipality and this piece of equipment could service the fire service as a whole within the municipality.
- Proper bunker gear storage is the other crucial piece of equipment needed and allows for the off gassing of ppe after a fire call. The gasses that come off of our gear after a fire call contain high levels of carcinogens and without adequate ventilation and space to off gas these carcinogens do not dissipate properly.
- Other precautions we are taking to help with this issue are changes to our procedures and policies, such as additional cleaning on the apparatus bay floor and procedures to decontaminate on scene before leaving an emergency scene.

Equipment Needs

- Many departments are now switching their breathing air equipment to larger pressure ratings allowing members to be more productive on an emergency scene. We are in the process of looking at doing the same thing now. 4500 PSI bottles currently carry a cost of \$2,214.77 each.
- With this in mind we have included a larger cascade system on our new apparatus which will be arriving soon. This larger system will provide us with the ability to fill these bottles at emergency scenes which has not been possible up to this point.
- The larger cascade system however requires a larger compressor to fill it and currently there are none locally that operate to the required pressures to make full use of this system. The addition of this compressor would be a large benefit to all the departments in the area.
- Additionally we have not yet acquired enough funding for a standby generator. This generator would allow us to function to the level of service required to respond to emergencies even during prolonged power outages as well as maintaining the ability to use other new equipment to keep our members safe and healthy after the completion of a call to service.
- The final urgently needed piece of equipment we still require funding for is a structure for us to mount our radio antennas and paging equipment on. This equipment is used to dispatch our members when there is a call for service during emergencies where residents of the district require assistance. Our intention is to install a 60 foot utility pole to mount this equipment on. By using a utility pole instead of our existing tower we ensure down time for the switch over is kept to a minimum, less maintenance would be required and there is less liability involved as it would not be something the public could climb easily as could be the case with a traditional tower.

Equipment Costs

Item	Cost
Extractor washer	\$ 15,525.00
Bunker gear stalls (35 compartments)	\$ 20,884.29
Cascade system & compressor – 6000 PSI	\$ 55,044.75
Standby generator – 48 Kilowatt	\$ 25,418.75
Radio Antenna pole - 60'	\$ 11,787.50
HST	\$ 19,299.04
Total	\$ 147,919.33

Additional Equipment Considerations

- Several other pieces of equipment would be of incredible value to aid our department function at peak capacity.
- Bunker gear dryer – Although PPE can air dry this process takes 48-72 hours, due to the large costs associated with purchasing bunker gear we are unable to provide a second set of gear to members to use while waiting for PPE to dry. A gear dryer will cut this time down to 12-16 hours.
- Hose washer – Although hoses can be washed with a brush and hose this is not as effective as using a hose washer to remove unburnt combustibles and carcinogens from the hoses used to combat fires.
- Stationary pressure washer – This equipment would help us to maintain our equipment, a building connected pressure washer allows us to use heated water, which makes things more efficient and easier to maintain apparatus and equipment especially after large calls to service. The ability to save time and keep equipment in clean and working order aids to increase pride and morale among the members of the department.
- Solvents / Flammable locker – The use of many types of liquids are required for everything from truck maintenance to fuel for equipment and cleaning of apparatus, equipment and the station. Many of these liquids have harmful or flammable properties and require a safe storage space which is properly secured and vented away from the spaces our members will be working in.
- Hose dryer – Hoses may be laid out on the apparatus bay floor to dry, this takes up a lot of space and requires much more time and work, as well as additional trips to the station, from our volunteer base who already give a substantial amount of their time to serve their communities.
- Hose/storage racks – Space to store spare hoses and additional equipment is vital in maintaining a clean and efficient work space to ensure operations perform at peak efficiency to best protect the communities we serve.

Additional Equipment Costs

Item	Cost
Bunker Gear Dryer	\$ 11,950.00
Hose Washer	\$ 1,540.10
Stationary Pressure Washer	\$ 11,375.60
Solvents/Flammables Cabinet	\$ 1,035.00
Hose Drying Racksg (2)	\$ 6,096.50
Hose / Storage Racks (3)	\$ 7,531.50
HST	\$ 5,929.31
Total	\$ 45,458.01

Request For Funding

- The equipment listed in this presentation would all be permanently connected to the building and therefore would be considered a part of the construction project.
- On top of the equipment listed in this presentation we would still be required to source other materials, equipment, furnishing and signage (interior/site signage), amongst a much larger list.
- As noted earlier many of these items would not only benefit Eel Brook & Districts Fire Department but the entire fire service throughout the municipality as a whole.
- On behalf of the members of the Eel Brook & Districts Fire Department we would like to request funding from the Canada's Community Building Fund (previously known as gas tax) in the amount of \$193,377.34 to purchase equipment as listed in this presentation.

Thank you

FEEL BROOK
& DISTRICTS





Municipality of the District of Argyle

Item: Proclamation Policy

Date: April 25, 2022

VISION

We see Argyle as home to a healthy and thriving rural population. Our municipality promotes and supports economic and social opportunities for the region and engages in the active expression of our unique Acadian heritage. We are a place of choice for rural living and are widely recognized for our warm hospitality and joie de vivre. Surrounded by fresh air and cool ocean breezes, we work and play in the great outdoors. People choose to live in Argyle because of our commitment to each other, to our community, and to our neighbors. Argyle is a place we are proud to call home.

Identified Concern

At the last Annual Council Meeting of April 12, 2022, council debated whether they should proclaim April as Lyme Disease Awareness Month. Council had advised staff to check to see if there was a draft policy regarding proclamation requests.

Background

After further review from staff regarding a proclamation policy, we were unable to identify a policy dealing with proclamations. Furthermore, we can confirm that council did pass a proclamation last April as Lyme Disease Awareness Month. It should also be noted that staff was able to find in previous minutes that council had considered to do a policy dealing with proclamations. However, our records do not indicate that there was ever a policy drafted.

We have reached out to other municipalities/towns regarding proclamation policies. We have heard from 4 different municipalities/towns

- Town of Digby: Does not entertain Proclamation request
- East Hants: Does not entertain Proclamation request
- Barrington: They add to agenda for information only. (No proclamation)
- Town of Amherst: They still do proclamations for certain groups

Recommendation

Council should decide whether they would like to consider proclamations or if they are not interested. If Council is not interested, then they should make a motion advising staff to draft a proclamation policy based on what they decide.