

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE

Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Zoom 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright; Councillors Calvin d'Entremont, Glenn Diggdon, Guy Surette, Gordon Boudreau, Ted Saulnier, Kathy Bourque, Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Project Coordinator Kim Rowley, and Municipal Clerk/Recorder Eilidh Canning.

Regrets: Councillor Richard Donaldson

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Warden Danny Muise.

Warden Danny Muise asked for a moment of silence for the remains of 215 children discovered on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia.

Agenda:

On a motion by Nicole Albright and seconded by Glenn Diggdon the agenda is approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Warden Danny Muise asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

None declared.

Adoption of Minutes

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – May 25, 2021

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the May 25, 2021, minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

Councillors Report

Deputy Warden Albright advised that she has attended regular Council meetings, Committee of the Whole meeting, met with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, met with the Argyle Recreation Commission, and lots of Mariners Center steering committee meeting. She also advised that the Mariners Center no longer has sub-committees, but rather has one Mariners Center Steering Committee. She also advised that the three units are working really well together.

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Councillor Diggdon advised he is working with individuals within the community for a new sign. He hopes this sign will be up within the next two weeks.

Councillor Bourque attended a Yarmouth Industrial Commission meeting, and the audit committee with the library. She also advised that walking groups will begin on a weekly basis and each community is looking for a champion for these walking groups. She also met with Municipal Affairs Minister.

Councillor Boudreau advised he received an email from a fifth grader wondering what we are going to do with the old Wedgeport School. He said he was a smart young man. He also advised Council that he attended a number of meetings.

Councillor Saulnier advised work has begun on the Comeau's Hill wharf. He has also attended the recreation meeting and attended the Accessibility Committee meeting.

Councillor d'Entremont advised that YASTA has the senior games scheduled for this year. He also advised that come June 2022 the Travel Writers conference is coming to the Yarmouth area. He then advised Council what the Travel Writers do.

Warden's Report

Warden Danny Muise reviewed his report, listed below.

May 12. Choice Housing Committee
May 12. Joint Council meeting
May 13. Regular Council meeting
May 14. Tri County Meeting regarding fishery issues
May 18. Mariners Center steering Committee
May 19. Mun Council in camera meeting
May 20. Mariners Center webinar with Max Chauvin
May 25. Mariners Center funding meeting
May 25. Meeting with RCMP and Dept of Fisheries re: indigenous fishing
May 25. Mariners Center meeting
May 25. Committee of the Whole
May 26. Meeting with the new Minister of Municipal Affairs
June 1. CDENE Board meeting
June 1. REMO. Executive Meeting
June 2. Mariners Center meeting

Staff Report

CAO Muise reviewed the staff report, as attached to the agenda.

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Attachment 060801

For Decision

Proclamation for recreation and parks month

It is moved by Ted Saulnier and seconded by Kathy Bourque to approve the proclamation for recreation and parks month, as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

RFD – Sewer Connection Support for West Pubnico Resident

Warden Danny Muise reviewed the RFD, as attached to the agenda which states that the Municipality received a sewer connection request from a resident living at 519 Hwy 335 in West Pubnico. The resident is still using an old on-site sewer and it is at the end of its life. After initial plan review, the connection as it seemed that the as-built drawings were showing an existing lateral for this existing house. Based on the Municipality's approval the owner hired an approved installer to proceed with the connection. The contractor had trouble locating the lateral, even with PW staff assistance. After further investigation along the main sewer line with CCTV, it was discovered that the lateral was not installed during the initial sewer installation in 1977. To allow for a gravity connection the owner would be required to run the lateral through her yard alongside Hwy 335 and then cross under the Hwy 335 to connect to an existing manhole. The By-Law reads that the owner is responsible for all cost for the installation of a connection to the sewer including crossing any public road and are responsible for the re-instatement of paving and all related permits. In this individual case we are dealing with an existing home that was built prior the installation of the sewer main line and the lateral installation was not performed during the initial construction phase, even though it was on the design drawings.

Due to this error from 1977 and disadvantage to the owner, The Municipality is prepared to support the homeowner with the cost and contractor selection for the work within the road right of way, as it has been done for other residents and business owners in the community recently. Based on the recent lateral upgrade work on Franks Rd., the estimated costs will be around \$5,000 to \$6,000 to install a residential 100mm (4" diameter) lateral within the road right of way to create a connection for the resident.

After some discussion, Council decided to proceed with a motion.

It is moved by Calvin d'Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council accepts the exemption of the property at 519 Hwy 335, West Pubnico from the Bylaw and approves the installation of a sewer lateral within the public road right of way to cover the cost of bringing the lateral to the property at no cost to the homeowner.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

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RFD - New Sewer Connection Request– West Pubnico Sewer – John Street

Warden Danny Muise advised Council of the details of this request, which is within the RFD attached to this agenda.

Details are as follows:

In March 2021, MODA received a sewer connection request for a property on John Street in West Pubnico and after initial review staff realized that this connection request has a bit of history with the Municipality and the owner of the lot. MODA clarified all required formalities and resolved a few unfinished items to incorporate this end of the sewer line into our operation. This end was outside of Municipal By-Law regulations and needed a separate easement to provide MODA staff with access to the sewer line for future maintenance.

The owner is requesting a new sewer connection for a property that they intend to develop over the next year or two. The sewer lateral exceeds the standard 150ft requirement of the By-Law and would need council's approval. Staff investigated the connection request in the field and has no concerns about the technical requirements to receive the sewage from the future residential dwelling. Due to the fact that the resident had installed the sewer extension on their own cost back in 1994, staff recommend waiving the connection fee and capital levy fee (value of \$1,211). This property is located along a private road and easements are provided for crossing neighboring properties.

After some discussion, Council decided to proceed with a motion.

It is moved by Calvin d'Entremont and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that Council is accepting the connection request and allows the resident to connect to the West Pubnico sewer because of the diligent process and establishment of necessary easements. The connection fee will be waived.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Nomination of Mariners Center Board

It is moved by Ted Saulnier and seconded by Nicole Albright that that Council approve Julien Boudreau as a newly elected member on the Mariners Center Board of Directors.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Wedgeport Crosswalk – authorization to write a letter to TIR to repaint

It is moved by Gordon Boudreau and seconded by Guy Surette that TIR paint the crosswalk into Ditcher Road and the Municipality will assume the cost of this paint job.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Gordon Boudreau and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that staff draft a letter to be sent to TIR to see if something can be done with regards to 'Cross walk ahead' signage for the crosswalk located on Ditcher Road in Wedgeport.

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Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

2nd reading - By-law 40 – Regional Emergency Management

Council discussed the draft Regional Emergency Management By-law 40 which was developed based on input from the Regional Emergency Management Coordinator. No questions raised and Council moved forward with a motion.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the Regional Emergency Management By-law 40 receive its second reading.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Article C41 – Complaints Management Policy – 7-day notice

CAO Muise advised Council that this policy is step one into an investment into a Complaints Management software. Staff is working on a proposal into a complaints management software, which will be brought to Council upon approval of the Complaints Management Policy.

Article C42 – Flag Policy – 7-day notice

Warden Muise advised Council of the details within the Flag Policy which is attached to this agenda. Councillor Surette asked CAO Muise if there was already a motion from 10 years ago. CAO Muise advised he will investigate. CAO Muise also advised that staff is investigating protocol on flag hanging and will advise Council if the policy needs to change to adhere to protocol.

Attachment 060802

Accessibility Plan Review

Warden Danny Muise reviewed the Memorandum attached to the agenda and advised Council that in order to ensure all requested changes and feedback is added to this Accessibility Plan, Council are to provide requested changes and/or feedback to Eilidh Canning and Kim Rowley by June 25, 2021. This will allow time for staff to incorporate requested changes, and present to Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting on June 29, 2021.

Mariners Center Resolution

Warden Danny Muise advised Council of the resolution attached to the agenda, which reads:

Whereas that the Mariners Center is a regional asset providing recreational, economic, social and health benefits to the Town of Yarmouth, Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, and the Municipality of the District of Argyle (Municipal Units of Yarmouth County);

Whereas the Town and Municipality of the District of Yarmouth are currently the co-owners of the Mariners Center, and that the Municipality of the District of Argyle provides annual operating funding to support the operation of the Mariners Center;

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Whereas the Municipal Units of Yarmouth County recognize the need for infrastructure replacement for recreational services delivered in the County in the area of aquatics and fitness;

Whereas the Municipal Units of Yarmouth County desire a regional approach to replace aquatic and fitness centers for the benefit of the County and its residents;

Whereas the Municipal Units of Yarmouth County also desire other expanded recreational services and will consider further investments if they meet our collective budget limitations;

Whereas the Municipal units of Yarmouth County collectively agree that the Mariners Center is the ideal location for an expansion of this nature;

Whereas the Municipal units of Yarmouth County have agreed to offer aquatic, fitness and other services temporarily at the former YMCA location on Main Street until such time as the Mariners Center expansion is adequately funded;

Whereas a funding application outlining all desired Mariners Center expansion options shall be submitted to the Governments of Canada through the “Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program” for consideration of financial support;

Whereas the Municipal Units of Yarmouth County have set an early budget, for the purposes of the GICB application, at 30 Million Dollars;

Whereas the Municipal Units of Yarmouth County shall also seek Provincial funding for this expansion;

Whereas the Municipal units of Yarmouth County are committed to funding up to 3.6 million dollars to cover their 30% municipal share of the Mariners Center expansion;

And Whereas the Municipality of Argyle is committed to public engagement to further inform our residents and the associated costs and benefits of the project,

Now therefore be it *resolved* that

1. The Municipality of Argyle agrees that the proportion of operational and capital funding for the Mariners Center expansion be expressed via written agreement, and shall be based on the following agreed upon cost sharing formula:

Town of Yarmouth	30.666%
Municipality of the District of Argyle	30.666%
Municipality of the District of Yarmouth	38.666%

This funding formula applies to both the capital budget and operating budget at Mariners on Main as well as the Mariners Center expansion on Starrs Road.

2. The Municipality of Argyle supports the funding application to the GICB Funding Program, and that the Mariners Center expansion is conditional on sufficient Federal and Provincial funding.
3. The project has 2 phases, a \$25 million phase and a \$5 million phase. These phases are in place to accommodate the maximum GICB project funding of \$25 million that is available.

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4. That the funding formula as expressed in item one be the same funding formula for the funding of the aquatic and fitness services temporarily located at “Mariners on Main”.
5. That the Municipality of Argyle consider the merits of ownership of the existing and expanded Mariners Center as part of their commitment to the project.
6. The Municipality of Argyle agrees to undertake a comprehensive public engagement process.
7. The Municipality of Argyle commits to open, respectful and transparent engagement with its regional partners and stakeholders through the implementation of the expansion project and in providing temporary services on Main Street.
8. The Municipality of Argyle is committed to a capital fund-raising and sponsorship strategy, either as lead, or as support, and in collaboration with community stakeholders engaged in this project.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Nicole Albright to pass Resolution 2021-06, as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Mariners Center Steering Committee funding agreement request for discretionary funds

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Ted Saulnier that the Mariners Center Expansion Committee, through the Mariners Center operations, be approved for up to \$30,666 of funding from the Municipality of the District of Argyle, relating to work required to apply for funding and other expenses related to advancing the expansion of the facility.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Water supply lending program - Increased funding request

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve an increase of the threshold to \$800,000 and we amend our policy for these enhancements, and work with our regional partners to apply a consistent approach.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and For Information

Department of Justice letter

No action, for information

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MOU – AGFT and MODA

No action, for information

Response letter from MLA Colton LeBlanc regarding 988 Crisis line

No action, for information

Financial Requests

District Community Grant Request of \$500 - Le Village historique acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse

It is moved by Calvin d'Entremont and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for Le Village historique acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse for outdoor improvements to allow for an outdoor experience.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

CAO Muise advised Council that information will be coming out regarding the Mosquito nuisance and updating residents on the work that has been done with the province thus far as well as the work that will be done.

Question Period

None.

In Camera

None.

There being no further business, it is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Gordon Boudreau to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 8:48p.m.

Recorder

Eilidh Canning

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____