

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE

Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, July 15, 2021

Zoom 6:30 p.m.

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

Regrets: None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Warden Danny Muise.

Warden Danny Muise asked for a moment of silence for Jim MacLeod, a Councillor with the Town of Yarmouth who passed away June 26th, 2021.

Agenda:

On a motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Richard Donaldson the agenda is approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Conflict of Interest Declaration

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

None declared.

Presentation – Jared Dalziel of WSP – Land Use Bylaw and Development Agreements Update

Jared Dalziel of WSP advised Council that The Municipality of Argyle has received a Development Agreement application from The Maritime Oyster Company Limited to enable a Marine Related – Aquaculture use along Highway 3, Eel Brook (PID 90110362).

The subject site is zoned Coastal Community (CC). The current Land Use By-law (LUB) permits indoor and outdoor aquaculture in heavy industrial, business park, community coastal industrial, and marine industrial zones. Staff are proposing a development agreement on the subject site (PID 90110362) to permit a shipping container on the property to be used for the grading of oysters prior to transfer.

It is moved by Glenn Diggon and seconded by Ted Saulnier that Council

- give first reading to consider approval of the proposed development agreement as contained in Attachment A of this report to allow for Marine Related – Aquaculture use on PID 90110362;

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- proceed to a public hearing without a second meeting of planning advisory committee unless substantial comments are received from the public;
- authorize staff to schedule a public hearing for the application.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Jared Dalziel then advised Council that The Municipality has received a Development Agreement application from Boatskeg Distilling Co. to enable an evening patio accessory to the craft distillery and lounge use on the property.

The subject site is split-zoned with Light Industrial (LI) above the ordinary high-water mark and Coastal Wetlands (CW) below the ordinary high-water mark. The current Land Use By-law (LUB) permits craft distilleries, lounge uses, and accessory evening patios which operate between 9am-9pm. Staff is proposing to go through the development agreement process for the subject site, 23 Du Pont Du Marais Chemin, in Middle West Pubnico, Nova Scotia (PID 90078452) to permit the patio component to operate past 9pm.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that Council give initial consideration to the Development Agreement Application from Boatskeg Distilling Co. to allow for an evening patio use to operate between 9pm-9am. Note that the terms of the development agreement will determine the permitted duration which may be used during this period.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

As a final update, Jared Dalziel advised Council that The Planning and Development Department has received a number of requests for changes to the newly adopted Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) policies and Land Use Bylaw (LUB) regulations. Along with requests received from the public, Municipal Staff have also identified errors, omissions or regulations which have proved to be unsuccessful. In total, 4 changes are considered for the Land Use Bylaw, and minor housekeeping amendments are proposed for the Municipal Planning Strategy.

The next step is to seek comments from the public on the changes which are outlined within this staff report prior to a public hearing.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council:

- give first reading to consider approval of the proposed amendments to the Land Use By-law as contained in the planner's report dated July 8, 2021;
- give first reading to consider approval of the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy as contained in the planner's report dated July 8, 2021;
- proceed to a public hearing without a second meeting of Planning Advisory Committee unless substantial comments are received from the public; and
- authorize staff to schedule a public hearing.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

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Attachment 071501

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes – June 08, 2021

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Richard Donaldson that the June 08, 2021, minutes of the Regular Council Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

Councillors Report

Deputy Warden Albright advised that the application was submitted as part of the Mariners Center Expansion Committee by July 6th, 2021. She also advised that Mariners on Main Street is still due to open in September and there is currently water in the pool. She then advised that the Doctor Recruitment coordinator Rebecca will be giving a presentation to our Council in September. She also advised Council that she attended two walks on July 1st in memory of the children's bodies found on the Residential school grounds. For recreation, day camps have started. Covid regulations keep changing and recreation is doing the best they can to adapt to these changes. She then advised of the free walking groups available in each community weekly.

Councillor Surette advised he attended regular meetings, the Mariners Center Expansion steering committee meeting, as well as the YAIC meeting.

Warden's Report

Warden Danny Muise reviewed his report, listed below.

June 8. CDENE Annual meeting

June 8. Reg council

June 9. Choice Housing Coalition

June 9. Mariners Center Steering Committee

June 10. CDENE SOUS-COMITÉ service à l'emploi

June 10. Starlight committee

June 11. Webinar on the cancer care announcement for Yarmouth Hospital

June 14. Waste Check meeting

June 16. Mariners Center steering committee

June 23. Mariners Center steering committee

June 29. Mariners Center steering committee

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June 29. Interview with CBC French regarding our new office building
June 30. Interview with CBC Information Morning regarding the new office building
July 6. Mariners Center steering committee meeting
July 6. REMO Executive Meeting
July 14 Choice Housing Committee

Staff Report

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

After reviewing the staff report, CAO Muise asked council for direction on priorities regarding an ACOA funding application. After some discussion, Council advised that the Hipson's Bridge is a priority, and the trails are secondary for this application. Council directed CAO Muise to have an application submitted for both projects but indicate the Hipson's bridge is priority one.

CAO Muise advised Council that it is not guaranteed funding, and there may be a cost sharing need within East Pubnico, if the Hipson's bridge is approved. If that is the case, it will be brought back to Council. There is no motion required for this, it is rather a consensus among Council.

Attachment 071502

For Decision

Article C42 – Flag Policy

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Ted Saulnier to approve the Flag Policy, as presented.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Article P26 – Workplace Wellness Policy

It is moved by Gordon Boudreau and seconded by Richard Donaldson to approve the Workplace Wellness policy, as presented.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Changes to the Traffic Signs Regulations – Letters request to TIR

Warden Muise advised Council that this effort was run by a group of young people, who wanted to ensure the Department of Transportation made bilingual Stop signs available for Acadian communities throughout Canada. He then advised that funding is available, however MODA will have to draft a letter of support for this initiative within our Municipality.

Councillor Diggdon advised that he thinks this effort will be great, however supports at no cost to the residents of the Municipality.

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It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that Council have staff provide a letter of support to the Department of Transportation advising our support for the installation of bilingual stop signs.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

HOPE Dial A Ride – Municipality of Argyle funding request

It is moved by Ted Saulnier and seconded by Guy Surette that Council cover the cost of \$4,368, which is not currently in the budget. This will be managed internally via a running total that is invoiced by HOPE to MODA as the service is used by our residents and will be specific to local service only for those in Wheelchairs. It will be invoiced monthly / quarterly basis.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

RFD – Lack of Cell Service within parts of the Municipality of Argyle

Warden Muise advised Council that Municipal staff has received growing concerns and complaints regarding the current cell phone service in our Municipality. Most of these complaints are shared verbally, with the thought that perhaps the Municipality would be able to find the proper contacts to raise these concerns.

CAO Muise advised Council that staff are certainly aware that there are communities in Argyle and Yarmouth that have little to no service. These communities (Quinan, Kempt especially) are fairly remote when considering their distance to some of the commercial centers, and the service providers have taken a position that there aren't enough users in these areas to justify an investment, to the dismay of the residents in those areas. Recently, the cell phone service issue has expanded in other more commonly lived areas; specifically, the Tusket and surrounding communities and West Pubnico and surrounding communities. The business community is also raising the lack of consistent and reliable cell service in some of our larger commercial communities, such as Tusket. In our move from our old location to the new, we noted a significant reduction in service. We are neighbors to major commercial operations in this area. Furthermore, there are many of our residents that travel through the Tusket community that have rising concerns on reliable service. The lack of reliable cell service has a direct impact on the effectiveness of business operations, which is progressively done with mobile phones and access to reliable communication. The concern is growing in our business community regarding further reduction in reliable service.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Nicole Albright that Council correspond with the cell phone service provider companies requesting their attention to the issue of non-reliable cell phone service in key communities in Argyle, and that the CAO report the findings to Council and residents.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Mariners Centre Expansion Steering Committee – Approval of Terms of Reference

Deputy Warden reviewed the Mariners Centre Expansion Steering Committee terms of reference, as attached to the agenda.

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It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Guy Surette that Council approve the Mariners Center Expansion Steering Committee Terms of Reference, as presented.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Attachment 071503

RFD – Glenwood Park and Parc des Jeunes Playground

Warden Muise reviewed the RFD attached to the agenda.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve the transfer of \$10,000 from the operating reserve to support the improvements to the Parc des Jeunes facility and an accessible floating dock to be located at Glenwood Park.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Attachment 071504

Wastewater Operator Job Posting

Warden Muise reviewed the RFD attached to the agenda and explained that staff requirements on wastewater management is changing. Currently, the Municipality has three level one trained wastewater operators currently employed by the Municipality. A level one operator takes some time to train and is a necessary background for wastewater work in our municipality.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that the CAO be authorized to fill a second full time position of wastewater operator, with the principal responsibility in West Pubnico.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Summer Meetings

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council recess for the summer but reconvene if deemed necessary by the Warden and CAO.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Correspondence and For Information

Construction Notification – Refurbishment of Tusket Falls Main Dam

No action, for information

Western Counties Regional Library Annual Report

No action, for information

Western Counties Regional Library Newsletter

No action, for information

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WREN – 2021 Annual Report

No action, for information

YCCHB Report to Community 2020-2021

No action, for information

Financial Requests

District Community Grant Request of \$500 – Green Grove Cemetery Association

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for Green Grover Cemetery Association for improvements related to the cemetery.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

District Community Grant Request of \$500 – Immaculate Conception Cemetery

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for Immaculate Conception Cemetery for improvements related to the cemetery.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

District Community Grant Request of \$500 – Laurel Hills Cemetery

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Nicole Albright that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for Laurel Hills Cemetery for improvements related to the cemetery.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

District Community Grant Request of \$500 – New Horizons Historical Seaside Park Association

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for New Horizons Historical Seaside Park Association for improvements at the park.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

District Community Grant Request of \$500 – West Pubnico Fire Fighters Club

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Calvin d’Entremont that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for West Pubnico Fire Fighters Club to fix signs on the hall and some repairs in the club.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

District Community Grant Request of \$500 – Nouveaux Horizons de la Baronnie

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Guy Surette that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for Nouveaux Horizons de la Baronnie for assisting with the costs of social events.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

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Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

CAO Muise advised that at a future Council meeting, the New Port Co. information will be presented to Council. This will likely occur in September 2021.

Question Period

None.

In Camera

None.

There being no further business, it is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 8:30p.m.

Recorder

Eilidh Canning

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____