

**Municipality of the District of Argyle
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Tuesday, November 23, 2021
Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright; Councillors Glenn Diggdon, Guy Surette, Calvin d'Entremont, Gordon Boudreau, Richard Donaldson, Ted Saulnier and Kathy Bourque, Facilities and Maintenance Supervisor Kyle Boudreau, Administrative Assistant / Recorder Chantalle Newell

Regrets: Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise and Municipal Clerk Eilidh Canning

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright.

Agenda:

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

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Deputy Warden Nicole Albright asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

None declared.

Presentation

Gordon and Doug from Hope Dial a Ride

HOPE began in 1980 when a group of people saw the need for support for residents who may have physical or intellectual challenges. At first, HOPE assisted the public by helping them with their resumes, preparing income tax forms and job searching. HOPE has always served as an advocacy group for people with disabilities. HOPE Dial A Ride was created in the late 1990s to fill the necessity of people needing reliable, affordable and dependable transportation. It started out as a small service with 1 vehicle, and it is now a huge service with 8 fleet vehicles, doing pre-booked, door-to-door transportation, ensuring you safely get to and from your destination. HOPE Dial a Ride is licensed to offer province-wide transportation.

Gordon stated that seniors, students, wheelchair dependent residents, people needing dialysis, patients who need to travel out of town for non-urgent medical appointments and people needing to shop or socialize currently use their service. HOPE Dial a Ride currently brings several dialysis patients to and from their appointments 3 times a week. HOPE Dial a Ride works with their clients to meet their needs.

HOPE Dial a Ride currently has a total of 11 staff members working for them. All drivers have a minimum class 4 license. Gordon expressed that his staff are trained to do this job. HOPE Dial a Ride would love to start doing scheduled shopping trips, such as from out of town to in town, or even going as far as Halifax to the mall. Gordon stated they would love doing sight-seeing tours during Christmas time to look at Christmas lights or during the Fall time to look at the colours of fall in our area. HOPE Dial a Ride would like to

eventually start doing Saturday trips. Gordon mentioned that if they can operate on Saturdays, they can start looking at doing another dialysis trip on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Due to them not being open on Saturday, they are unable to provide their services to the other group of people needing dialysis.

Gordon stated that van purchases and the technology needed to run their business is a challenge for them, as well as operational costs, such as fuel, insurance, repairs. He stated there are many challenges they face.

Warden Muise asked where HOPE's funding comes from. Gordon stated that their capital funding comes from their own resources and the province. There is a government program that they use that covers quite a bit of their operational costs. HOPE also fundraises and generates revenue. Warden Muise also asked about their fares. Gordon stated that there is a flat rate for anyone within town.

Gordon mentioned that the majority of calls they get are residents going to town for medical appointments or for shopping, however they do get many other calls, such as for socialization, family events, funerals, weddings, etc...

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, November 9, 2021

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that the Tuesday, November 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Special Council Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, November 17, 2021

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the Wednesday, November 17, 2021 Special Council meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

For Decision and Discussion

Pubnico Head Carpool Parking lot

Councillor Bourque expressed concern at the last meeting regarding the Pubnico Head Carpool Parking lot. She has since talked to Waste Check, asking for Department of Highways to clean it out for safety reasons. It has since been cleaned up by Department of Highways. She expresses that there is a need to keep this clean for people's safety.

Councillor Diggdon expressed concern for the lack of lighting within that parking lot. He states that people are parking on the side of the road closer to the highway where it is better lighted. Councillor Diggdon put forward a motion to write a letter to the MLA expressing concern regarding lack of lighting within this parking lot.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Kathy Bourque to write a letter to the MLA expressing concern for the lack of lighting within the Pubnico Head carpool parking lot.

(Motion Carried, 9 in favour, 0 against)

Lack of plowing by Nova Scotia Public Works concern for the Chemin de L'Est Seniors Residence in Wedgeport.

Councillor Boudreau expressed concerns at the last meeting for the Seniors Home on the Chemin de L'Est in Wedgeport. He stated that this road does not get plowed regularly during storms and often times leaves residents missing medical appointments. Councillor Boudreau would like to see this road get plowed at the same time that the main road gets plowed. He put forward a motion to write a letter to Nova Scotia Department of Public Works expressing concern.

It is moved by Gordon Boudreau and seconded by Ted Saulnier to write a letter to the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works expressing concern for the lack of plowing on the Chemin de L'Est.

(Motion Carried, 9 in favour, 0 against)

Properties at 27 Courthouse Road, Tusket and 6 acres of vacant land adjacent and to the east of 27 Courthouse Road.

For information only. No decisions needed to be made at this time.

Attachment

Correspondence and for Information

A letter from NS Health

No action, for information.

Renamed or Newly Created Private Roads in Argyle

No action, for information.

Yarmouth County Ground Search and Rescue – Santa Claus coming to Skype

No action, for information.

Financial Requests

District Community Grant Request - \$500 for Argyle Mount Pleasant Cemetery

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that Council approve the District Community Grant request of \$500 for Argyle Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

Warden Muise asked about not having regular council meetings for the month of December. Council agreed to just have special meetings for the month of December when needed, and the next regular Council meeting will be Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

Ted Saulnier stated that there is a property line in Plymouth that is close to the school. It is very close to the tennis court. He mentioned this might become problematic and he would like to have it added as an agenda topic at the next meeting.

Question Period

None.

In Camera

None.

There being no further business, it is moved by Ted Saulnier and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 7:28 PM.
(Motion Carried, 9 in favour, 0 against)

Recorder
Chantalle Newell

Date Approved:

Chairman/Warden

Eilidh Canning, Municipal Clerk