



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Committee of the Whole
May 26, 2015 6:00p.m.
Sanford Council Chambers

Present:	G. Cochrane	Chair
	R. Dauphinee	Warden
	S. Pineo	Councillor
	R. Matheson	Councillor
	T. Brown	Councillor
	J. Daniels	Councillor
	V. Swinamer	Councillor
	R. Allen	Councillor
	C. Osborne	CAO
	M. Laycock	Director of Finance
	K. Kehoe	Director of Recreation
	R. Sherrard	Director of Public Works
	J. Bourque	Planner
	R. Brown	Municipal Clerk
	J. Woodman	Administrative Assistant

Guests:	J. Orr	
	Sherry Allen	West Hants Historical Society
	T. Ashley	WELL Creative Consultants
	S. Davis	WELL Creative Consultants

There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

1. Call to Order
2. Announcements

Chair Cochrane reviewed the fire regulation procedures for the Council Chambers.

3. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk requested to add Special Elections District 8 under New Business.

MOVED and SECONDED that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried.



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4. Approval of Minutes

MOVED and SECONDED that the minutes of May 26, 2015 be approved as circulated, noting any errors or omissions.

Motion Carried.

5. Presentation (s)

J. Orr gave a PowerPoint presentation on commemorating those who served from this district in WWI.

Warden Dauphinee suggested this was an excellent idea and that the Municipality should endorse it.

J. Orr encouraged individuals to contribute to the project by itemizing the memories and memorabilia of those who died to the West Hants Historical Association.

MOVED and SECONDED that the correspondence be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council that the Municipality provide a letter of support of the project to document the fallen of the First World War of Hants County.

Motion Carried.

6. Hearing (s) – Dangerous & Unsightly – None

There were no hearings.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

8. Reports of the CAO



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a) Communication Strategy

CAO Osborne reported that she and C. Remme have been working on a communications strategy. She indicated they have engaged the services of a communications specialist from WELLS Creative who have provided an introduction of an approach the Municipality could take to reengage and build on with the community. She noted that the WELL Creative representatives are going to give a presentation and she requested that Councillors listen and then at the June Council meeting she will provide a formal report. She cautioned if the Municipality would like to display signs on the highway promoting the area it would be approximately a \$22,000 investment.

S. Davis explained the WELL is a large group of designers, writers, and creative talents working with businesses and organizations throughout Nova Scotia. He expressed the importance of community engagement. He indicated this is a process they have tried and tested in many different places and believes it would be useful to really bring out the things that make West Hants the best of everything.

He noted one of the pieces they have talked about in length is being able to really bring the good out which means talking to everyone who helps achieve this. He noted they are proposing graphic facilitation. He explained this is about working together in rooms to reach solutions and doesn't allow for grievances which he feels aren't helpful. He added the outcome is a series of drawings which are then interpreted and help fuel everything throughout the process.

He advised West Hants approved a vision which is to be the most appealing, engaged well managed community in Nova Scotia, adding everything he's talking about this evening is moving towards that vision. He suggested it is important to hear all the good things and any concerns moving forward.

He referred to the brand narrative development and suggested this is the most important part of the project. He noted the visual campaign will determine what will work best after public consultations are completed to feature the subject matter that is most important to people who live here. He indicated when completed there should be a public unveil where everyone is included.

CAO Osborne pointed out that about 60% of residents in Nova Scotia do not have affordable access to the internet, and cautioned this should be considered when trying to reach the public. She felt this was the beginning of a long term community engagement towards addressing some of the issues in the past.



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Councillor Daniels stated that the Chamber of Commerce did a branding initiative and suggested that a lot of residents see us as a unified region. She offered it may be feasible to pick up where the Chamber of Commerce left off. Councillor Pineo expressed that the citizens want to know what is happening and currently feel that Council is doing things behind their back. She suggested that it is very important that they know they are getting the facts on all issues of concern.

Chair Cochrane thanked Mr. Davis and Ms. Ashley for their presentation.

Director of Finance Report

a) Actual Budget Variance Report

MOVED and SECONDED that the Actual Budget Variance Report be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

M. Laycock, Director of Finance reported the MTT grant is lower than he had anticipated and after reviewing the document he noted it was based on last year's commercial rate. He clarified at this time that is the only major variance he anticipates when moving forward with the budget. He confirmed the department is preparing the annual tax bills to be sent out.

He reported the auditors are scheduled for June 8 for one week and then to come back the week of June 22. He anticipates a draft in late July, noting their department has been working to pull all the information requested by the auditors.

b) Temporary Borrowing Resolution

MOVED and SECONDED that the correspondence dated May 22, 2015 regarding Temporary Borrowing Resolution be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council to approve the temporary borrowing resolution for the amount of \$1.2 million to purchase an aerial fire apparatus.

Councillor Pineo declared a conflict of interest as her son is the Deputy Chief of the Brooklyn Fire Department.



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Motion Carried.

9. Reports of Other Committees

Friends of Ferals Program – Referral Council

CAO Osborne advised this item was addressed during the grant contributions discussion and a request was made to refer it to Committee of the Whole for further consideration. Councillor Pineo indicated that she had spoken with the SPCA and had been advised that some changes will occur for SPCA Nova Scotia and this fall all money will go to the province for distribution. She mentioned she would continue to work on the matter and suggested that if someone could set themselves up as a non for profit organization it would be beneficial to the program. She advised that she has had many residents express their disappointment that the program is still not ongoing as it was beneficial to the community.

Councillor Daniels clarified the Friends of Ferals Program is still going under the direction of Dr. Sue Walker noting that the Saint Mary's veterinarian looks after the SPCA and are two separate entities. She indicated Dr. Walker had no interest in forming a society at this time due to the red tape involved. She suggested the program is still going strong and well received by the community as a whole. It was agreed no action is to be taken at this time on the matter.

10. Correspondence

a. May 20, 2015 – Kevin Arenburg – Sidewalks for Brooklyn Hants County

MOVED and SECONDED that the correspondence dated May 20, 2015 from Kevin Arenburg be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Matheson agreed with many of Mr. Arenburg's concerns, but cautioned the issue would be who pays. He agreed there is a lot of traffic and pedestrian traffic in Brooklyn and agreed sidewalks would be an asset. CAO Osborne reminded the roads in Brooklyn are managed by the provincial government however with permission an area rate could be created for sidewalks. She noted that other municipalities create criteria to establish which properties would be affected within establish a geographic areabased on who would mostly benefit and then an area rate is applied to those properties. R. Sherrard advised if the Municipality were to entertain the desire for sidewalks it would come by way of a petition



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from the community under the Street Improvement By-law. He added the community would decide what they were looking for and if the petition and request meets all the criteria and it would be forwarded to Council for consideration. The Director of Recreation was asked if sidewalks in Brooklyn would fit within the Active Trails Plan. Kathy Kehoe, Director of Recreation felt sidewalks would fit in the plan as they encourage people to be active and walk more often.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council that staff be directed to respond Mr. Kevin Arenburg outlining the process to make a formal request for sidewalks and some of the problems which may arise.

Motion Carried.

b. May 16, 2015 – Connie Davidson – Let's Talk Trash

MOVED and SECONDED that the correspondence dated May 16, 2015 from Connie Davidson regarding Let's Talk Trash be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

It was agreed that Ms. Davidson and her group are to be commended for the work that they have done to clean up the community. It was agreed that this is a significant issue in Nova Scotia and should be addressed. Councillor Daniels asked that consideration be given at the landfill to those volunteers collecting litter so they don't have to pay the tipping fees.

CAO Osborne suggested that the province needs to partner with the municipalities to ensure this issue is recognized and promote a cleanup initiative. She suggested that she would take the matter to a department head meeting to establish a plan to engage the community and the other players in the process.

Councillor Pineo pointed out that in the past the Department of Transportation has provided volunteers materials to clean up their communities and at that time the landfill was owned by Waste Management they would take the waste at no charge, and she suggested that GFL be approached with a similar agreement. Councillor Matheson agreed that he has never seen the litter issue been such a problem as this year, and reminded that the province should be encouraged to establish a provincial campaign asking people to stop littering. He added that the Municipality should also promote this via its media outlets, or an insert in the tax bills.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council that staff be asked to write a letter to the Minister of the local government requesting that they



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engage in a campaign to encourage the public not to litter copied to the regional chairs, Resource Recovery Fund Board and the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities.

Motion Carried.

He suggested that a second letter should then be sent once staff establishes a plan on how to participate and assist with the cause.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council that staff be directed to formulate a plan to encourage residents not to litter.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Pineo suggested that the Waste Coordinator could incorporate this message into the schools as well and promote the children to be more aware littering.

Chair Cochrane suggested that the Municipality should also prepare a resolution to be submitted to UNSM to seek support in the cause for all of Nova Scotia. CAO Osborne suggested that the Municipality should establish what it can do to help with the issue and then invite others to participate.

c. April 24, 2015 – Bruce Morrison – Municipality of the County of Victoria

MOVED and SECONDED that the correspondence dated April 24, 2015 Bruce Morrison – Municipality of Victoria be received and place on file.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council to write a letter of support for the Municipality of the County of Victoria's letter to the Honourable Stephen McNeil regarding the Nova Scotia Film Industry and the recent provincial budget to be copied to Honorable Diana Whalen, Honourable Lena Metlege Diab, Honourable Mark Furey, and Pam Eyking, MLA, Victoria-The Lakes.

Motion Carried.



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d. April 2015 – Municipal Provincial Priorities Group

MOVED and SECONDED that the correspondence dated April 2015 Municipal Provincial Priorities Group be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

Warden Dauphinee reported this group was established from the Regional Chairs, Department of Environment, and Municipal Affairs to discuss extended producer responsibility and to determine who pays. He explained there is seven districts in Nova Scotia for waste, noting there are a couple districts that do not have enough funds to continue to do business.

11. Miscellaneous/New Business

a. Special Elections

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk reported information will be presented at the June 9th Council meeting to approve the upcoming Municipal Election for District 8. She noted one will be to approve a new set of Tariff of Fees and Expenses for Elections, adding the last she could find was in 1991 and there have been some amendments since then via motions made by Council. She advised she would like to present a new one for Council's approval on June 9th and requested to give notice to rescind the previous one this evening.

MOVED and SECONDED to give notice to rescind the Tariff of Fees and Expense Pursuant to Section 126 of the Municipal Elections Act, passed by Council May 14, 1991, and any other motions pursuant to this topic.

Motion Carried.

12. In Camera Session

There were no in camera sessions.

13. Date of Next Meeting – June 23, 2015

14. Adjournment



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MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Gary Cochrane, Chair

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk