

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday December 8th, 2020
Zoom 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Danny Muise; Deputy Warden Nicole Albright; Councillors Guy Surette, Gordon Boudreau, Richard Donaldson, Glenn Diggdon, Ted Saulnier and Kathy Bourque, Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise.

Regrets: Calvin d'Entremont

The meeting was called to order at 6:32p.m. by Warden Danny Muise

Agenda:

On a motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Nicole Albright the agenda was approved as amended. Request to move the in-camera item Le Village historique acadien de la Nouvelle-Écosse to the regular meeting.

Motion Carried (7 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-Aquaculture Development Area

Charlene LeBlanc and Alix d'Entremont spoke about Argyle's Business Park on the Sea. It originated about 5 years ago. Data was collected and mapped so that they could get a true picture of how ideal the area would be for growing shellfish. The Municipality and the Province signed an MOU. It stated that we would work together to develop an aquaculture development area. It's expected that this work will be submitted to Cabinet in February 2021. If approved, it will be the first of its kind in Canada.

The definition of an Aquaculture Development Area (ADA) is an area of water, that has been identified following a thorough assessment, as an area suitable for aquaculture and will be pre-approved for specific types of aquaculture.

Alix d'Entremont spoke about the specific area of analysis. The primary productivity testing was done at four specific sites.

They use Go-Pro technology to look at the ocean floor. Charlene spoke about Eel grass and the importance of it.

Comments from Council commending Charlene and Alix on their excellent work. Still waiting on primary productivity data. This will allow them to decide how many oysters can be grown in the certain areas.

Adoption of Minutes

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – November 24, 2020

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Richardson Donaldson that the November 24, 2020 minutes of Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

ARC Minutes-September 17, 2020

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Ted Saulnier that the September 17, 2020 minutes of the ARC Meeting be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)

Business Arising from the Minutes

TNR-nothing to report. Will bring back to council in the new year.

Councillors' Report

Councillor Bourque: Attend council orientation and Remembrance Day celebrations. Spoke about recreation department and their great ideas for seniors. AGM for YAIC and two Christmas tree lightings.

Councillor Saulnier: Attended Christmas tree lighting and met with veterans and went to Legion for small buffet. Met with Colton LeBlanc. Attended Council Orientation. Residents in his area expressed concerns about how to get information on programs being offered and how to reach more seniors.

Councillor Surette: Participated in set up of Christmas tree in Surettes Island. Thanked Municipality for grants for trees. Attended YAIC meeting. Met new members. Residents of Tittle Road meeting with deputy minister of TIR has been cancelled until new year.

Councillor Donaldson: Attended Argyle Abuptic festival group. Attend YAIC meeting.

Councillor Boudreau: Mentioned tree lighting ceremony in Wedgeport. Thanked Municipality for grants for tree lighting.

Deputy Warden Albright: Remembrance Day was different this year. Attended small ceremony in Tusket. Council orientation was very informative and really well done. Tour of ground search and rescue building. Interview for Le Courier. Met with Eel Brook fire department. Attended ARC meeting. Received grants to extend on rails to trails that connects to Ecole Belleville. Hubert Pothier went above and beyond to help with this. Very clear access point to trail. Meeting with MODY to discuss how to celebrate Acadiens in their area. Also talked about Regional priorities. Attended tree lighting in Eel Brook and Quinan. 2016-2019 NS hired 470 new physicians in our province.

Warden's Report

Nov 10 - Regular Council Meeting

Nov 12 - Council orientation

Nov 16 - Starlight Committee Meeting & Council orientation

Nov 17 – 18 Attended sessions of the provincial new and existing councillor orientation via zoom.

Nov 18 - Tri county housing meeting at 9:30am, Tour of the Ground Search and Rescue facility at 4:30pm and Nakile Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

Nov 19 - Mariner center expansion subcommittee meeting

Nov 20 - Meeting with wardens, mayors and CAO's from Digby to Shelburne to discuss the fishing dispute.

Nov 21 - Zoom meeting with Fisheries Minister Bernadette Jordan, mayors, wardens and CAO's re. Fishing dispute

Nov 23 - Meeting with Mayors, Wardens and CAO's

Nov 24 - Meeting with NS Power, Tim Doucette and other members of Starlight Committee regarding types of lights available at NSPC that would fall in line with our Municipal Lighting ByLaw

Nov 24 - Committee of the Whole Council Meeting m

Nov 25 - Meeting with Allister Surette and Wardens, Mayors and CAO's

Nov 26 - Meeting with CAO, Warden and Deputy of MODY, Alain, Nicole and myself to discuss various topics. Lori sent notes to council on what was discussed

Dec 1 - Recorded a Christmas Message on behalf of council and staff for Eastlink TV

Dec 1 - REMO Executive meeting.

Dec 2 - NSFPM annual meeting via zoom. And Rural Caucus meeting via zoom
Also attended Christmas tree lighting in the district.

Staff Report

CAO Muise spoke about the staff report in general. Reviewed the admin building and exterior work. It is on schedule. We do have bridge funding available but have not used it yet. Would like to use own money first. Have received grants for the building. Expression of interest for affordable housing in Tusket will be issued once third party review is completed. The Municipal offices are currently closed to the public due to COVID, however virtually all staff is still working from the office.

Muise publicly thanked Natalie d'Entremont for her work in recreation department. She accepted a new position and is on leave of absence from the Municipality. Also thanked Janine Muise and entire team on her work with REMO, COVID and the drought.

CAO Muise clarified questions regarding the Mariners Center and funding amounts and the status of the project, which is still in preliminary planning stages. Questions about internet and who can hook up to it. CAO Muise will reach out to WREN to get more information.

Current phase in East Pubnico on rehabilitation and reconstruction of the wells. Work has already begun, and supplies have been ordered. The tank itself is not part of the first phase. Existing and useful life of the existing tank. Needs some work. Estimated that the project will be completed in full by March 2021.

Report Attached (120801)

For Decision and discussion

Ground Search & Rescue

Warden Muise reminded council that they are seeking \$10,000 through grants to organizations. Council has money left in the grants to organizations. Conversation about a different avenue for funding for them. CAO Muise explained that this is a regional issue and council can instruct staff to provide funding to GSAR outside of the grants to orgs. Staff have reached out to GSAR to have them present to council before the new year. CAO Muise suggested that other municipalities join the presentation.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Ted Saulnier that Council request a presentation from the GSAR to further detail their needs and how to move forward to best support them.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

ARTICLE C21-Reimbursement for Attending Meetings & Conferences

Warden Muise spoke about the changes to the policy.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve the policy as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

ARTICLE C1-Code of Conduct-Revised

Warden Muise spoke about the changes to the policy.

It is moved by Richard Donaldson and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve the policy as presented.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Eel Brook Fire Station

Warden Muise spoke about a meeting with Eel Brook fire station to talk about drilled well. Conversation about adding infrastructure to help with water shortage. Could be a storage tank.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve that the Eel Brook Fire Department location be added as a potential location for community access of non-drinkable water, and that the CAO obtain estimated costs to install infrastructure necessary for that location, for Council's decision.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Village Historique Acadien de la Nouvelle-Ecosse – funding request

The Village has requested funding up to \$5,000 to assist in hiring a consultant to examine the concept of amalgamation between both the Village and the Musée de Pubnico. Initially thought as an item to discuss in camera, this was determined now to be a matter of public discussion. Council agreed by consensus to table this request until later in December, where they expect another brief meeting to address another pressing matter.

Correspondence and for Information

Letter from East Hants to Minister Wilson

No action, for information

Submission of Planning and Heritage Documents

No action, for information.

CAP & Key dates for filing of the 2021 Assessment roll

No action, for information.

Help for those in need

No action, for information.

YMCA

No action, for information.

Financial Requests

Community Grant request \$500-Plymouth Cemetery

Councillor Saulnier explained the request

It is moved by Ted Saulnier and seconded by Guy Surette that Council approve the community grant request for \$500 to Plymouth Cemetery

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Community Grant request \$500-Plymouth Fencing Committee

Councillor Saulnier explained the request

It is moved by Ted Saulnier and seconded by Gordon Boudreau that Council approve the community grant request for \$500 to Plymouth Fencing Committee

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion

Councillor Diggdon apologize for joining late and wanted to give his council update: Buoy tree in Pubnico was lite as well as tree in Middle West Pubnico. Lead a drive by birthday parade for Elda Deon who turned 105. Alice Surette is turning 102 today.

Question Period

None

In Camera

Legal Issue

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to recess the Regular Council Meeting and go In-Camera to discuss a legal issue at 8:35PM.

Motion Carried (8 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by Ted Saulnier and seconded by Richard Donaldson to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at 9p.m.

Recorder
Lori Murphy

Date Approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____