Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 9th, 2009
7:00pm

MEETING, DATE & TIME:
The regular monthly meeting of St. Mary's Municipal Council was held on Monday, March 9, 2009 commencing at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, NS.

ATTENDING:
Warden David Clark
Deputy Warden Michael Mosher
Councillor Shelley Bowen
Councillor Jacqueline Dort
Councillor James Harpell
Councillor Donald Dunbar
Adam Rodgers, Solicitor

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:
Councillor Pye

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:
- 7C Request from Sherbrooke Village
- 7D UNSM Spring Workshop

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HARPELL THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AGENDA AS TYPED.
MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
ON MOTION OF COUNCILOR HARPELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DORT THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FEBRARY 9TH, 2009 AS AMENDED.
MOTION CARRIED.

ERRORS TO MINUTES NS RECYLABLES CONTEST DEADLINE APRIL 14TH NOT FEBRUARY 14TH.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:
- Deputy Warden Mosher asked if there was an update on the C&D removal, the Clerk informed council he had an update ready for them.
- Councilor Bowen asked if the meeting on Thursday with the Arichat Rink Committee was confirmed.
- Deputy Warden Mosher informed council that there was no news on the Planning research.

PRESENTATION: Andrea MacEachern –East Novability

- Presentation has been cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A) GASHA - Physician Recruitment Update – Municipal Clerk will be writing a letter to the CEO of GASHA in response and for a further update on the status of physicians in Sherbrooke.

B) Dept of Environment – Acknowledgement of letter –The minister was very thankful for the letter received from council and enjoys hearing that programs are running well.

C) Sherbrooke Village Request – Request for support for Sherbrooke Village pavement removal and any related costs associated with the upgrade to the water system. Sherbrooke Village would be able to look after the removal costs of $15,000 for the pavement removal and would look to the Municipality to underwrite the costs associated with the water system upgrades needed at that time. Council will meet with the Superintendent of Public Works to find out more information on the project before proceeding with the request. Water/sewer meeting will be held March 16th at 10am.

D) Spring UNSM Workshop – Workshop will be held May 14th -15th at the Keltic Lodge in Ingonish, registration material will be sent out the end of March.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DUNBAR THAT TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTEND THE UNSM SPRING WORKSHOP FROM MAY 14TH TO 15TH IN INGONISH.
MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A) RDA Representative – Dan Gillis

- Woodlots Owners Conference will be held on Saturday, March 28th, in Harvre Bouchie Community Center.
- Transportation and Housing Survey – Excellent response to the surveys with over 400 being returned, this number will provide a good idea of what people's housing and transportation needs are in the area. The data is currently being complied and information will be available in the near future.
- Development Officers Position for Sherbrooke - One applicant was successful but did not accept the position. It will be re-advertised and the qualifications will be changed slightly.
- BRIE program training has been completed and the program has started. BRIE is a business visitation program to help improve businesses and a survey of their business which helps look at trends across the province, trends of small

businesses getting started up. Five businesses have been identified to begin with; interviews with these businesses will be starting this month. Once the program is underway 40 to 50 businesses a year will be visited.

- Strategic planning for St Mary's – The RDA will assist in updating of St. Mary's strategic plan. A meeting will be scheduled at a later to being this process.
- The RDA is currently working on a number of local community groups. If any councillors would like the development officer's reports they are available in the monthly board packages.

B) <u>Solid Waste – Councillor Dort</u>

- HHW Program – Still waiting on DOE for amended approval to the Transfer Station permits to operate the HHW building.
- ERSWM website is being updated, and they have contracted it out. The committee is coming up with a new slogan and asking for any suggestions for the new slogan, the old one is "Don't Be Mean, Keep it Clean." A letter has been sent to the DOE regarding the Solid Waste Resources Provincial Strategy, a copy was provided for all councillors to see. The committee is seeking more enforcement and monitoring for the DOE to put more reasonability on people, municipalities, contractors etc to follow the strategy.
- DOE Program for youth – Through the Youth Corps program they hope to hire some students to collect organic data to measure the success of the programs. This would entail audits on green carts and backyard composting.
- Spring Heavy Haul – A discussion was held regarding ensuring that all materials are picked up before payment is released, and having some type of contract developed for the hauler.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY WARDEN MOSHER TO ADVERTISE FOR HEAVY HAUL TENDERS IN THE APRIL NEWSLETTER.
MOTION CARRIED.

- Reminder of Earth Hour from 8:30 to 930 pm on March 27th.
- C&D conference update provided in council package. Major target for the C&D strategy/stewardship is 2015. Labor and workforce development was talked on and safety issues in landfills and transfer stations are a necessity. The municipal Clerk explained the information he received regarding the price to chip and remove the C&D pile.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DORT TO CONTRACT VAUGHN HODGSON FOR THE CHIPPING AND REMOVAL OF C&D MATERIAL AT THE TRANSER STATION AT $17 PER TON FOR APPROXIMENTLY 1,500 TONS.
MOTION CARRIED.

- The condition of the road to the transfer station and upgrades to it will be look into during budget time.
- The sign at the end of the road to the transfer it gone and will hopefully be found once the snow is gone.

C) <u>Recreation – Councillor Bowen –</u>

- St. Mary's Volunteer of the Year is MaryAnn Kaizer from Port Bickerton. The municipal volunteer awards will be held Saturday, April 25th and the provincial awards on April 14th will be held Saturday April 25th.
- The status of the Fitness Center hours and rates will be reviewed at budget time. Jennifer Chandler's grant with the fitness center expires March 31st, 2009.

D) <u>Public Property – Warden Clark –</u>

- The committee met on February 25th to discuss Sidewalks, New Municipal Building and Stonewall Park.
- It has been suggested to put the clearing of the park out for tender. Clerk will look into similar policies in other units for the removal of wood from municipal owned land/parks.
- Three possible locations for the new building were discussed. Municipal Clerk has provided additional on these properties for council to review.
- Paul Colton has been contacted regarding permits for sidewalks. Council will be setting a meeting with Mr. Colton after March 10th.

<u>SOLICITOR'S REPORT –</u>

- Possible tax sale upcoming, Mr. Rodgers has been provided with the list of potential properties and his staff is working on them and hopes to have recommendations on the properties by the next council meeting.

<u>OTHER MATTERS OF BUSINESS –</u>

Marian Williams, Finance Officer –

- The new website should be launched by the end of the week.
- Reminder to Councillors about the category 1 funding to finish allocating it by year end.

Councillor Harpell –

- Attended the Eastern Regional Library meeting – Councillor Harpell spoke about the new potential funding formulas for the libraries. If this does not go through on a per capita basis it would result in less money for rural libraries, costing municipalities more money to hold the same level of services. He will provide further information on the matter when available.
- Attended the meeting with Minister Hurlburt.
- Port Bickerton Lighthouse society has not heard yet if they have received provincial funding for summer students.

- Library door – Hole needs to be plugged where new locks and push bar were installed.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR HARPELL AND SECONDED BY COUCNILLOR DORT TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW DOOR FOR THE SHERBROOKE LIBRARY.
MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Dunbar –

- Attended the following meetings:
  - Feb 16th, URB Water Rate Hearing.
  - Feb 17th , Personnel Committee
  - Feb 26th, Sherbrooke Village Meeting
  - Feb 27th, PATH organization, people assessing our health/tools for making a health impact program; attended along with Warden Clark.

FCM Conference – June 5-8th,
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DORT TO SEND TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS TO THE FCM CONFERNCE IN WHISTLER, BC.
MOTION CARRIED.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR HARPELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DORT THAT THE WARDEN ATTEND THE FCM CONFERENCE.
MOTION CARRIED.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR HARPELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DUNBAR THAT DEPUTY WARDEN MOSHER ATTEND THE FCM CONFERNCE.
MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Bowen expressed that she felt that anyone who wanted to attend the conference should be able to and not just limited to a certain number of council members.

David Gillis, Municipal Clerk -

- St. Mary's Trails Association – Requesting a letter of support in principle for continuing the trail through the municipality

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DORT THAT A LETTER OF SUPPORT BE WRITTEN FOR THE ST MARYS TRAILS ASSOCIATION TO ADVANCE THE TRAIL THROUGHOUT THE MUNICPALITY.
MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Bowen –

- The 4X4 was a success once again this year.
- Liscomb Vol Fire Dept should be receiving the grant money for the pager system in the near future through Ronnie Chisholms office rather then through JEPP funding.

Deputy Warden Mosher –

- Attended the URB Water Rate Hearing and the meeting with Minister Hurlburt, personnel committee, and thanked Councillor Dort for the opportunity to tour the recycling facility.
- Deputy Warden Mosher also attended the last FAST meeting in Sherbrooke. Once all fire depts. have all the permits and sites for the dry hydrants the information will then be brought back to council.
- St Mary's ATV Club is looking for a letter of support in their continued work to join up with trail to Indian Lake Road. The Clerk asked for more information before writing the letter.

Councillor Dort –

- Suggested that Paul Colton be invited to the next regular council meeting.
- Suggested that council soon begin working a civic numbering policy.
- A reminder that the New Horizon meeting for seniors in Goshen will be held on Wednesday from 10am – 12pm.

Warden Clark -

- Attended the meeting with Minister Hurlburt and thanked everyone for the input at the meeting. Attended the PATH session with Councillor Dunbar and Warden Clark. Felt that it become apparent from the workshop that if people do not live or are from Guysborough County they do not understand the barriers which exist for employment and transportation. He felt it was an excellent workshop to attend.
- Attended the Strait Area Mayors and Wardens earlier in the day. This was the Warden's first meeting as chair of this committee. A presentation from the Straight SuperPort was heard that this meeting. The committee agreed to meet on a quarterly basis because of the importance of the Strait SuperPort.

ON RECOMMENDATION OF COUNCILLOR HARPELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BOWEN THAT COUNCIL MOVE TO INCAMERA SESSION.

ON RECOMMENDATION OF COUNCILLOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY WARDEN MOSHER TO RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HARPELL TO TRANSFER AN ADDITIONAL $51,890.61 FROM GAS TAX RESEVE AND $3,006.61 FROM CAPITAL RESERVE TO COVER THE OVERAGES FROM WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE.
MOTION CARRIED.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DUNBAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HARPELL TO SWITCH THE GAS TAX GIC FROM PRIME LINKED TO A CASHBABLE GIC FOR BETTER INTEREST RATES.
MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:
THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR HARPELL THE MEETING ADJOUNED AT 10:10PM.

Approved by: Recorded by:

Warden Finance Officer