

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Council Meeting
Monday, February 9, 2015**

MEETING, DATE & TIME:

The Council Meeting of St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Monday, February 9, 2015 commencing at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, NS.

ATTENDING:

Warden Mosher	Councillor Baker
Deputy Warden Clark	Councillor Findlay
Councillor Dort	Councillor Kaiser-Kirk
Councillor Pye	Solicitor, Adam Rodgers

ALSO ATTENDING:

David Gillis, Municipal Clerk
Jody Cook, Acting Finance Officer

AGENDA:

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT AND SECONDED BY BAKER, COUNCIL APPROVED THE AGENDA WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS: FINANCE REPORT, STREET LIGHT UPDATE
MOTION CARRIED.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR PYE COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2015 AS PRESENTED
MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising from Meeting:

- none

Correspondence:

a. AMA Spring Conference Planning Committee has request for a financial contribution as is being hosted in Antigonish.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR FINDLAY, THAT COUNCIL PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO AMA SPRING CONFERENCE IN ANTIGONISH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500
MOTION CARRIED

b. Community Transit Nova Scotia – looking for an annual membership investment of \$500.00 giving voice in transportation development, and access to information and services. Councillor

Findlay suggested to gather more information on membership benefits and to discuss further at another committee meeting, consensus.

- c. Funding request from SMECA to attend Encounters with Canada Terry Fox Canadian Youth Program in Ottawa – under consideration from district funds

Old Matters of Business:

- a. REN Update – funding formula will be brought to Committee meeting in the near future once finalized along with memo of understanding between the six municipal units.
- b. Recreation Interview committee update – Unanimous decision for committee

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR FINDLAY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BAKER THAT COUNCIL HIRE HAYLEY RICHARD AS KIDFIT INSTRUCTOR AND MEGAN SMITH AS KIDFIT HELPER FOR 16 WEEK PERIOD
MOTION CARRIED

- Warden Mosher thanked hiring committee

- c. Finance Report –
 - i. First installment of Gas tax Funding was received
 - ii. One stop entertainment is due to be onsite tomorrow to install projectors
 - iii. New Stat Holiday this year, February 16, office will be closed.
 - iv. Low Income Exemption approval required – Total Old Age Security increase this year was 2.3%

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BAKER, COUNCIL SET MAXIMUM HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR EXEMPTION AT \$19,130 WITH REDUCTION OF \$110

Discussion

MOTION CARRIED

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BAKER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR KAISER-KIRK, THAT COUNCIL ACCEPTS FINANCE REPORT AS PRESENTED FOR PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31ST, 2015 AS PRESENTED
MOTION CARRIED

- d. Street Light Update – the Scoper for Nova Scotia power reported to Clerk that to include every household on petition with a light on every second pole, 55 lights would be required.
 - Discussion was held on necessity for every second pole, current rates and how these new lights would impact affordability.
 - Suggestion to have Councillor Findlay review with the community and bring to next committee of the whole

Solicitors Report

- In reference to the Sir Charles Tupper, Mr. Rodgers reported on property owners' of land adjacent to water and their riparian rights to access the water. The land between the high and

low water marks is Crown Land. Owners have the right to moor a boat to your own land. In the case of Tax Sale, and the property is sold the owner has the right demand the boat be moved to navigable water – the basic right to have a clear column of space

- Recommendation is if the property does not get sold during the tax sale that the municipality not vest any interest in the land.

New Business

- a. Planning By-Law amendments

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR KAISER-KIRK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DORT, COUNCIL MOVED IN CAMERA FOR LEGAL ISSUES.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR FINDLAY COUNCIL RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR FINDLAY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR KAISER-KIRK, COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO COORDINATE WITH THE CONTACTS PROVIDED BY MUNICIPAL ADVISORS, FOR DISCUSSION ON PLANNING BYLAW AMENDMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DDI PROPERTY IN MARIE JOSEPH
MOTION CARRIED

- b. Legal Services

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR FINDLAY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BAKER THAT COUNCIL PUT OUT TENDER FOR LEGAL SERVICES BEFORE NEXT FISCAL
MOTION CARRIED

Other Matters of Business

Deputy Warden Clark

- Attended the Fiscal review and Regional UNSM
- Attended the Aquaculture Association of NS Conference and provided council with a report;
 - o 4 municipal units represented, where consensus was association is a positive entity
 - o Speakers were scientific fact based and educated in the aquatic resources field.
 - o It is a growing association.

Councillor Baker

- Also attended the Fiscal review and Regional UNSM
- Percy Bezanson's 90th Birthday

Councillor Dort

- Goshen Community Centre is currently undergoing major renovations in kitchen and new floor

Councillor Kaiser-Kirk

- Now sits on Board of Antigonish branch of SPCA which includes St. Mary's.
 - o It is now illegal to sell dog or cat without vet bill of health, advertise in Municipal Newsletter
- Getting asked environmental questions from community members and has been busy doing visiting in homes.

Councillor Findlay

- Update from Clerk regarding Financial Condition Index; seems to be confusing where now a “red” indicator may not necessarily be negative impact
- Attended presentation on STEP Program for Bay of Islands funding from ACOA in the amount of \$45,000. Disappointed municipality only got invite day before.
- Sherbrooke village meeting

Councillor Pye

- Sonora Community Centre received \$17,000 from new horizon Grant
- 30 staff members started at Longshore Fisheries today
- Garbage collection schedule complaints received
- Part of Interview committee for Kidfit program
- Disappointed with drawn out discussions during meeting once decision is already made

Warden Mosher

- Police Governance board in Halifax
- Attended UNSM Regional meeting which serves as a great forum for sharing with other units
- Also attended funding announcement
- SHOPS were able to secure an official ok from Strait Regional School Board to use memorial place name for Community wing in the school. They wanted to thank council for letter of support as they are now able to continue with fundraising.

ADJOURNMENT:

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:02PM ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR PYE

Recorded by:

Approved by:

Acting Finance Officer

Warden