



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

The COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden Wier
Councillor Baker
Councillor Mailman

Councillor Malloy
Councillor Zinck

Also Attending:

Marvin MacDonald, CAO
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance
Marissa Jordan, Municipal Clerk & Special Projects Coordinator

Absent with Regrets:

Deputy Warden Fuller

3. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council approved the agenda with the following addition:

8c. Surplus Land Notice.

Motion approved.

4. Approval of Minutes:

On motion of Councillor Mailman and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held Wednesday, November 4th, 2020.

Motion approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- No business arising.

6. Correspondence:

a. Thank you- Ms. Skelly:

- Staff received a letter from a resident of Morristown that was visiting the Municipality. She thanked residents for helping her when she fell during a walk in Sherbrooke. Ms. Skelly also enclosed a \$100 donation to the Municipality as her thanks for the kindness that was shown to her.

7. Presentations:

a. Destination Eastern and Northumberland Shores (DEANS)

- Robin Anderson, Director of Experience for Sherbrooke Village and board member of DEANS explained that DEANS vision is to facilitate sustainable and economic tourism growth through marketing, communication and education in partnership with stakeholders. Their three pillars of focus are Destination Marketing, Visitor Services, Industry Partnerships that grow tourism revenue and visitation.
- Ms. Anderson spoke about new social media outlets and projects that DEANS have been using during COVID-19. DEANS also provides support through different visitor services such as supporting 8 visitor centers in our

region, ongoing weekly e-newsletter from May until November, supporting small businesses in our regional Visitor Information Centers, support to Festival and Events and the Ambassador Program.

- Going forward in 2020, DEANS will be working on new regional guides, refreshing their website, focusing on event strategy, hiring an event coordinator, more training for industries, working with provincial events, branding Guysborough county, working on new ways to provide visitor services with COVID-19.
- DEANS asked for Council's continued support through the Municipal contribution of \$4016.34.

On recommendation of Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council agreed to release the 2020/2021 funding to DEANS in the amount of \$4016.34.

Recommendation adopted.

b. Rural Institute for Cultural Heritage and Environmental Sustainability (RICHES)

- Stephen Flemming introduced himself to the new council and presented on behalf of RICHES.
- Mr. Flemming spoke about the organizations five goals. Mr. Flemming also explained RICHES campus concept and phases to use Sherbrooke Village Museum as a teaching site as well as Port Hilford Harbour (in partnership with the Whale Sanctuary Project) as the second phase for a marine teaching facility
- RICHES next steps are to hold a public fundraising campaign launching in early 2021. Phase 1 fund raising target is 650K. With matches, this will garner a Million Dollar capital program for building renovations and Nature based constructions for fall 2021.
- Council asked Mr. Flemming about the details of the project pertaining to the river education as well as the collaboration with Mi'kmaw communities.
- Mr. Flemming asked that Council support the project by providing a letter of support.

On recommendation of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council agreed to write a letter of support for principal for ACOA for the RICHES project.

Recommendation adopted.

c. The Whale Sanctuary Project

- Charles Vinick presented on behalf of the Whale Sanctuary Project and explained that the group's mission is to establish a permanent seaside sanctuary where captive cetaceans can live in an environment that maximizes well-being and autonomy and is as close as possible to their natural habitat. There will be more than 50 advisors who are experts in their fields.
- Education and public outreach programs will include an interpretive center, virtual reality displays, nature walks, veterinary internships, remote webcam experiences, as well as community outreach. Mr. Vinick also discussed the direct and indirect engagement with the community.
- Council thanked Charles Vinick for his presentation.

8. Other Matters of Business:

a. Councillor Pension Plan:

- The Director of Finance updated Council on the potential options for a councillor pension plan. Mrs. Fraser said she contacted our RBC representative for recommendations and the representative said that they could present the options at a future meeting. After discussion of council, a policy could then be drafted.
- Council discussed the potential specifics of the pension plan.

a-1. Surplus Land Notice:

- The CAO received a letter from Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal notifying the Municipality of a parcel of Surplus Land. The land PID 35231786, Old Ferry Road/Gegogan Ferry Road, at St. Mary's River Guysborough County and is approximately 1.4 acres.
- Council discussed the property and the potential interest the Municipality may have.

On recommendation of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council expressed interest in the surplus property with PID 35231786.

Recommendation adopted.

b. In-camera Session- Contract Negotiations:

On motion of Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Zinck Council moved into an in-camera discussion for contract negotiations at 8:30pm.

On motion of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council reconvened to regular session at 9:08pm.

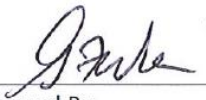
9. Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Zinck and seconded by Councillor Malloy, there being no further matters of business, council adjourned at 9:08pm.

Motion approved.



Recorded By
Municipal Clerk/Special Projects Coordinator



Approved By
Warden Wier