

A Committee of the Whole meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall on Thursday, February 25, 2010.

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Mayor Phil Mooney
Deputy Byron Boudreau
Councillor Esther Dares
Councillor Ken Langille
Councillor Daniel MacIsaac
Councillor Neil MacKenzie
Councillor Martin Pink
Jeff Gushue, C.A.O.
David Ernst, Town Engineer
Gerry Verran, Director of Finance
Ken Kelly, Fire Chief
Frank Grant, Director of Leisure Services

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY Councillor Langille, SECONDED BY Deputy Mayor Boudreau, that the agenda be approved with the addition of 6H. Rod Rose (Councillor MacIsaac), 6I. RDA Notice of Motion (Councillor Langille), 6J. Request for Decision - Yarmouth & Acadian Shores and Appointments, 6K. Ferry Terminal Divestiture, 6L. Development Authority By-laws, and 9. In Camera, Land Acquisition Proposal.

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATION

Kent Blades re Community Garden Milton School Property

Kent Blades, Dan Earle and Karen Stewart appeared before Council requesting the Community Garden be reinstated on the Milton School property. Council indicated no plans have been finalized for the property and noted the Community Garden would be considered once Council reaches this stage.

STAFF REPORTS

Council Priority Update

Council was advised a Council and Staff Priority Setting Workshop will be held on March 9th and 10th, with a service capacity workshop for staff on March 11th, 2010.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Chief's report was received.

Planning Department Report

Operational Services Department Report

The Engineer's report was received.

Active Transportation Committee

Frank Grant, Director of Leisure Services provided a verbal report.

Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee

The C.A.O. indicated at 4 p.m. on Monday, March 8th, 2010, Council will preview the Yarmouth Downtown Blueprint in the Town Hall Council Chambers and an Open House will be held that same evening at 7 p.m. at the Rodd Grand Hotel.

RCMP Report

BUSINESS

Yarmouth Lions Club re Tax Exemption

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Boudreau, seconded by Councillor Dares that the Lions Club be granted 100% tax exemption.

The mover and seconder agreed to withdraw their motion.

MOVED BY Councillor Langille, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares, that the matter of the Lions Club Tax Exemption be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

MOTION CARRIED

Downtown Improvement By-law

MOVED BY Councillor Langille, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares, that the C.A.O. be directed to not bring forward the Downtown Improvement Tax and to bring forward for First Reading the three area rates for consideration to repeal the by-laws.

MOTION CARRIED

Charitable Organizations Exemptions By-law First Reading

SPCA re Dog Control Services Contract 2010 to 2012

The C.A.O. will bring forward more information at the next meeting of Council.

Matthew Trask re Application Mariners Centre Management Board

Councillor Dares stepped away from the table.

MOVED BY Councillor MacIsaac, SECONDED BY Deputy Mayor Boudreau, that Matthew Trask be appointed to the Mariners Centre Management Board.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Dares returned to the table.

Low Income Tax Exemption Policy

MOVED BY Councillor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares, that as a matter of normal procedure, the application for the low income exemption be accompanied with a copy of the last page of the applicant's personal income tax return in order to verify income.

MOTION CARRIED

Ferry Service Update

Mayor Mooney advised Council of the Town and Municipalities' request to the Province to fund fifty percent of the operating subsidy for the CAT ferry in 2010, providing the units find the remaining fifty percent.

Deputy Mayor Boudreau advised he had just received information that the Province has rejected the offer.

Mayor Mooney and Councillors expressed their anger and frustration over this response.

Rod Rose Resignation from PAC

MOVED BY Councillor Langille, SECONDED BY Deputy Mayor Boudreau, that a letter of thanks be sent to Rod Rose for his service on the Planning Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

It was agreed that staff be directed to draft a policy to suitably recognize Mr. Rose and other long-serving members upon their resignation from voluntary committees.

RDA Notice of Motion

Councillor Langille gave notice that he would be giving a Notice of Reconsideration regarding the motion on the Regional Development Authority in July, 2009, at the next meeting of Council.

Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Incorporation

MOVED BY Councillor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares, that Committee of the Whole recommend to Town Council that the Town of Yarmouth support the creation of a new non-profit organization to be incorporated under the Societies Act for the purpose of governing tourism development initiatives for Yarmouth and Acadian Shores (the Articles of Incorporation of the Society will be subject to the approval of the four municipal units) and that the creation of the newly-incorporated organization receive 25 percent core funding from each municipal unit represented by the Yarmouth and Acadian Shores region.

MOTION CARRIED

Appointments to the Society

It was moved by Councillor MacIsaac, seconded by Councillor Langille, that Councillor MacKenzie be appointed to this organization.

The mover and seconder agreed to withdraw their motion in order to provide time for Councillors to obtain more information.

Ferry Terminal Divestiture and Service Re-establishment

MOVED BY Councillor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Town Council that the Town of Yarmouth agree to appoint the Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission, owners and operators of the Port of Yarmouth, acting on behalf of the Town of Yarmouth, Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, Municipality of the District of Argyle and Municipality of the District of Clare, as the lead organization in efforts to restore an international ferry service to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, and to obtain ownership of the Yarmouth International Ferry Terminal from Transport Canada through a process of divestiture.

MOTION CARRIED

This motion was carried unanimously.

Development Authority By-laws

MOVED BY Councillor Pink, SECONDED BY Councillor Dares, that the Mayor, Wardens and C.A.O.'s meet with Frank Anderson to review the Development Authority By-laws to bring back to Council for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Warner Comeau re Downtown Improvement Tax By-law

Percy Paris re Long Term Solutions for Ferry Service

IN CAMERA: LAND ACQUISITION PROPOSAL

Council moved to an In Camera session.

ADJOURN

Council moved out of the In Camera session and the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DRAFT