

A regular monthly meeting of Middleton Town Council was held at the Town Hall on Monday, March 4, 2013, starting at 7 p.m.

PRESENT

Chairing the meeting, Mayor Calvin Eddy; Deputy Mayor Dan Smith; Councillors Darren Boates, John Himmelman, Marc Britney, and Melinda den Haan; Chief Administrative Officer, Clayton MacMurtry; Director of Finance, Marianne Daine; and Recording Secretary, Sharon McAuley.

Regrets: Councillor Gail Smith and Fred Sanford, NS Department of Justice.

Also in attendance were Middleton Police Advisory Board members Jan Davis and Gordon Rodgers; RCMP S/Sgt. John de Winter, S/Sgt. Jim Sponagle and Solicitor Bruce Gillis.

13.03.02 PRESENTATIONS

.01 RCMP S/Sgt. Sponagle and S/Sgt. John de Winter

S/Sgt. Sponagle and S/Sgt. John de Winter reviewed the "Calls for Service Review" which was conducted for the Middleton Office of the Annapolis County District including the:

- Annapolis County Organizational Chart;
- Annapolis County District Funding Profile;
- Calls in 2011 and 2012 for:
 - Service;
 - Crimes Against the Person;
 - Crimes Against Property;
 - Provincial Statutes;
 - Traffic Offences.

S/Sgt. Sponagle and S/Sgt. John de Winter stated that:

- The population is very concerned with traffic-related issues.
- On one day in Middleton, they had nine traffic offences which indicates that there is a lot of work to be done in this area.
- Provincial traffic members from New Minas are funded by the Provincial Government, are found on major highways, analyze traffic accidents and are normally project-based.
- In Annapolis County:
 - the ratio of staff to population is 1 to 1,664, while the provincial average is 1 to 500;
 - the core cases per officer are 1 to 606, while the national average is 1 to 110.
- The Town is adequately funding its policing, as it provides funding of 1 police officer for 437 people which is in line with the provincial average.
- The RCMP have made presentation to the Annapolis County Police Advisory Board and the Annapolis County Council and requested that they add six more officers which would still leave them underfunded.
- Discussions should be held among the three municipalities (Annapolis County, Bridgetown and Middleton) on adequate funding for policing, to ensure the highest level of safety for their citizens.
- The policing model currently in place will provide long-term sustainable and effective policing; it is just underfunded.

On question from Mayor Eddy, S/Sgt. de Winter stated that if Annapolis County funds six additional officers, it will have a significant impact on the County and the Town of Middleton.

S/Sgt. Sponagle and S/Sgt. John de Winter left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

13.03.01 SOLICITOR

.01 Mutual Aid Firefighting Agreement

Solicitor Gillis advised Council that he had reviewed the proposed agreement and had forwarded his response to CAO MacMurtry. It is his opinion that the clause in question would not oblige the Town to provide service to another area if the fire department there ceased to exist. He also advised that the wording of the clause needed to be corrected for grammar. Council will approve the agreement with the changes noted.

Solicitor Gillis advised that the case is ongoing with the Mid-Valley Motel tax sale.

Solicitor Gillis left the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

13.03.03 CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The CAO advised that there are no changes to the agenda.

13.03.04 MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Himmelman, seconded by Councillor Britney, that the minutes of the regular Council meeting of February 4, 2013, be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

13.03.05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Business Arising Report has been circulated to all members of Council.

13.03.06 NEW BUSINESS

Action Items

.01 Bylaw Amendment – Partial tax Exemption Bylaw–2nd and Final Reading

Councillor Himmelman declared a conflict of interest on item 13.03.06.01 and removed himself from the table.

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Councillor den Haan, that Council approve the second reading and passing of the amendment to the Partial Tax Exemption Bylaw, Chapter 40 of the By-laws of the Town of Middleton, by removing Future View Training Rehabilitation and Employment Association, identified on the Assessment Roll as 09153438, located at 56 School Street, Middleton, Nova Scotia. Motion carried.

Councillor Himmelman returned to the table.

.02 Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance Resolution

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Himmelman, that Council pre-approve a debenture issuance resolution in the amount of one hundred forty thousand dollars (\$140,000.00), for a period not to exceed a ten-year term and for an average interest rate not to exceed 5.5% for that term, with amounts to be used to finance the purchase of LED traffic lights and that Council pre-approve a debenture issuance resolution in the amount of one million, six hundred thousand dollars (\$1,600,000.00), for a period not to exceed a twenty-year term and for an average interest rate not to exceed 5.5% for that term, with amounts to be used to finance the construction of sewer treatment and sewer lagoons. Motion carried.

.03 Mutual Aid Firefighting Agreement

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith, that Council agrees that the Town of Middleton enter into a Mutual Aid Fire Fighting Agreement, pending changes recommended by the Town Solicitor. Motion carried.

.04 Committee of the Whole Recommendations

a. Valley Waste Resource Management

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor den Haan, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council approve the December 19, 2012, draft Operating budget for the Valley Region Solid Waste Resource Management Authority of \$9,244,299.00 and the December 19, 2012, draft Capital budget for Valley Region Solid Waste Resource Management Authority of \$242,500.00, with the Town's share being \$128,115.00 for 2013/14. Motion carried.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Boates, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council approve to guarantee the Town of Middleton's share of the Valley Region Solid Waste Resource Management Authority borrowing in the amount of \$4,577.00. Motion carried.

b. Special Reserve Fund Withdrawal – Industrial Park Improvements

It was moved by Councillor den Haan, seconded by Councillor Himmelman, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council authorize the withdrawal of \$11,236.74 from the Industrial Park Land Special Reserve Fund, to cover the cost of improvements to Lots 6-11 (\$6,992.21) and signage (\$4,244.53). Motion carried.

c. Approval of the Bills

It was moved by Councillor Boates, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council approve the payment of the bills for February 2013 in the amount of \$471,218.90. Motion carried.

.05 Regional Enterprise Network's Declaration of Cooperation

Mayor Eddy, Deputy Mayor Smith and CAO MacMurtry informed Council that:

- they had attended a Regional Enterprise Network (REN) meeting with the other eleven municipal partners on March 1, 2013;
- all partners agreed to take the Declaration of Cooperation Agreement to their respective councils for approval;
- there will be a follow-up meeting on April 5, 2013;
- it is now believed that the Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) program will be part of the REN;
- there is an acknowledgement that there is an economic base in the Kingston-Greenwood-Middleton-Nictaux area;
- the CAOs are meeting with Annapolis Royal and Annapolis County on March 5, to present them with the information, as they were unable to attend the March 1 meeting.

Councillor Britney added that at the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation Board Meeting, they were advised that Service Nova Scotia is quite adamant that BRE be a component of the REN.

It was moved by Councillor den Haan, seconded by Councillor Britney, that Council approve the signing of the *Declaration of Cooperation* between the municipal partners of the proposed Regional Enterprise Network # 3. Motion carried.

.06 Staff Introduction

CAO MacMurtry introduced John Pearson as the new Director of Public Works. The Mayor and Council welcomed John Pearson and wished him good luck in his new job.

13.03.07 REPORTS

.01 Committee of the Whole

All items from the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 18, 2013, have been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

.02 Mayor

Mayor Eddy tabled his report for the month of February.

.03 Management

The Management reports have been circulated to all members of Council.

.04 Planning Services

The Planning Services report for the month of January has been circulated to all Council members.

.05 RCMP

The RCMP report for the month of January is available at Town Hall for review by Council members.

13.03.08 CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence for the month of February has been circulated to all Council members.

13.03.09

ANYTHING BY MEMBERS

Councillor Britney informed Council that:

- he, Mayor Eddy and Councillor Himmelman had met with the Deputy Minister for Nova Scotia Health and Wellness (NSH&W);
- NSH&W are still following the Ross Report and will be keeping Soldiers' Memorial Hospital (SMH) open;
- NSH&W's priority is to place family doctors in the communities, to help with patient loads, and to change the contracts, to ensure the doctors also work in the emergency rooms;
- there are enough doctors in Nova Scotia; but the majority are in Halifax and not in the rural areas;
- NSH&W will look into the communication issues between Annapolis Valley Health and the Town.

Councillor Himmelman advised Council that he and Mayor Eddy toured the Cobequid Community Health Centre (CCHC) which services a population of one hundred thousand (100,000) people. The CCHC has an emergency department, blood services, and provides a number of services similar to the ones offered by SMH.

Councillor Britney informed Council that the Senior Girls won the Basketball Provincials on the weekend. CAO MacMurtry will invite the team and their coach to the next Council Meeting for congratulations from the Town.

Councillor den Haan complimented the Public Works crew on having the sidewalks plowed before 8 a.m. during the last storm.

Deputy Mayor Smith stated that the Provincial Senior Boys' Basketball tournament took place in Middleton on the weekend, that it was well attended and there were lots of people in town.

Councillor Himmelman informed Council that he and CAO MacMurtry had attended a financial workshop by Service Nova Scotia and found it very beneficial.

Mayor Eddy reminded everyone about the Annual Fire Department Banquet on March 23, 2013.

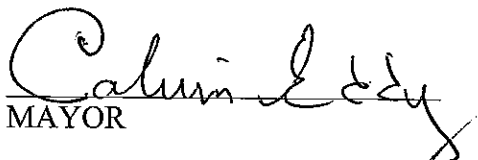
Council agreed to place the Future Forum II event on the Town website.

Council agreed to attend the Regional Municipal Caucus meeting on March 21, 2013.

13.03.10

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Britney that the Council adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Motion carried.


MAYOR


RECORDING SECRETARY