

A regular monthly meeting of Middleton Town Council was held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, April 2, 2013, starting at 7 p.m.

**PRESENT**

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

Also in attendance were Jeff Hanshaw, Custom Page Media & Consulting Inc.; Middleton Regional High School (MRHS) Senior Girls' Basketball Team players, coaches and parents.

**13.04.01      PROCLAMATIONS**

.01      Volunteer Week

Mayor Eddy, in recognition of the splendid efforts of Volunteers, designated the week of April 21 to 27, 2013, as Provincial Volunteer Week in the Town of Middleton.

.02      Municipal Awareness Week

Mayor Eddy proclaimed that the week of April 22 to 28, 2013, be known as Municipal Awareness week in the Town of Middleton, in recognition of the vital role of municipal government and in recognition of all whose efforts support it.

**13.04.02      PRESENTATIONS**

.01      MRHS Senior Girls' Basketball Team

Mayor Eddy welcomed the coach and players from the MRHS Senior Girls' Basketball Team and, on behalf of the Town and Council, presented them with a framed certificate and congratulated them on winning the NSSAF Division 3 Provincial Championship.

MRHS Senior Girls' Basketball Team coach, players, and parents left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

.02      Fiber Options – Jeff Hanshaw, Custom Page Media and Consulting Inc.

Jeff Hanshaw of Custom Page Media and Consulting Inc. gave an overview of fiber optics, including the following benefits and options:

- Fiber will enable the Town to increase its connection speed and, thus, allow off-site backup of the server, video conferencing capability, creation of links with other offices, surveillance cameras and municipal WIFI capability.
- The Town can join the Valley Fiber Network (VFN), either as a customer or a partner, and Jeff outlined the cost and benefits of both options.

Council agreed to further investigate the use of fiber. CAO MacMurtry will set up a meeting with Bruce MacDougall, to discuss the Town's options and ask Mr. MacDougall to speak to Council.

Jeff Hanshaw left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

**13.04.03**      **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

The CAO advised that the only change to the agenda was the addition of Item 13.04.06.10 Unsightly Premises; under Information/Discussion Items.

**13.04.04**      **MINUTES**

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

**13.04.05**      **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

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

**13.04.06**      **NEW BUSINESS****Action Items****.01**      **Insurance Renewal**

CAO MacMurtry advised Council that the Municipal Insurance program renewal increased by \$6,694.00, from \$38,128.00 last year to \$44,822.00 this year. The additional cost is due to an increase in value of the Sewage Treatment Plant to \$4,600,000.00, annual inflation increases in building assessment and equipment (not vehicles), increase in liability and a decrease in vehicle value.

It was moved by Councillor den Haan, seconded by Councillor Himmelman, that Council approve the renewal of the Town of Middleton's insurance policy with BFL Canada in the amount of \$44,822.00 for the year 2013-2014. Motion carried.

**.02**      **Committee of the Whole Recommendations****a.**      **Special Reserve Funding Withdrawal: LED Traffic Lights**

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council authorize the withdrawal of up to \$35,672.00 from the Operating Reserve Fund to cover the over-budget amount for the LED Traffic Lights. Motion carried.

**b.**      **Request for Funding: Middleton Curling Club**

It was moved by Councillor den Haan, seconded by Councillor Britney, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council approve a grant of \$2,500.00 for the Middleton Curling Club, to assist in funding a furnace from the 2013/14 budget. Motion carried.

**c.**      **Changes to the Inter-Municipal Emergency Services Agreement**

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Councillor den Haan, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council agree to amend the Inter Municipal Emergency Services Agreement by adding the words "or designate" after Warden in clause 5.a.i. Motion carried.

## d. Approval of Bills

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Himmelman, on recommendation of Committee of the Whole, that Council approve the payment of the bills for March 2013 in the amount of \$207,448.73. Motion carried.

.03 Appointments to the Regional Municipal Caucus Steering Committee

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Councillor den Haan, that the Town of Middleton appoint Mayor Eddy, Deputy Mayor Smith, and alternate, Councillor Boates, to the Regional Municipal Caucus Steering Committee. Motion carried.

.04 Appointments to the Middleton Fire Department

It was moved by Councillor Boates, seconded by Councillor Britney, on recommendation of the Middleton Fire Department, that Council appoint Shannon Diane Ubels and Paul Marmara as members of the Middleton Fire Department. Motion carried.

.05 Appointment of Town Engineer and Assistant Traffic Authority and to the REMO Planning Committee

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith, that Council appoint John Pearson as Town Engineer and Assistant Traffic Authority and to the REMO Planning Committee. Motion carried.

Information/DiscussionItems.06 Update on Hydrant Removal on Brooklyn Street and Junction Road

CAO MacMurtry advised Council that:

- he had contacted Annapolis County CAO Campbell and Gerry Isner, from Gates and Associates, regarding the removal of the hydrants on Brooklyn Street and Junction Road;
- he had reviewed the agreement between the Town and the County and the agreement states “the water system shall be operated by the Town of Middleton Water Utility” and not “the water system shall be owned by the Town of Middleton Water Utility”;
- there is a discrepancy between the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Agreement;
- further review is required.

Council requested that CAO MacMurtry contact Solicitor Gillis and obtain a legal opinion.

.07 Update on Regional Enterprise Networks

Deputy Mayor Smith, Mayor Eddy, and CAO MacMurtry advised Council that they had attended an information session held by the Province of Nova Scotia on the Regional Enterprise Networks (RENs) and obtained the following information:

- if the organization wants it, Business Retention Expansion (BRE) could be part of the REN;
- the outline proposed is the same outline being considered by our REN;
- the Province will not recognize an area as a REN, if the area does not have the required numbers;

- municipalities can opt out of the REN; however, the municipality will not receive the provincial dollars designated for RENs, and if two competing proposals are submitted, the one associated with the REN will be funded.

.08 Use of Council Chambers

CAO MacMurtry informed Council that the Town is renovating the meeting room into offices and does not rent the Council Chambers; therefore, Policy 1.21 Town Hall Rentals, is no longer required. Notice will be given at the April 15, 2013, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

.09 Unightly Premises – 15 Gates Avenue

CAO MacMurtry informed Council that:

- the Town had received complaints that 15 Gates Avenue is unsightly and has a rodent problem;
- he is working with the property management company and the Town Solicitor on the problem.

**13.04.08 REPORTS**

.01 Committee of the Whole

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

.02 Mayor

Mayor Eddy tabled his report for the month of March.

.03 Management

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

.04 Planning Services

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

.05 RCMP

The RCMP report for the month of February has been circulated to all members of Council. CAO MacMurtry advised Council that Corporal Lannon is now stationed in Middleton and that he would be attending the next Police Advisory Board meeting on April 9, 2013.

**13.04.09 CORRESPONDENCE**

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

**13.04.10 ANYTHING BY MEMBERS**

Councillor Britney informed Council that he, Mayor Eddy and Councillor Himmelman had attended a meeting with the Annapolis Valley Health Board and were informed that:

- Middleton is a priority for physician recruitment;

- there will be a return to the practice of hiring physicians as employees, and their contracts will include working in the Emergency Department;
- they are moving ahead with the primary care facility;
- they have identified that the hospital needs capital renovations, including a new emergency department and a primary care facility.

Councillor den Haan informed Council that the Youth Ambassador Committee has been meeting and the candidates will be presenting to Council at the June 3 and September 3 Council Meetings. Councillor Himmelman agreed to join the Youth Ambassador Committee.

Mayor Eddy reminded Council that the Flag Raising, to celebrate Volunteer Week, will take place on Monday, April 22, at Noon at Centennial Park.

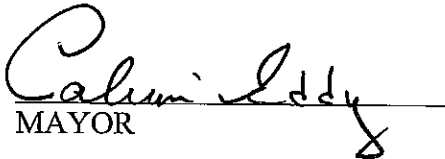
**13.04.11 IN-CAMERA (Land Acquisition)**

It was moved by Councillor Boates, seconded by Councillor den Haan, that Council adjourn to in-camera at 8:46 p.m., to discuss land acquisition. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Himmelman, seconded by Councillor Britney, that Council return to regular session at 9:12 p.m. Motion carried.

**13.04.12 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, it was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Smith that the Council adjourn at 9:12 p.m. Motion carried.

  
MAYOR

  
RECORDING SECRETARY