

A regular monthly meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Middleton Town Council was held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, starting at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

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

Regrets: Councillors Darren Boates, Gail Smith and Melinda den Haan.

Also in attendance were Bruce MacDougal and Don Clarke from Valley Community Fibre Network and citizens Mark MacFadyen and Dan Diggins.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PRESENTATION**2.1 Acadia Street Water Main Loop: Mark MacFadyen & Dan Diggins**

Dan Diggins and Mark MacFadyen informed Committee that they:

- are concerned about the quality of the water on Acadia Street as the water is stagnant, greenish in colour, does not have a strong odor and has a slight taste;
- are concerned with the amount of water that is being wasted;
- would like the Acadia Street water main hooked up to the Main Street water main as soon as possible.

Mayor Eddy thanked Mr. MacFadyen and Mr. Diggins for attending the meeting and stated that there are four to five areas with a similar problem in that the water main ends at a dead end and does not loop into another water main. The proposal to loop the east end of Acadia Street back to Main Street is in the budget for this year and Council will review it next month along with the other capital projects.

CAO MacMurtry advised that the water quality meets standards and is maintained by constantly flushing the water main at the east end of Acadia Street.

Mark MacFadyen and Dan Diggins left the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

2.2 Valley Fibre: Bruce MacDougall and Don Clark

Bruce MacDougall made a presentation on the Valley Community Fibre Network (VCFN) including that the VCFN:

- consists of Acadia University, Nova Scotia Community College and the municipalities of Berwick, Hantsport, Kings County, West Hants, Windsor and Wolfville;
- is a community fibre-optic network running 175 kms between Halifax and Middleton worth approximately five million dollars;
- mandate is to provide high-speed fibre-optic backbone services to the eight partner organizations, act as a tool of economic development by providing "metro area equivalence" for commercial and institutional customers in the Valley area and encourage development of the digital economy in the valley;
- is being used by both private businesses and public organizations;
- is being used by municipalities to house servers in data centres, share access to backup services, run remote video monitoring and establish shared access to WI-FI services.

Bruce MacDougall and Don Clarke detailed the various options for the Town of Middleton to join the VCFN including joining as a partner or as a customer.

Committee requested that staff:

- send a letter to the Board of VCFN stating that the Town of Middleton is very interested in pursuing a partnership with the VCFN and requesting the cost of the capital contribution to become a partner in the VCFN;
- review current internet costs for the Town;
- report back to June Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Bruce MacDougall and Don Clark left the meeting.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

CAO MacMurtry advised the Committee that there are no changes or additions to the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Councillor Himmelman, that the minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting of April 15, 2013, be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEMS**5.1 REMO Inter-Municipal Agreement Changes**

Committee raised concerns with the wording of clause 11.a which states that "any cost associated with the deployment of resources will be borne by the municipality declaring the emergency as a response to the emergency situation". Committee agreed to table the item and have CAO MacMurtry contact Solicitor Gillis and Annapolis County regarding the wording.

5.2 Notice to Amend Policy # 4.6: Payroll Procedures

It was moved by Councillor Himmelman, seconded by Councillor Britney, that Committee of the Whole recommend that seven-day notice be given for Town Council to approve the amendment to policy *D 4.6 Payroll Procedures* as circulated. Motion carried.

5.3 Bills

It was moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith, that Committee of the Whole recommend to Council, that Council approve the payment of the bills for May 2013 in the amount of \$166,778.89. Motion carried.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**6.1 Management Reports**

The Management Reports were circulated to all Committee members.

CAO advised Council that some of the aerators at the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) have touched the bottom of the lagoons which could create a wear problem with the liners and cause repair of the aerators. The problem is being reviewed with the Town engineers.

Mayor Eddy and Deputy Mayor Smith informed Committee that they had attended a meeting of the Regional Enterprise Network (REN) 3 and that:

- Annapolis County and Annapolis Royal have decided not to join the REN, Hants County has decided to join the REN and nine out of the eleven municipalities are now cooperating on REN 3;
- a decision was made to include the First Nations and invitations to participate in REN 3 will be sent to Bear River First Nation, Annapolis Valley First Nation and Glooscap First Nation;
- the organization structure was reviewed;

- all municipalities were asked to appoint a representative to the REN 3 Liaison Committee.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Britney, that Committee of the Whole recommend to Council, that Council approve the appointment of the Town Chief Administrative Officer Clayton MacMurtry to the Liaison Committee for Regional Enterprise Network 3. Motion carried.

On request from Deputy Mayor Smith, CAO MacMurtry will investigate having more grass and less gravel in Centennial Park and submit the figures for review during budget discussions.

6.2 Planning Services Report – April 2013

The Planning Services Report for the month of April 2013 was circulated to all Committee members.

7. ANYTHING BY MEMBERS

Councillor Himmelman informed Committee that Valley Waste Resource Management will have a surplus of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) which will be distributed back to the municipalities.

On request from Committee, CAO MacMurtry will:

- insert monies in the budget for branded clothing;
- ask the Heart of the Valley Festival Committee to attend the June Council meeting regarding their request for funding.

Mayor Eddy informed Committee that he, Deputy Mayor Smith and CAO MacMurtry had stopped at the New Minas Skatepark and spent time talking to the people using the park about what they liked, didn't like and how it worked.

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Britney, that the Committee adjourn at 9:14 p.m. Motion carried.


MAYOR


RECORDING SECRETARY