

A regular monthly meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Middleton Town Council was held at the Town Hall on Monday, March 17, 2014, starting at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

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

Regrets: Councillor Gail Smith.

Also in attendance were: Mark Peck, SNSMR; Bob Audoux, Municipal Finance Corporation; Director of Public Works, John Pearson; the Middleton Regional High School (MRHS) Senior Girls' Basketball Team players, coaches and parents; Annapolis County Councillors Brian "Fuzzy" Connell and Martha Roberts; Heather Killan, Annapolis County Spectator.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PRESENTATIONS**2.1 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 individual certificates and tote bags to each team member and congratulated them on winning the NSSAF Division 3 Provincial Championship.

MRHS Senior Girls' Basketball Team players, coaches, and parents left the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

2.2 Debt Affordability Model: Mark Peck, SNSMR and Bob Audoux, MFC

Mark Peck and Bob Audoux presented the Debt Affordability Model and explained that:

- it is a tool already used by the Town and shows good financial stewardship;
- it is a tool that municipalities use for long-term financial planning;
- the original purpose of the Debt Affordability Model was to assist councils in determining the appropriate level of debt for their municipality, but it now has a much broader scope;

- it uses a three-year trend analysis and up to a ten-year projection timeline, to identify developing issues;
- it integrates the capital and operating budgets;
- it is required by SNSMR for municipalities who have a deficit which cannot be paid in the next fiscal year or who have a debt service ratio of 15% or over;
- it takes away from the one-year budget and enables a municipality to see how one capital project will impact the bottom line not only for this year but for ten or twenty years.

The benefits of the Debt Affordability Model are:

- it allows decision makers the flexibility to plan for the future;
- it helps prioritize capital projects that are competing for scarce resources;
- it incorporates trends and municipal strategies;
- it has the ability to take advantage of opportunities.

Mark Peck and Bob Audoux then displayed how the Debt Affordability Model worked, using the Town's 2013-14 approved budget and various capital budget scenarios.

Mark Peck and Bob Audoux left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Acting CAO Smith advised Committee of the following changes to the agenda:

- Delete item 8 - In-Camera (Contract Negotiations);
- Under item 6.3: RCMP – add Police Advisory Board Recommendation.

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 February 17, 2014, be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Proposed Capital Budget – 2014-15

Acting CAO Smith, Director of Finance Daine and Public Works Director Pearson presented the proposed Capital Budget for 2014-15, including a draft Public Works vehicle inventory and rotation schedule.

Committee would like to be updated and see a diagram of the proposed Splashpad.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, seconded by Councillor Boates, that Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that the Capital Budget for 2014-15 be approved, as submitted. Motion carried.

5.2 Signing Authorities – New Chief Administrative Officer

It was moved by Councillor Himmelman, seconded by Councillor Boates, that Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that the signing officers for the Town of Middleton be as follows:

- a. for negotiating monetary instruments for the Town: Chief Administrative Officer Rachel Turner, together with Director of Finance Marianne Daine or Mayor Calvin Eddy and/or Deputy Mayor Dan Smith, together with either Chief Administrative Officer Rachel Turner and/or Director of Finance Marianne Daine; and
- b. for issuance of contracts, deeds, agreements, easements and other documentation required by the Town, such as resolutions, bylaws, reports, forms, etc., required by government, when requiring the signing officers of the Town: Mayor Calvin Eddy and/or Deputy Mayor Dan Smith, together with Chief Administrative Officer Rachel Turner and/or Director of Finance Marianne Daine. Motion carried.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Management Reports

The Management Reports were circulated to all Committee members.

6.2 Planning Services Reports – February 2014

The Planning Services Report for the month of February 2014 was circulated to all Committee members.

6.3 RCMP

The RCMP Occurrence Report for the month of February 2014 was circulated to all Committee members.

Councillor Britney informed the Committee that:

- S/Sgt. de Winter has requested that the Town explore a new detachment/facility for the RCMP;
- the provincial government is responsible for facilities;
- the Middleton office is too small for the current complement of members;

- the Police Advisory Board has reviewed the request and recommends that a letter be sent to the Department of Justice for a new detachment/facility in Middleton.

It was **moved by Councillor Britney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith, on recommendation of the Police Advisory Board, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that a letter be sent to the Department of Justice for a new detachment/facility in Middleton. Motion carried.**

6.4 Accounting Activities Report – February 2014

The Accounting Activities Report for the month of February 2014 was circulated to all Committee members.

7. ANYTHING BY MEMBERS

Deputy Mayor Smith raised a concern that the Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL) is again exploring leaving the Bridgetown Area. He stated that the Town would like to see the AVRL stay in Annapolis County and inquired if there is anything the Town of Middleton can do to facilitate them staying in Annapolis County.

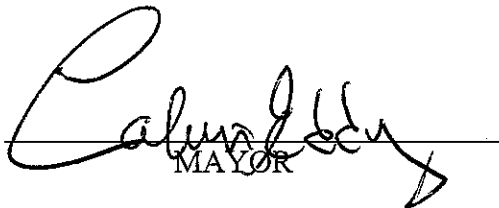
On question from Councillor Himmelman, Acting CAO Smith will ask the Traffic Authority if the second exit from the Save Easy could be a “right turn only” exit.

Mayor Eddy informed Committee that:

- the Joint Council Session of the Annapolis Partnership Steering Committee will take place on Thursday, March 20;
- the Annual Firemen’s Banquet will take place April 5;
- the Municipality of the District of West Hants has agreed to join the Annapolis Valley Regional Enterprise Network (AVREN) which will add an additional \$100,000 to the AVREN budget.

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was **moved by Councillor den Haan, seconded by Councillor Himmelman that the Committee adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried.**


MAYOR


RECORDING SECRETARY