

**Municipality of Clare
Council Meeting
Minutes - April 16th, 2008**

PRESENT: Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc, Councillors: Nil Doucet, Danny Hill, Simon LeBlanc, Brian Comeau, Russell Comeau; Deputy Clerk Jeannette Doucet and CAO Connie Saulnier.

ABSENT: Warden Jean Melanson and Councillor Ronnie LeBlanc.

1) CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

10.8 Skateboard Park – Councillor Brian Comeau

10.9 Security for Seniors – Councillor Russell Comeau

MOVED BY Councillor Danny Hill and seconded by Councillor Russell Comeau that the proposed agenda be approved as amended. **MOTION CARRIED**

3) PRESENTATIONS

3.1 S.W.S.D.A. Business retention and expansion – Gary Gaudet

Gary Gaudet, Business Retention Officer for S.W.S.D.A., gave an overview of his job description and duties. He explained that as business retention officer he can help new, as well as established businesses, deal with different issues. So far he has been to twenty seven different businesses. Gary Gaudet may be reached at 902-742-3504 at his office or at ggaudet@swsda.com via email.

Deputy Warden LeBlanc thanked Mr. Gaudet for his informative presentation.

3.2 Search and Rescue request for training funds

The group was not present.

3.3 “Jeux de l’Acadie” – Odette Gaudet

Odette Gaudet, Coleen Cyr and a delegation of “Jeux de l’Acadie” gave a presentation to Council. The regional games of “Jeux de l’Acadie” are going to be held in Clare this year, with approximately 1,000 youths and volunteers participating from all across Nova Scotia. This year, the group is also organizing a demonstration camp of different activities i.e. racketball, art camp, etc. The organization is looking for financial assistance from the Municipality (letter and financial statement enclosed).

Deputy Warden LeBlanc thanked the group for its presentation and indicated that a decision regarding financial support would be made during the 2008-2009 budget.

4) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS ON:

4.1 March 19th, 2008 - Council Meeting

MOVED BY Councillor Brian Comeau and seconded by Councillor Nil Doucet that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on March 19th, 2008 be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED**

4.2 April 2th, 2008 - Committee of Council Meeting

MOVED BY Councillor Danny Hill and seconded by Councillor Russell Comeau that the minutes of the Committee of Council Meeting held on April 2nd, be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED**

5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

5.1 Appointment of Returning Officer

CAO Connie Saulnier informed Council that two interviews had been conducted for the position of Returning Officer. The selection committee recommended to Council that Ms. Nora Saulnier be hired as Returning Officer for the 2008 Municipal Elections.

MOVED BY Councillor Nil Doucet and seconded by Councillor Simon LeBlanc that Nora Saulnier be hired as Returning Officer for the 2008 Municipal Elections. **MOTION CARRIED**

5.2 Resignation of Sara Evans, Recreation Coordinator

Council was informed that Sara Evans, Recreation Coordinator, gave her letter of resignation, effective end of May 2008. The vacancy has been advertised and the deadline for applications is April 30th, 2008.

Councillor Brian Comeau, on behalf of Council, wished Sara all the best and thanked her for her dedication as Recreation Coordinator.

5.3 Community Foundation of Nova Scotia

Council wanted to inform the population that grant applications were available at the Municipal Office for Community Foundation of Nova Scotia.

6) WARDEN'S ACTIVITY REPORT

Warden Jean Melanson was absent thus no report was given regarding his activities.

7) OFFICIAL STATEMENTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc indicated that Mr. Bernadin Comeau, a co-founder of Comeau's Sea Foods Limited, was recently inducted into this year's Junior Achievement Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame.

Mr. Comeau will be honoured in Halifax on June 12th, 2008.

8) CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report.

9) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

9.1 Public Works

There was no report regarding this committee.

Councillor Brian Comeau inquired whether quotes had been received for the sign at Wentworth Park.

Councillor Comeau also inquired whether quotes had been received for salting equipment for the Municipal Transfer Station.

CAO Connie Saulnier indicated that Council would be looking at quotes during the 2008-2009 budget process.

9.2 South West Shore Development Authority (SWSDA)

There was no report regarding this committee.

9.3 Villa Acadienne

Deputy Warden LeBlanc reported that all is going well in regards to operations at the Villa Acadienne. An application has been submitted for an expansion at the Villa Acadienne. No response has been received yet. Small projects are currently being carried out, such as painting projects inside and outdoors.

9.4 Waste Check

There was no report regarding this committee.

9.5 Health Centre Progress Report

CAO Connie Saulnier attended a progress meeting today (April 16th). Work should be completed by Friday, May 9th and the Centre is scheduled to open on Monday, May 12th with the grand opening to be scheduled for a later date.

The Manager has been hired: Ms Janice LeBlanc Bilodeau, originally of Saint-Martin.

An ad has been placed for two positions for Hostesses, one full time position and one part-time position. Application deadline is April 25th, 2008.

10) NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Motion to award the Medical Centre Furniture Tender

MOVED BY Councillor Simon LeBlanc and seconded by Councillor Russell Comeau that the Municipality of Clare accept the tendered bid in the amount of \$69,097.²⁴ (which includes HST) as submitted by “Cassa Business Equipment Ltd” on March 29th 2008 for the furniture for the new “Clare Health Centre” in Meteghan Centre. **MOTION CARRIED**

10.2 Motion to award the Medical Centre Medical Equipment Tender

MOVED BY Councillor Russell Comeau and seconded by Councillor Danny Hill that the Municipality of Clare accept the tendered bid in the amount of \$64,815.⁸³ (which includes HST) as submitted by “Pro-Medix Incorporated” on March 29th 2008 for the medical equipment for the new “Clare Health Centre” in Meteghan Centre. **MOTION CARRIED**

10.3 Motion to transfer Federal Gas Tax Funds to the Capital Reserve Fund

MOVED BY Councillor Danny Hill and seconded by Councillor Russell Comeau that the Municipality of Clare deposit a payment under the Federal Gas Tax Program (year 3) in the amount of \$163,321.⁰⁰ into the Capital Reserve Fund (Account # 92096-132) for future expenditures associated with the Gas Tax Program. **MOTION CARRIED**

10.4 Capital Request – Havelock Fire Department

The Havelock Fire Department has a 29-year old fire truck which needs to be replaced. They have indicated that a van could replace their truck. They have received a quote for a fire van in the amount of \$46,374.⁰⁰.

MOVED BY Councillor Simon LeBlanc and seconded by Councillor Nil Doucet that the Municipality purchase a fire van in the amount of \$46,374.⁰⁰ for the Havelock Fire Department. **MOTION CARRIED**

10.5 Seniors and low income individuals Municipal tax exemption

Council accepted to re-offer the \$100.⁰⁰ tax exemption, as last year, for seniors and low income individuals. To qualify for this exemption the amount for the annual household income not to exceed remains at \$15,000.⁰⁰.

10.6 Motion for road name change (in Hilltown)

MOVED BY Councillor Nil Doucet and seconded by Councillor Danny Hill that the Municipality of Clare accept the motion that a road located in Hilltown, leading to the “Brights Lake”, in the County of Digby, Nova Scotia, be named “Bark Road”. **MOTION CARRIED**

10.7 Date and time for Grants to Organizations budget discussions

Council agreed to meet Wednesday, April 23rd 2008 to discuss the 2008 Grants to Organizations applications.

10.8 Skateboard Park – added by Councillor Brian Comeau

The Skateboard Park Committee would like to know the situation on the insurance. Jeannette Doucet has made a request to the insurance company MacDonald Chisholm last week and phoned again this week, and has not yet received an answer. Hopefully we will receive an answer for the next meeting on April 23rd, 2008.

Comments were made to encourage the Skateboard Park Committee not to sell the skateboard park equipment before an answer is received regarding the cost of the insurance.

10.9 Security for Seniors – added by Councillor Russell Comeau

It was agreed that Council go to an “In Camera” session to discuss the grant for Security for Seniors.

11) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

The next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21st, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

12) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Submitted by,

Jeannette Doucet, Deputy Clerk