

Municipality of the District of Clare  
COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, February 9, 2011

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

ABSENT: Warden Jean Melanson

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## CALL TO ORDER

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

### 1) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY Councillor Brian Comeau and SECONDED BY Councillor Danny Hill that the proposed Agenda be approved with the following additions:

- 4.10 Scout Canada Sign – CAO Connie Saulnier
- 4.11 Firefighters Banquet – Councillor Danny Hill

MOTION CARRIED

### 2) PRESENTATIONS

#### 2.1 *Festival acadien de Clare* – Marc Boudreau (7:00 pm)

Marc Boudreau, President of the *Festival acadien de Clare*, and Mary Anne Gauvin, Festival committee member, gave a presentation regarding the *Festival acadien de Clare*. The presentation focused on the economic impact the Festival has on the Municipality.

The Festival asked Council to increase their annual grant from \$20,000 to \$25,000 beginning 2011-2012. They also requested another \$5,000 for fireworks for the 2011 Festival.

Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc thanked Mr. Boudreau and Ms. Gauvin for the presentation and indicated that Council will discuss this request during the upcoming budget review process.

#### 2.2 MPAL (Municipal Physical Activity Leadership) Program – Andrea Gaudet

Andrea Gaudet, Director of the Municipal Recreation Department, gave a presentation regarding the Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program MPAL. She inquired if Council would write a letter of intent for this program. If Council approves this project, the Municipality will have to match the program grant amount of \$20,000. Council discussed and agreed to write a letter of intent for this program. The new position will be placed on a list of requests for discussion during the upcoming budget process.

Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc thanked Ms. Gaudet for her presentation.

### 3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

#### 3.1 Update on Researcher Position (Beach/Lakes Access)

CAO Connie Saulnier informed Council that 4 candidates had been chosen for interviews and the selection committee felt that only 1 was qualified. She indicated that the individual's references were excellent, but unfortunately when the candidate was contacted, he had moved out West to seek full-time employment.

CAO Saulnier indicated that a member of the PAC committee had spoken to a qualified researcher who might have an interest in the position if the hours were flexible. CAO Saulnier will speak to the interested individual. Also, it was suggested at PAC to contact the Lawrencetown Surveyors study program for possible leads. If necessary, the position will be re-advertised. The CAO and PAC members will further pursue this matter.

#### 3.2 Update on Pointe-à-Major Road

Council was given an update regarding the issue of takeover of private roads with the Municipality, more specifically the Major Point Road. CAO Connie Saulnier advised that Horner and Associates had sent a letter to Major Enterprises asking for remedial plans, including estimates, describing how they plan to bring the road up to municipal standards. No reply has been received to date. Depending on cost, an area rate could be set with the residents' approval.

### 4) NEW BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Report on RDA discussions

CAO Connie Saulnier informed Council that she has attended two meetings relating to a proposed model to form a new Region Development Authority (RDA). Council discussed making use of the programs available through the provincial economic development agency for Acadians and Francophones, *Conseil de développement économique (CDÉNÉ)*, and asked the CAO to invite the representatives of the CDÉNÉ at a future meeting for discussions.

#### 4.2 *Jeux de l'Acadie* in Argyle

Council was informed that the Municipality of Argyle is requesting a financial contribution of \$30,000 for the Finale of the *Jeux de l'Acadie* to be held in Argyle in 2012. They have indicated that they require a commitment of \$22,500 by the end of July 2011 and the balance in May 2012.

#### 4.3 Public Transportation Forum in Saulnierville (Feb. 17 at 7pm)

Council was informed that Claredon Robicheau of *Le Transport de Clare* is organizing with Greg Zwicker of Terrain a forum on public transportation (a project funded through the NS Research Incentive Program).

The forum will be held Thursday February 17 at the Saulnierville Legion, starting at 7 pm. The Councillors were asked to attend.

Terrain will take the feedback from participants and the needs identified at this forum to prepare a report that will be presented to the Province and to the Municipality regarding possible public transportation options for Clare.

**4.4 Introduce Gas Tax Project – Councillor Arnold LeBlanc**

Councillor Arnold LeBlanc indicated that he would like the Municipality to look at extending the sidewalks throughout Clare by using the gas tax funds. Council discussed that there were many projects on the Capital Wish list and stated that the first step would be to find the cost per kilometre before making a decision. CAO Connie Saulnier will bring estimates forward at budget time.

**4.5 ACOA/RVB Project**

CAO Connie Saulnier discussed with Council regarding moving ahead with completing the proposed projects at the Rendez-vous de la Baie (RVB) which were approved by Council during the 2010-2011 budget. ACOA has already committed to contributing \$100,000 towards these RVB projects.

**4.6 Mould at Library in Meteghan**

CAO Connie Saulnier informed Council that there is a mould issue at the Meteghan Library caused by a crack in the foundation as well as spring flooding. CAO Saulnier stated that the Gyproc would need to be removed and the cement patched up to help prevent further moisture and water entering the building. Council stated that money will have to be budgeted for these repairs at the Meteghan Library.

**4.7 Tax Write-Offs**

Deputy Clerk Jeannette Doucet presented to Council the following tax accounts belonging to NS Department of Natural Resources and amounts to be written-off:

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Reason</u>
02551586	\$ 14.00 + interest	2010	Exempt
04335155	\$ 36.00 + interest	2010	Exempt
10050332	\$ 40.00 + interest	2010	Exempt
02552493	\$ 40.00 + interest	2010	Exempt
08542082	\$ 6,748.00 + interest	2010	Exempt

A motion will be presented at the upcoming Council Meeting.

**4.8 Team for “Relay For Life”**

CAO Connie Saulnier informed Council that Yvon McCauley on the Recreation Committee wished to know if Council wanted to put together a team and participate in the cancer research fundraising event “Relay for Life”. Council expressed interest, however would like to know the date before committing.

#### **4.9 Sidewalks**

This issue was discussed at point 4.4.

#### **4.10 Scout Canada Sign – Connie Saulnier**

CAO Connie Saulnier informed Council that the sign at the Meteghan Library needs to be replaced and that the Library would like their official name “Senator Ambroise H. Comeau Memorial Library” listed on the new sign and that the present sign of Scouts Canada Baie Ste-Marie Troop should be removed as the Scouts have no physical office in the building. The Scouts have no objection to having the sign removed, as they had free use of the library for their meetings, but were concerned regarding the money which was invested in the sign.

Council was advised that the sign was erected in 2004 during the *Congrès mondial acadien* and that 2/3 of the sign had been paid with grants (1/3 Heritage Canada, 1/3 Municipality of Clare and 1/3 Scouts) and therefore Council felt there was no reimbursement of costs due to the Scouts Troop. The sign will be saved and returned to the Scouts.

#### **4.11 Firefighters Banquet – Councillor Danny Hill**

Councillor Danny Hill informed Council that the Clare Firefighters Association would prefer to have their recognition banquet the second week of October to coincide with fire protection week.

Also Councillor Hill wanted to inform Council regarding a question that arose during January’s Council-in-Committee meeting regarding illegal burning. It had been stated that someone was burning shingles in an open fire on the beach and the question was asked if there is a By-Law against burning shingles. Councillor Hill inquired with the Fire Departments regarding this issue and was informed that it is a Department of Environment issue.

#### **5) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

#### **6) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Jeannette Doucet – Deputy Clerk  
JD/ck*