

**Municipality of Clare
Council Meeting
Minutes - February 20th, 2008**

PRESENT: Warden Jean Melanson, Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc, Councillors; Nil Doucet, Darry Hill, Simon LeBlanc, Brian Comeau, Russell Comeau, Ronnie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk Jeannette Doucet and CAO Connie Saulnier

1) CALL TO ORDER

Warden Jean Melanson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY Councillor Darry Hill and seconded by Councillor Ronnie LeBlanc that the proposed agenda be approved. **MOTION CARRIED**

3) PRESENTATION

Digging Clams – Yvon Thibault

Yvon Thibault thanked the Council for allowing the delegation of clam diggers the opportunity to make a presentation to Council regarding recreational clam digging. There has been some discussing in the area that the clam beds would be leased to commercial industries and that the general public would not have any access to these clam beds. The group would like for the Municipality to inquire regarding leasing the clam beds on St-Mary's Bay, as they would like to continue using the clam beds for recreational use as has always been the case.

After discussion Council agreed to form a committee. This committee consists of Councillors Nil Doucet, Brian Comeau and Russell Comeau and from the general public Oral Saulnier, Lowell Briggs and Gary Robichaud. They will be discussing the clam beds situation.

Warden Melanson thanked the group and indicated that Council would be working with the formed clam beds committee.

4) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS ON:

4.1 January 16th, 2008 Council Meeting

MOVED BY Councillor Darry Hill and seconded by Councillor Nil Doucet that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on January 16th, 2008 be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED**

4.2 February 6th, 2008- Committee of Council Meeting

MOVED BY Councillor Ronnie LeBlanc and seconded by Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the minutes of the Committee of Council Meeting held on February 6th, be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED**

5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

5.1 Closure of Meteghan River Post Office

Councillor Russell Comeau indicated that some businesses would be interested in having the post office in their businesses for a fee. However Canada Post has advised that the current mail box (in Meteghan River) could continue on the present site. Councillor Russell Comeau stated that he will be holding a public meeting to discuss this situation.

5.2 RCMP Advisory Board

Council is looking for three (3) members of the general public to be representatives on the Police Advisory Board as requested by the Province. Council will be advertising for members on this board.

6) WARDEN'S ACTIVITY REPORT

- Jan 24 - UNSM Rural caucus meeting in Liverpool
- Jan 28 - Airport Task Force meeting – Yarmouth, Provincial announcement of \$50,000.00 funding for an airport manager
- Jan 30 - Clare Firefighters Association – Salmon River. Warden Melanson indicated that we should purchase some badges to identify our Fire chiefs and Deputy Fire chiefs.

MOVED BY Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc and seconded by Councillor Darry Hill that we purchase some badges for all our Fire Chiefs and Deputy Fire Chiefs **MOTION CARRIED**

- Feb 4 & 18 - Salmon River Fire Department working on plans for the new fire hall; the hall is going to be similar to the Carleton fire hall
- Feb 11 - Tourism stakeholders meeting –Yarmouth with Tourism Minister, Provincial announcement of \$135,000 for a study of what could be done to improve Tourism in our area
- Feb 15 - Meeting with Energy Minister Richard Hurlburt announcing a \$1,000,000 campaign to help municipalities – institutions to change to more efficient light bulbs.

6.1 Warden Melanson proclaimed February as Heart Month.

7) OFFICIAL STATEMENTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

There were no official statements.

Councillor Brian Comeau attended a seminar about Arts and Culture in the Municipality. A committee was formed to look at the possibility of establishing a regional committee.

8) CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 – Letter from La Baie SPCA (copy included). Warden Melanson indicated that we will be looking at La Baie SPCA request during the 2008-2009 budget.

9) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

9.1 Public Works

Councillor Brian Comeau indicated that the committee had met and discussed various projects;

- a) shelves, library Meteghan
- b) shelves, Comeauville Old School
- c) portable toilet, Landfill
- d) sander, Landfill
- e) sign, Wentworth Park – Boat launch
- f) trails, Wentworth Park

The Warden added;

- g) sign, Landfill

It was noted that projects a), b) and c) have been completed.

9.2 South West Shore Development Authority (SWSDA)

Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc had indicated that some municipalities were asking the province for more information before signing an agreement with SWSDA regarding a guaranteed loan. Deputy Warden LeBlanc indicated that the Yarmouth Medical Centre was now officially opened.

9.3 Villa Acadienne

The administration met with Health Minister Chris d'Entremont regarding a business plan of 15.3 million for la Villa Acadienne. Minister d'Entremont indicated that they should receive an answer for this request in May or June 2008. Deputy Warden LeBlanc and Lucille Maillet attended a meeting of the Western Region to discuss various and similar problems in residential care facilities. The Western Region group would like the province to look at these problems.

9.4 Waste Check

Warden Jean Melanson indicated that he attended a Waste Check meeting on February 28, 2008. Waste Check has made 4365 house visits and only 144 bags were rejected. Waste Check is also leaving notes to thank the people that are cooperating with the program.

Warden Melanson indicated that the Tim Horton's cups are recyclable; he also indicated that the province has implemented a \$10 to \$45 item charge on electronics, TVs, etc. The electronics, TVs, etc now have to be brought to Comeau Bottle Exchange; they will no longer be pick-up at curb side collection.

Warden Melanson commented that the majority of people are recycling.

9.5 Medical Center Progress Report

Ms. Connie Saulnier, CAO informed Council that the project was going well and that Avondale Construction Ltd has finished 98% of their contract (Phase I) and that Delmar Construction Ltd (Contract II) is on site now. Ms. Saulnier mentioned that there was still time to support the "Buy a Brick" Program.

10) NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Doctor Recruit

Councillor Ronnie LeBlanc stated that the Dr. Recruit committee made a recommendation that we invite Clare Pharmasave to be part of the Dr. Recruit Committee.

MOVED BY Councillor Ronnie LeBlanc and seconded by Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc that we include Clare Pharmasave on the Doctor Recruit Committee. **MOTION CARRIED**

10.2 Award of Clare Landfill Closure Area "F" Tender

MOVED BY Councillor Brian Comeau and seconded by Councillor Russell Comeau that the Council for the Municipality of Clare accept the tendered bid in the amount of \$72,975.40 (\$64,580.00 plus \$8,395.40 HST) as submitted by Spectacle Lake Concrete & Excavation Ltd. on January 24th, 2008 for work associated with the Clare Landfill Closure Area "F". **MOTION CARRIED**

10.3 Uniform Area Rate for District of Clare Fire Departments

CAO, Connie Saulnier made a presentation regarding a uniform area rates of 0.5¢ per \$100.00 of assessment in the Municipality of Clare. Ms. Saulnier explained that the area rate would be used to purchase capital equipment. She commented that the Fire Departments deserve safe equipment to use.

MOVED BY Deputy Warden Arnold LeBlanc and seconded by Councillor Darry Hill that the Council for the Municipality of Clare set a uniform Area Rate of 5 ¢ per \$100.00 of assessment for the 3 fire districts in Clare, effective April 1st, 2008. The funds derived from this area rate will be used for the sole purpose of purchasing or upgrading capital for the 3 fire departments, as described in the presentation entitled "District of Clare Fire Departments" which was made before Council, the District Fire Chiefs and the Deputy Chiefs on February 13th, 2008 by CAO, Connie Saulnier.

MOTION CARRIED

10.4 Appointment of 2 Board Members – Yarmouth Airport Corporation

Warden Jean Melanson indicated that the Yarmouth Airport Corporation had accepted our conditions for the Municipality of Clare to become a member.

MOVED BY Councillor Darry Hill and seconded by Councillor Russell Comeau that the Council for the Municipality of Clare appoint Councillor Ronnie LeBlanc and Councillor Simon LeBlanc as Board Members on the Yarmouth Airport Corporation.

MOTION CARRIED

10.5 Returning Officer for Municipal Elections

The Municipality of Clare will be advertising for a Returning Officer for the upcoming October 2008 Municipal Election.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

The next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Submitted by,

Jeanette Doucet, Deputy Clerk