

**Municipality of the District of Clare**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 18, 2009**

**PRESENT :** Warden Jean Melanson, Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc, Councillors: Brian Comeau, Russell Comeau, Nil Doucet, Arnold LeBlanc and Simon LeBlanc; CAO Connie Saulnier and Deputy Clerk Jeannette Doucet.  
*Translators:* Ms. Germaine Comeau and Mr. Richard Landry.  
*Camera operator:* Ms Gene Dugas.

**ABSENT:** Councillor Danny Hill.

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**6:30 pm Presentation - Terrain Group**

Greg Zwicker accompanied by Kevin Brooks from Terrain Group made a presentation to Council regarding their work and experience on Municipal Planning and how the ICSP plan can be integrated with a Municipal Plan. They have indicated that a plan for the Municipality of Clare could be done within one (1) year.

Warden Melanson thanked the representatives of Terrain Group for their presentation.

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**1) CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Jean Melanson called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

**2) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the proposed agenda be approved as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3) PRESENTATIONS**

**3.1 Introduction of new RCMP Officer and RCMP Report (7:00 pm)**

The new officer for the Meteghan Detachment of the RCMP, Sergeant Jeff Holms, accompanied by Corporal Christian Thibodeault made a presentation and gave a report of the occurrence statistics in the Municipality of Clare (copy attached).

Warden Jean Melanson thanked the officers for their presentation and report.

**3.2 Irving Lands: Nora Robicheau (7:30 pm)**

Ms. Nora Robicheau, Ms. Christianne Chandler, accompanied by a group of supporters gave a presentation regarding the 170,000 acres of land in southwestern Nova Scotia owned by the J.D. Irving Company that are up for sale. The group is looking for Council's support regarding this issue.

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Brian Comeau that Council send a letter of support to the 'Buy Back Nova Scotia Coalition' endorsing their efforts to lobby all levels of government to engage in a meaningful dialogue with the J.D. Irving Company and stakeholders in order to delay the private sale of the lands in question until all viable and mutually-acceptable options for public ownership are explored and considered, and a copy of this letter be forwarded to the Honourable Wayne Gaudet, the Honourable Chris d'Entremont and the Honourable Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, Minister of Natural Resources and our sister municipal councils in Yarmouth County, Digby County and Shelburne County.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden Jean Melanson thanked the group for their presentation and concern.

**4) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS ON:**

**4.1 February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009: Council Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the minutes of the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Council Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4.2 March 4, 2009: Committee of Council Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the minutes of the March 4, 2009 Committee of Council Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4.3 March 12, 2009: Committee of Council Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the minutes of the March 12, 2009 Committee of Council Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Council decided to discuss the issues regarding previous meetings under the heading of New Business.

**6) Warden's Activity Report**

Warden Jean Melanson reported that he participated in the following activities:

- A meeting in Yarmouth regarding Mental Health Awareness;

- A Tourism Workshop in Yarmouth regarding Yarmouth and Acadian Shores marketing;
- A session organized by the Municipal Department of Recreation regarding Active Living;
- Board Meeting of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in Victoria, BC;
- A meeting regarding District Planning at the Municipal Office in Argyle;
- A meeting with Mike Comeau of Atlantic Canada's Opportunity Agency (ACOA) regarding the "Rendez-vous de la Baie" Project;
- A meeting regarding forming a Coop to create lodging for challenged individuals.

## 7) Official Statements from the Members of Council

No Official Statements were given at this time.

## 8) Correspondence

### 8.1 Letter from *La Baie SPCA*

A letter from *La Baie SPCA* dated March 2, 2009 (copy attached) had been distributed regarding the group's disappointment in Council's decision to abandon the construction of a dog shelter.

Councillor Arnold LeBlanc suggested that Council look at this request with an open discussion at a later date. Council was in agreement.

### 8.2 Letter from FCM – Lights Out Across Canada for Earth Hour on March 28

A letter from the FCM had been distributed encouraging the Municipality of Clare to participate in the "Lights Out Across Canada" event held for Earth Hour on March 28. Council agreed to participate and encourage the citizens of Clare to participate in the Lights Out event, taking place from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm on Saturday, March 28, 2009.

### 8.3 Facsimile from Municipality of the District of Barrington – requesting letter of support regarding *Year of the Lobster*.

A facsimile from the Municipality of Barrington had been distributed requesting that a letter of support regarding their proposal to declare 2009 as *Year of the Lobster*. Council agreed to send a letter of support to the Federal Government in support.

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet that Council send a letter of support to MP Gerald Keddy supporting the Municipality of the District of Barrington's proposal to declare 2009 as *Year of the Lobster*.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9) Committee Reports**

**9.1 Planning Advisory Committee**

In Councillor Danny Hill’s absence, CAO Connie Saulnier gave the report regarding the Planning Advisory Committee and related planning issues.

Discussions were held regarding if the Municipality of Clare was going to continue with the District Planning Commission (DPC) because the Municipality’s contract with the Commission expires March 31, 2009. The Municipality has a commitment with the ICSP planner for two (2) years. Warden Melanson indicated that he will discuss this subject with the other DPC members and report back to Council.

It was reported that Councillor Danny Hill has been chosen to be the Chairman for the Planning Advisory Committee.

CAO Saulnier reported that the Committee made a recommendation to adopt a plan that would protect pork producers from losing their status while inactive, as most pork producers farms are no longer in operation.

Councillor Russell Comeau presented the building permits report as submitted by the Municipal Building Department. A total of 7 permits were issued in February 2009, for an estimated value of construction in the amount of \$162,000.00 (copy of report included).

**Motion regarding ICSP Participation Plan**

The Motion regarding the ICSP Participation Plan was tabled until the next meeting.

**Motion regarding the appointment members of the public for the Planning Advisory Committee**

**MOVED BY** Warden Jean Melanson and **SECONDED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc that Council for the Municipality of the District of Clare appoint the following members of the public to the Planning Advisory Committee for the indicated terms:

<u>Name of appointed members</u>	<u>Terms</u>
Jean LeBlanc (reappointment)	November /2007 - March 31/2010
Odette Comeau (new)	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012
Anne LeBlanc (new)	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9.2 Recreation Committee – Councillor Brian Comeau**

Councillor Brian Comeau gave a report regarding two (2) grants that were given by the Recreation Committee at their last meeting: (1) \$550 to La Pirouette family resources centre; and (2) \$600 to the high school Swim Club Natation *École secondaire de Clare*.

Councillor Comeau also indicated that 20 people attended the Strategy Plan held in February at the Knights of Columbus and a follow-up session will be held on April 8, 2009 at 6:30 pm at the Saulnierville Legion (copy of committee minutes enclosed).

**MOVED BY** Warden Jean Melanson and **SECONDED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc that Council for the Municipality of the District of Clare appoint the following members of the public to the Municipal Recreation Committee for the indicated terms:

<u>Name of new member</u>	<u>Term</u>
Martine Jacquard (new)	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9.3 South West Shore Development Authority**

Warden Jean Melanson informed Council that he attended a meeting at which discussions were held regarding if SWSDA had the right to close meetings to the public. SWSDA is not a Committee of Council, therefore it is possible to close meetings to the public. The motion was in fact defeated, however the issue will be discussed again. Warden Melanson also reported that SWSDA decided to hold all its meetings in Yarmouth and will discontinue luncheon meetings to reduce costs.

**9.4 Tourism Committee – Councillor Arnold LeBlanc**

Councillor Arnold LeBlanc indicated that a new Tourism Committee had been formed and the Committee had elected the following Directors: Lisette Gaudet, President; Michelle Blinn, Vice President; and Johann Robichaud, Secretary. He explained that the Committee discussed an Action Plan and a discussion of what was accomplished and new ideas for the future (copy of committee minutes enclosed).

**MOVED BY** Warden Jean Melanson and **SECONDED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc that Council for the Municipality of the District of Clare appoint the following members of the public to the Municipal Tourism Committee for the indicated terms:

<u>Name of new members</u>	<u>Terms</u>
Ron Aymar	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012
Michelle Blinn	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012
Renette Cormier	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012
June Deveau	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012
Lisette Gaudet	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012
Jean LeBlanc	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012
André Valotaire	April 1/2009 - March 31/2012

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9.5 Villa Acadienne – Councillor Brian Comeau**

Councillor Brian Comeau informed Council that the *Villa Acadienne* had gone to tender for insurance and for furnace oil. He also reported that Shep-Com Construction will be installing fire doors. Councillor Comeau informed Council that the *Villa* now has a web-site which gives the history of “La Villa Acadienne”, as well as jobs and services available. Also, he explained that the facility was affected by the flu virus, however it remained open, asking visitors not to visit if they had the flu.

## 9.6 Waste Check – Warden Jean Melanson

Warden Jean Melanson reported that he was not able to attend Waste Check's last committee meeting.

## 10) New Business

### 10.1 First Reading of Transient Motor Vehicle Vendors By-Law Number 28

Council had been approached regarding Transient Motor Vehicle Vendors in Clare and the fact that no By-Law existed in the Municipality. Council looked at the issue and agreed to adopt a By-Law concerning this issue.

Council proceeded with the First Reading of the Motor Vehicle Transient Dealers By-Law (document attached).

**MOVED BY** Councillor Arnold LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the Municipality of the District of Clare read By-Law Number 28, a By-Law Respecting Motor Vehicle Transient Dealers and that the By-Law be read for the first time in its entirety.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 10.2 Motion to Approve *Le Rendez-vous de la Baie* Project

Council discussed the contract for the construction and renovations of the Acadian Cultural Interpretive Centre, *Rendez-vous de la Baie*, and proceeded to a motion.

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the Council for the Municipality of the District of Clare accept the amended tendered bid amount of \$932,682.43 (\$825,382.68 + \$107,299.75 HST) as submitted by Delmar Construction Limited on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 for work associated with the construction and renovations of the Acadian Cultural Interpretive Centre, hereby referred to as the "*Rendez-vous de la Baie*".

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 10.3 Motion to Transfer Federal Gas Tax Funds to Capital Reserve Fund

**MOVED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Arnold LeBlanc that the Municipality of the District of Clare deposit a payment under the Federal Gas Tax Program (year 4) in the amount of \$206,897.00 into the Capital Reserve Fund (Account # 92096-132) for future expenditures associated with the Gas Tax Program.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10.4 Motion to Approve an Increase in Tipping Fees**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Arnold LeBlanc that the Municipality of the District of Clare approve an increase in Tipping Fees charged at the Municipal Transfer Station for the fiscal year 2009-2010 effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 as follows:

For Residential and Commercial Garbage:

an increase from \$89.75 per metric ton to \$98.95 per metric ton;

For Unsorted Construction Debris:

an increased from \$95.00 per metric ton to \$100.00 per metric ton.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10.5 Motion to Approve the Purchase of a Custom Made Display Case**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Brian Comeau that the Municipality of the District of Clare purchase a custom made Display Case (54" wide x 78" high x 12" deep) from Nature's Home Furniture & Decor Limited as specified in their attached quote dated March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in the amount of \$1,949.25 (\$1,725.00 + \$224.25 HST).

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10.6 Financial Request by Author André Gaudet**

The financial request by author André Gaudet will be tabled until the 2009-2010 budget review.

**11) Date and Time of Next Council Meeting**

The next meeting of Council shall be held on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

**12) Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Jeannette Doucet,  
Deputy Clerk  
(JD/ck)*