



**Municipality of the District of Clare
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, July 20, 2011**

PRESENT: Warden Jean Melanson, Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc; Councillors:
Brian Comeau, Russell Comeau, Nil Doucet and Simon LeBlanc;
CAO/Clerk Connie Saulnier and Deputy Clerk Jeannette Doucet.
Translators: none required. Camera Operator: Jene Dugas Cottreau.

ABSENT: Councillors: Danny Hill and Arnold LeBlanc

1) CALL TO ORDER

Warden Jean Melanson called the Council Meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY Councillor Brian Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the proposed Agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

3) PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

4.1 June 15th, 2011 Regular Council Meeting

MOVED BY Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the minutes of the June 15, 2011 Regular Council Meeting be accepted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 July 6th, 2011 Council-in-Committee Meeting

MOVED BY Councillor Russell Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet that the minutes of the July 6, 2011 Council Meeting be accepted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**5.1 Mapping of “Environmentally Sensitive” Coastline Areas
(Motion) – Councillor Danny Hill**

Councillor Danny Hill had indicated at the last Council-in-Committee meeting that with regards to changes to the Land Use By-Law (By-Law #30) PAC was aiming to have an Environmentally Sensitive Coastal Areas Map developed that would show the coastal areas where coastal setbacks would apply (to protect private land, beaches and dune systems).



Voting members of the PAC were given the opportunity to vote on the four choices on how to proceed with the development of an Environmentally Sensitive Coastal Areas Map. The four choices were: (a) PAC conduct research and mapping on their own time (approx. cost \$0); (b) Genivar provide some guidance to members of the PAC, but PAC members do most of the work (approx. cost \$5,000); (c) Genivar play a leading role and work closely with members of the PAC (approx. cost \$10,000); or (d) develop a Request for Proposal and ask for bids from planning companies (approx. cost \$15,000 to \$20,000).

Councillor Hill informed Council that the majority of the votes were for option (c) “to have Genivar play a leading role and work closely with members of the PAC (approx. cost \$10,000)”. On behalf of PAC, Councillor Hill recommended to Council that the Municipality hire Genivar to conduct the work with regards to mapping environmentally sensitive coastal areas.

Council discussed and agreed to PAC’s recommendation and proceeded to the following motion:

MOVED BY Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the Municipality of the District of Clare hire the firm Genivar to work closely with members of the PAC and conduct the work associated with developing a map of Environmentally Sensitive Coastal Areas in the Municipality of Clare, that would indicate coastal areas where setbacks would apply (to protect land, beaches and dune systems) as per Policy Env-3 of the new Municipal Planning Strategy, at an approximate cost of \$10,000.

MOTION CARRIED

5.2 Renaming of “Chemin de la Montagne Road” in Meteghan Station

Councillor Brian Comeau stated that a meeting was held on July 13, 2011 at the Municipal Office with residents of “*Chemin de la Montagne*” and representatives from local Fire Departments, Emergency Health Services (EHS Ambulance) and interested Council members. The objective of the meeting was to try and resolve this issue of renaming the road, due to the ongoing situation causing much confusion regarding the roads “*Chemin de la Montagne*” and “Bangor Road”.

Council had felt that the situation was confusing and more importantly posed a danger in the event that emergency assistance was required at all of these locations (3 separate sections of roads named “Bangor Road” and one road named “*Chemin de la Montagne*”), remaining the first section of “Bangor Road” (on which the popular swimming spot “La Montagne” is located) to “*Chemin de la Montagne*” would be the simplest way to rectify the situation.

Gary Sullivan, in charge of Municipal Civic Numbering, had sent a letter to residents of “*Chemin de la Montagne*” and names were suggested, however there was not a majority of households that were in agreement with a new name.



At the July 13 meeting, representatives from local Fire Departments (who had brought this to Council's attention) and Emergency Health Services stated that incidences had occurred in the past where confusion in the road names had caused safety issues. They expressed that they felt the problem was lack of signage.

Two of the six households residing on "*Chemin de la Montagne*" were present at the meeting. They commented that if their road name changed, they would have to change their mailing address which would affect documents such as passport, drivers' license, etc.

The Councillors that were present at the meeting discussed the issue and it was suggested that the road name "*Chemin de la Montagne*" not be changed and more signs be posted. As such, it was noted that the first section of "Bangor Road" be renamed to another name. It was stated that residents will have to be notified and asked to suggest a new name for this section of road.

Once this first section of "Bangor Road" is changed, the second section can be renamed "*Allée des Blacks*", as previously approved by Council.

5.3 Proposed Recycling Facility in Clare – CAO Connie Saulnier

CAO Connie Saulnier presented projected revenue and expenses for a proposed Recycling Facility in Clare (see attached copy). Currently, the Municipality transports the recyclables to Yarmouth and the contract with Scotia Recyclers in ending in December. CAO Saulnier indicated that the Municipality of Digby and the Town of Digby are ready to support a recycling plant in Clare.

It was stated that the capital cost would come from the Federal Gas Tax Fund. The Municipalities of Yarmouth and Argyle will remain with Scotia Recyclers. It was also stated that to dispose of the recycling, it is possible to negotiate a five-year contract and re-evaluate costs after two years.

MOVED BY Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the Municipality of the District of Clare begin the process for a Recycling Facility in Clare as long as the Municipality of Clare can secure a five-year contract with both the Municipality of Digby and the Town of Digby, and include an escalator clause in the contract.

MOTION CARRIED

Council discussed if a press release should be prepared and sent to media, however it was decided to wait until the negotiations are completed.

5.4 Rendez-vous de la Baie Café Menu

CAO Saulnier indicated that after receiving the petition from a group of local citizens, Council had decided with regards to the RVB Café to focus on the original business plan. The CAO clarified that the plan states that the Café at the Cultural Centre would serve coffee, tea, muffins, soup, sandwiches, as well as traditional Acadian *râpure* and *fricot* (which would be purchased from local businesses if possible).



6) **WARDEN'S REPORT**

Warden Jean Melanson attended the following meetings and functions:

- *Université Sainte-Anne* fund raising event (golf at Granite Springs);
- Annual Canada Day at Smuggler's Cove;
- Community Feed-in Tariff (COMFIT) municipal workshop in Truro organized by the Department of Energy meeting in Truro to discuss "Feed in Tariff". The workshop provided helpful information and insight into this complex issue. COMFIT will provide opportunities for municipalities interested in getting into the green energy sector;
- Minister Percy Paris visiting in Clare at A.F. Thériault & Son;
- Waste Check board meeting;
- Jamie Baillie visited Comeau Lumber;
- A.F. Thériault & Son Ltd for the commemoration of the 100th Hammerhead boat built;

7) **OFFICIAL STATEMENTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

There were no official statements from Members of Council.

8) **CORRESPONDENCE**

8.1 **Request from AAANÉ for Funds for Art Expo at Grand Pré National Park**

CAO Connie Saulnier read an email received on July 14th 2011 from Nadine Belliveau on behalf of the *Association acadienne des artistes de la Nouvelle-Écosse* (AAANÉ). They are requesting a grant of \$200 to be able to attend the Art Expo to be held at Grand Pré National Park from September 5th to October 16th 2011 (see copy of email).

Council discussed and proceeded to the following motion:

MOVED BY Councillor Nil Doucet and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the Municipality of the District of Clare give a grant in the amount of \$200 to the *Association acadienne des artistes de la Nouvelle-Écosse* (AAANÉ) to assist them in attending the Art Exposition to be held at Grand Pré National Park from September 5th to October 16th 2011.

MOTION CARRIED

8.2 **Letter from Shirley Kennedy RE. Petition (RVB and Comeau Lumber)**

CAO Connie Saulnier read a letter dated June 22, 2011 from Shirley Kennedy, owner of "Around the Bend Restaurant" regarding the petition she and a group of individuals had circulated in Clare (see copy of letter) regarding the "Rendez-vous de la Baie" Café and former Comeau Lumber saw mill and property.

With regards to the food served at the RVB Café, this topic was discussed at Item 5.4 above. Regarding the former Comeau Lumber saw mill and property recently acquired by the Municipality, Council indicated that it does not have a complete business plan at this time. As plans for the site are confirmed, Council will insure the public is informed.



8.3 Letter from Paul Mazier RE. Commercial Fur Farm in Hectanooga

CAO Connie Saulnier read a letter dated July 10, 2011 from Paul Mazier, a resident of Hectanooga, regarding Commercial Fur Farm in Hectanooga (see copy of letter). Council discussed and pointed out that the regulations for commercial fur farms are regulated by the Province and the Municipality must follow the provincial regulations. The Provincial Departments involved have visited the location and if the Province has no objections to the commercial fur farm in Hectanooga, the Municipality cannot dispute their decision.

9) COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Planning/Development/Building

Building Permits Report (2-Year Comparison)

Warden Jean Melanson, in Councillor Danny Hill’s absence, presented the building permits reports for June as submitted by the Building Department:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Value of Construction</u>
2011	35	\$1,801,100
2010	33	\$1,575,600

9.2 Clare Municipal Recreation Committee – Councillor Brian Comeau

Councillor Brian Comeau gave an overview of the committee’s July meeting minutes. He indicated that two youths, Tyler and Trysten Deveau, were awarded \$1,000 each to assist with a trip to participate in the Junior Pan American Championships in Brazil in August (2011). As well, *Les Jeux de la Francophonie* were awarded \$1500 to help with the expenses for 7 participants of Clare to participate in the games to be held in Ontario in July (2011).

9.3 Tourism – Councillor Arnold LeBlanc

9.3.1 Clare Municipal Tourism Committee

No report was given.

9.3.2 Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association (YASTA)

Jean LeBlanc has stepped down from the YASTA Board as representative for Clare in the industry sector. YASTA is asking Council for a recommendation for a new member.

A recommendation had been made by a YASTA board member that Larry Peach, Tourism Director, sit on the Board to represent Clare.

Council discussed and indicated that if the recommendation were to come from the Municipal Tourism Committee, Council would accept the recommendation to have Larry Peach serve on the board. Council requested that the Tourism Committee discuss this and if they are in agreement, it be recorded in their minutes and then presented to Council as an official recommendation from the Committee.



9.4 Villa Acadienne – Councillor Brian Comeau

Councillor Brian Comeau indicated that the Villa’s Annual Meeting had taken place. The following board members were elected: Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc, Councillor Simon LeBlanc, Councillor Brian Comeau, Councillor Arnold LeBlanc, and from the public at large, Eric Pothier and Josephine Hanna. He indicated that Eric Pothier was elected President and that he, Councillor Brian Comeau, had been elected as Vice-President.

9.5 Waste Check – Warden Jean Melanson

The report was given under Warden’s Activities.

9.6 Clare Energy – Warden Jean Melanson

Warden Jean Melanson indicated that the Provincial Government has legislated that all the streetlights in the Province must be LED lights. Nova Scotia Power will have five years to changeover all the streetlights in the Province to LED lights at Nova Scotia Power’s expense.

Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc is requesting that a new section of streetlights be installed in the Meteghan area, where none currently exist, on Highway 1 between Cottage Celeste and Comeau Lumber. A plebiscite will be prepared for the 86 residents outlining the estimated cost of the street light rate.

Council discussed and decided to wait for the fall to hold the plebiscite until the rates are set by the Province, to be able to provide a more accurate cost to residents (rate payers) who would be affected by the installation of a new section of streetlights.

10) NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Motion to Transfer Funds from Gas Tax Reserve to General Operating Fund

CAO Connie Saulnier updated Council regarding amounts from the Gas Tax Funds that had been spent in 2010-2011 on various projects and expenses which require to be transferred to the General Operating Fund, which are as follows:

Implementation of Clare Energy Project: \$46,418.14; ICSP/Municipal Plan: \$27,583.46; Transfer Station Loan Payment: \$143,524.00; Administration Fees: \$4,405.65, totalling \$221,931.25.

Council proceeded to the following motion:

MOVED BY Councillor Nil Doucet and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the Municipality of the District of Clare transfer the sum of \$221,931.25 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund to the General Operating Fund to cover the following 2010-2011 expenses:

Implementation of Clare Energy Project	=	\$ 46,418.14
ICSP/Municipal Plan	=	\$ 27,583.46
Transfer Station Loan Payment	=	\$143,524.00
Administration Fees	=	\$ 4,405.65

MOTION CARRIED



10.2 Motion to Appoint New Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) Member

As per discussions during the last Council-in-Committee meeting, the term of two members of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) expired last year (Jean LeBlanc and Yvon Comeau) and no new members had been appointed due to no one from the public at large coming forward to express interest.

Recently a member of the public, Mr. Roland LeBlanc, expressed interest in becoming a committee member. Council had reviewed Mr. LeBlanc's resume and felt his experience and background would be beneficial to the PAC.

Council proceeded to the following motion:

MOVED BY Councillor Russell Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet that the Municipality of the District of Clare appoint Roland LeBlanc as a member of the public to the Planning Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years, ending on March 31st 2013.

MOTION CARRIED

11) IN CAMERA SESSION

MOVED BY Councillor Brian Comeau that Council proceed to an In Camera Session to discuss various issues which include **Item 10.3 Legal Representation regarding the former regional development authority SWSDA.**

The time is 8:25 pm.

MOVED BY Councillor Brian Comeau that Council proceed to the regular Council Session.

12) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

There will be no Council meeting in August unless there is an urgent matter.
The next Regular Council meeting will be Wednesday September 21st, 2011 at 7 pm.

13) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

*Jeannette Doucet – Deputy Clerk
JD/cdk*

Approved by Council on August 17, 2011