



**Municipality of the District of Clare**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, November 17, 2010**

**PRESENT:** Warden Jean Melanson; Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc; Councillors: Brian Comeau, Russell Comeau, Nil Doucet, Danny Hill, Arnold LeBlanc and Simon LeBlanc; CAO/Clerk Connie Saulnier.  
Translators: James Crombie & Richard Landry. Camera Operator: Jene Dugas.

**ABSENT:** Deputy Clerk Jeannette Doucet.

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**1) CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Danny Hill that the proposed agenda be approved as circulated with the addition of an In-Camera session to discuss personnel issues.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3) PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**4) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**4.1 October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Regular Council Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Arnold LeBlanc that the minutes of the October 20, 2010 Regular Council Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4.2 November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 Council-in-Committee Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet and **SECONDED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc that the minutes of the November 3, 2010 Council-in-Committee Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**



## 5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### 5.1 Beach Access via Public or Private Roads – Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc

Councillor Danny Hill informed Council that PAC decided it would advertise the position of a Researcher again, this time aimed towards an individual of the general public instead of a law student, which will specify that the term position will be to conduct research to confirm ownership of roads that lead to beaches and lakes within the Municipality.

### 5.2 911 Civic Numbering – Councillor Danny Hill

Councillor Hill inquired if CAO Connie Saulnier had more information regarding 911 Civic Numbering. CAO Saulnier stated that she has information that she will bring forward at the upcoming informal Committee-of-Council meeting.

## 6) WARDEN'S ACTIVITY REPORT

### **Proclamation: Restorative Justice Week, November 14 to 21, 2010**

Warden Jean Melanson read the proclamation (see attached) declaring November 14 to 21<sup>st</sup> 2010 as Restorative Justice Week.

Warden Jean Melanson gave a report on his recent activities:

- Attended the Annual UNSM meeting in Sydney;
- Warden Melanson informed Council that a subject of interest that was discussed during the UNSM was rural mail delivery and Canada Post's sporadic assessments throughout the Province, resulting in the loss of rural delivery and creating centralized group mailboxes. Council discussed this issue and the possibility of being informed by Canada Post of when rural mail box inspections would occur in the Municipality of Clare.

### **CANADA POST**

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the Municipality send a letter to Canada Post requesting to be informed when Canada Post would be conducting an assessment of rural mailboxes in Clare.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

### **Municipality of Clare wins "Community Arts and Culture Recognition" Award**

- Attended Creative Nova Scotia Awards Gala in Halifax; Clare received the Community Arts and Culture Recognition Award and was awarded a \$10,000.00 cheque to be used for the future promotion and integration of arts and culture within the community of Clare; Warden Melanson thanked the Festival Acadien de Clare for having submitted the application. Also Georgette LeBlanc, an author from Clare, won the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia's Masterworks Arts Award for her two poetic works "Alma" and "Amédé" and a cheque for \$25,000.00. Warden Melanson congratulated Ms. LeBlanc.



Warden Melanson explained that the money received is to be used for the future promotion and integration of arts and culture within the community of Clare. It is not designated for a specific group or organization. Warden Melanson shared his idea of meeting with representatives of all the groups of Clare that are involved in arts and culture to come up with an approach, together, of how to use the money in the best way possible to benefit the entire community.

- Attended with the Mayors and Wardens of South-West area the Nova Scotia Art Gallery Yarmouth Branch meeting;
- Attended with CAO Saulnier a meeting with Sgt Holmes of the Meteghan RCMP and Corp. Dave Lively regarding home security alarm systems in the Province and RCMP having to respond to them; last year out of the 150- 200 alarms, all of them were false alarms (mostly due to strong winds, etc.). Sgt Holmes explained how these are very time consuming for the officers to respond to; changes will occur in April of next year.
- Attended *Société historique de Clare*'s annual meeting.
- Attended November 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day events at Legion in Saulnierville.
- Attended *Université Sainte-Anne* board meeting (the position of Chancellor has been decided and negotiations are underway, he or she will begin their duties in June 2011).
- Attended official opening of Medical Centre in the Municipality of Argyle.

## 7) OFFICIAL STATEMENTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

There were none.

## 8) CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Town of Shelburne to Mayors and Wardens of South West NS was read. The Town is requesting a letter of support with regards to the expansion of aquaculture of Cooks Aquaculture in the Shelburne area. Council discussed and decided to send a letter stating that Council has not yet taken a position 'for' or 'against' the issue of aquaculture development.

## 9) COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 9.1 Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)

Councillor Danny Hill reported on the recent PAC's meeting. He stated that the Province is reviewing the document MPS and, within a few weeks, will either accept it as is or make recommendations of changes. It was noted that it is the first time ever that the Province received an MPS that is in both official languages.

Councillor Hill explained that the next process for PAC and Council will be to write a new Land Use By-Law to reflect the current hobby farm issue and add issues raised by the public during the resent consultations, such as zoning.

Councillor Hill informed Council that 2 PAC members' terms end in November, those of Yvon Comeau and Jean LeBlanc. He stated that PAC had agreed to create 2 positions for Associate Members that can attend PAC meetings to provide their input, however they would not have the right to vote.



Councillor Hill also indicated that an ad will soon be placed in local newspapers to advertise the 2 vacant positions on the PAC for members of the general public, indicating they are for 2-year terms.

### **Building Permits Report (2-Year Comparison)**

Councillor Danny Hill presented the building permits reports for October (*copy included*) as submitted by the Building Department as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Value of Construction</u>
2010	11	\$ 246,500.00
2009	18	\$ 429,771.00

## **9.2 Clare Municipal Recreation Committee – Councillor Brian Comeau**

Councillor Brian Comeau reported that no meeting had been held.

### **Hall of Fame/Wall of Fame**

Councillor Comeau explained that the Recreation Department was preparing a grant application to *Acadian Affaires acadiennes* through the *Entente Canada Nouvelle-Écosse* in the amount of \$28,500.00 to hire an individual to conduct research regarding athletes of Clare that could possibly be featured in a Hall of Fame or on a Wall of Fame (location to be determined). Council commended this effort pointing out that there are many other municipalities that have such a program and that Clare has many talented athletes in golf, baseball, hockey, curling, etc. Councillor Comeau added that the Municipality's contribution towards this project would be 'in kind' (office space, computer use, photocopies, etc.). Councillor Comeau stated that Andrea Gaudet was seeking Council's approval before submitting the application.

**MOVED BY** Councillor Brian Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet that the Clare Municipal Recreation Department proceed with applying for a grant through Acadian Affaires to be able to hire an individual to conduct research regarding athletes that could be featured in a potential Hall of Fame or Wall of Fame for Clare.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

### **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Councillor Comeau added that Recreation Department was organizing the annual Municipal Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, to be held Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup>, during which folks will be able to exchange sets of old Christmas lights for new energy saving LED lights (1 new set for 2 old sets), through the Clare Energy Concept Coordinator, Pam Thibault, in partnership with NS Power. This is the first time that the Municipality of Clare will participate in this light exchange.



### 9.3 Tourism – Councillor Arnold LeBlanc

#### 9.3.1 Clare Tourism Committee

Councillor Arnold LeBlanc informed Council that the Committee discussed the activities that occurred in 2010; there were many and a wide variety. One of the most successful was the lobster suppers. They also discussed a 3-year plan for developing tourism in Clare in conjunction with YASTA.

#### 9.3.2 Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association (YASTA)

Councillor Arnold LeBlanc reported on some of the activities associated with YASTA, and tourism promotion and development.

### 9.4 Villa Acadienne – Councillor Brian Comeau

Councillor Brian Comeau updated Council regarding various general issues associated with the *Villa Acadienne*.

### 9.5 Waste Check – Warden Jean Melanson

Warden Jean Melanson indicated that there was no Waste Check board meeting.

## 10) NEW BUSINESS

### 10.1 Tax Write-Offs

Council reviewed the proposed tax write-offs and passed the following motion:

**MOVED BY** Councillor Danny Hill and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the Municipality of the District of Clare write off the following noted tax amounts for the reasons herein described:

Account #	Amount	Year	Reason
08530718	\$102.72	2010	Account is a duplicate.
08507155	\$139.62	2008	Non-taxable; trailer on property
08507155	\$72.76	2009	is registered with Registry of
08507155	\$72.76	2010	Motor Vehicle.
04574338	\$185.11	2009	Account no longer exists.
06357482	\$21.40	2009	Paid by Province (Grant In Lieu of Taxes)
05418534	\$58.85	2009	Paid by Province (Grant In Lieu of Taxes)
05418518	\$1.07	2009	Paid by Province (Grant In Lieu of Taxes)
03203263	\$44.94	2009	Paid by Province (Grant In Lieu of Taxes)
01202359	\$117.70	2009	Paid by Province (Grant In Lieu of Taxes)
01201808	\$29.79	2009	Paid by Province (Grant In Lieu of Taxes)
00392855	\$38.52	2009	Paid by Province (Grant In Lieu of Taxes)

**MOTION CARRIED**



**10.2 Increase Municipality’s MasterCard Limit**

CAO Saulnier explained that due to combined expenses and purchases incurred by the RVB, Clare Health Centre, and fuel for municipal vehicles, all placed on one card, that certain times of year there are not sufficient funds on the MasterCard. As such, the CAO made the request to Council that the credit limit be increased from \$8,000 to \$12,000. Council discussed the request regarding the Municipality’s MasterCard limit and passed the following motion:

**MOVED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Simon LeBlanc that the Municipality of Clare apply for an increase on the limit of the Municipal MasterCard from \$8,000.<sup>00</sup> to \$12,000.<sup>00</sup>.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10.3 Dangerous and Unsightly Premises**

Council reviewed photos and the recommendations made by Building Inspector Arnold Comeau and passed the following motions regarding Dangerous and Unsightly Premises:

**MOVED BY** Councillor Danny Hill and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that Council instruct the Municipal Solicitor to send a letter to each of the property owners listed below with regards to their properties located within the Municipality of Clare which were inspected by the Municipal Building Inspector and deemed to be in a condition that is dangerous and/or unsightly as per Municipal By-Law No. 14 “Dangerous and Unsightly Premises”.

<u>PID #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>INSPECTION</u>
#30057426	Saulnierville	Dangerous
#30030605	Corberrie	Dangerous
#30059272	La Butte/Meteghan River	Unsightly
#30040638	Grosses Coques	Unsightly

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10.4 Award of Snow Removal Contract**

Council reviewed the tendered bids regarding snow removal contracts for municipal buildings and passed the following motions:

**MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Arnold LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Danny Hill that the Municipality of Clare award the Snow Removal, Sanding and Salting Contract for the **Municipal Office Building** in Little Brook, from December 2010 to June 2011, to **Jonathan Reddick** for the price specified in his tendered bid submitted on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2010.

**MOTION CARRIED**



## **CLARE HEALTH CENTRE AND THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Brian Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Nil Doucet that the Municipality of Clare award the Snow Removal, Sanding and Salting Contract for the **Clare Health Centre** and the **Sewage Treatment Plant** in Meteghan, from December 2010 to June 2011, to **Jason's Snow Removal & Ice Control** for the price specified in his tendered bid submitted on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2010.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **10.5 Clare Energy Steering Committee Members**

Warden Melanson informed Council of the proposed list for the members of the Clare Energy Steering Committee.

##### **VOTING MEMBERS:**

- 3 Councillors: Jean Melanson, Ronnie LeBlanc and Simon LeBlanc;
- 1 representative from *Université Sainte-Anne*: Allister Surette;
- 1 rep from SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) *Sainte-Anne*: Stéphanie LeBlanc;
- 1 from *Chambre de Commerce de Clare*: Paul-Émile LeBlanc;
- 3 reps from local businesses: Arcade Comeau (Forêt Acadienne), Leon LeBlanc (Comeau Sea Foods), and Marc Robichaud (UJ Robichaud and Sons);
- 2 community members at large: Rebecca Stuart and Denis Tufts;

##### **NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

- 1 rep from ACOA: Mike Comeau;
  - 1 NS Economic and Rural Development: Michelle Blinn;
  - 1 NS Dept. of Energy (or Conserve NS or Efficiency NS);
- STAFF (non-voting):** CAO Connie Saulnier and Energy Coordinator Pam Thibault.

**MOVED BY** Warden Jean Melanson and **SECONDED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc that the Clare Energy Steering Committee be composed of three (3) Councillors, one (1) representative from *Université Sainte-Anne*, one (1) representative from SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) *Sainte-Anne*, one (1) from *Chambre de Commerce de Clare*, three (3) reps from local businesses and two (2) community members at large, which would all have voting rights; one (1) ex-officio member from each ACOA, NS Economic and Rural Development and NS Dept. of Energy (or Conserve NS or Efficiency NS) which would all be non-voting members as well as the CAO and the Energy Project Coordinator.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **10.6 Dangerous Road Situation at Intersection of Peter Dugas Road (coming and going to wharf) and Highway 1 – Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc**

Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc informed Council of a dangerous road situation in Meteghan, where the three roads coming from Meteghan Wharf (Peter Dugas Road) join to Highway 1. One of the roads is not wide enough for two trucks to go by at same time, causing trucks to have to back into traffic to allow the other one to pass. This area is very busy with truck traffic due to the wharf, fish plants and other such businesses located near the wharf.



Council discussed the situation and agreed that Council send a letter to the Minister of Transportation, with a copy to Paul Dugas at the Saulnierville office, requesting that the situation be examined and to see if there are possible solutions that could rectify this situation in Meteghan.

## **10.7 Update Regarding Flooding**

CAO Connie Saulnier, also the Clare EMO Manager, informed Council regarding bridges and roads that are closed in Clare due to flooding caused by the enormous amount of rain the region has received over the past few weeks (photos included).

The “Chemin À Moise” in Bangor was closed Wednesday November 10<sup>th</sup> and homes on the point were evacuated. The road reopened Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup>.

“Ben Comeau Bridge” on d’Entremont Road (where the sharp curve is located), which was being used as a local detour route while the Meteghan River Bridge is being replaced, was closed Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup>. The bridge remains closed until the structural foundation is inspected by DOT.

“Dick Thériault Road” in Belliveau Cove was closed Tuesday November 16<sup>th</sup>. There are no homes on the road however there are cottages and camps and it is hunting season. The road is scheduled to reopen tomorrow November 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **OTHER ROADS DAMAGED DUE TO FLOODING**

Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc inquired regarding “Chemin des Prairies”, that a resident had brought this to his attention.

CAO Saulnier informed Council that André Valotaire, EMO Coordinator, was compiling a list of roads that were closed or damaged due to the recent flooding. This list will be provided to the Province. CAO Saulnier indicated that the “Chemin des Prairies” will be added to the list.

### **DANGEROUS ROAD – LITTLE BROOK**

Councillor Russell Comeau stated that residents had inquired regarding an ongoing dangerous road situation on Highway 1 in Little Brook, where a large amount of water always pools on a specific section of the road causing hydroplaning.

Council discussed this situation and agreed that Council send a letter to the Minister of Transportation, with a copy to Paul Dugas at the Saulnierville office, requesting that the situation be examined and to see if there are possible solutions that could rectify the situation in Little Brook.

### **BRIDGES IN METEGHAN RIVER**

Councillor Russell Comeau inquired regarding the Meteghan River Bridge and if the completion date was still December 15<sup>th</sup>. CAO Saulnier stated that she had not been told otherwise.

Councillor Brian Comeau stated that, regarding the “Ben Comeau Bridge” on Chemin d’Entremont Road, he had received complaints regarding improper signage regarding the bridge closure and detour.



Council stated they would like to invite Paul Dugas of Saulnierville DOT to give a report at the December Council meeting updating the road, bridge closures as well as the new Meteghan River Bridge.

**10.8 Research Grant for Potential Hall of Fame – Councillor Brian Comeau**

This issue was covered at point 9.2 under Recreation Committee report.

**IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Council went to an In-Camera Session to discuss personnel issues.

**11) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

The next regular Council Meeting is scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 7 pm.

**12) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned after the In-Camera session at 9:40 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Colette King –  
Administrative Assistant to the CAO*