

**Municipality of the District of Clare**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**PRESENT :** Warden Jean Melanson; Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc;  
Councillors: Brian Comeau, Russell Comeau, Danny Hill, and Arnold LeBlanc;  
CAO Connie Saulnier and Deputy Clerk Jeannette Doucet.  
Translators: James Crombie and Gilles LeBlanc.

**ABSENT :** Councillors Nil Doucet and Simon LeBlanc.

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**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 Danny Hill that the proposed agenda be approved with the following addition: under **10) New Business**, add Item number **10.6 Lunchroom and Washroom Facilities at Municipal Transfer Station.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3) PRESENTATIONS**

**3.1 Review of 2008/2009 Audited Financial Statements – Grant Thornton**

Paul Comeau, auditor for Grant Thornton, presented the 2008-2009 Financial Statements for the Municipality of Clare.

**MOVED BY** Councillor Brian Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the 2008-2009 Financial Statements be approved as presented by Paul Comeau, auditor for Grant Thornton.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

**4.1 July 15<sup>th</sup> 2009 Council Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Danny Hill that the minutes of the July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Regular Council Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4.2 August 12<sup>th</sup> 2009 Council Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Danny Hill and **SECONDED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc that the minutes of the August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Regular Council Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4.3 September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009 Council-In-Committee Meeting**

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the minutes of September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009 Council-In-Committee Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

There was no business arising from previous meetings.

**6) WARDEN'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

**6.1 PROCLAMATION – CONTINUING CARE MONTH**

Warden Jean Melanson officially proclaimed the month of September as 'Continuing Care Month' for the Municipality of Clare. Warden Melanson took this opportunity, on behalf of the Municipality, to pay tribute to the compassionate individuals involved in continuing care, to recognize their contributions in our health care system, in the community, as well as in the lives of the residents of Clare. In conclusion, Warden Melanson read the Proclamation (copy attached).

**6.2 ACTIVITY REPORT**

Warden Jean Melanson indicated that the new Exit 32 off the 101 in Salmon River/Lake Doucet is being constructed and the paving will be done next spring 2010.

Warden Melanson also indicated that the Eastlink High Speed Internet in Clare should be ready by the end of 2009.

Note: Due to health issues, Warden Jean Melanson had not been able to attend activities, events or meetings on behalf of Council during most of the month of August. During that period, Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc assumed those official duties on the Warden's behalf.

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

Councillor Brian Comeau congratulated Mr. Theodore and Mrs. Jacqueline Melanson for their 50<sup>th</sup> golden wedding anniversary on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Councillor Comeau requested that a letter of congratulations be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Melanson.

**8) CORRESPONDENCE**

**8.1 Letter from Clean Annapolis River Project regarding the Environmental Home Assessment Program**

CAO Connie Saulnier read a letter from Clean Annapolis River Project dated August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 regarding the Environmental Home Assessment Program of NS Environment, in Kings, Annapolis, Digby and Yarmouth Counties (copy of letter attached). The letter was to inform the Municipality of this program, which involves household septic systems, wells and oil tanks, and asking interested homeowners to contact the Environmental Home Assessment Program’s Office.

**8.2 Letter from Canadian Wildlife Services (Environment Canada) regarding the Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations**

CAO Connie Saulnier read a letter from Canadian Wildlife Services (Environment Canada) dated July 31<sup>th</sup>, 2009 (copy of letter attached) regarding changes to the Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations being considered for implementation in 2010, and providing the Municipality of Clare an opportunity to comment on the proposal.

After discussion, Council concluded that the Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations are not a municipal mandate.

An email will be sent to Keith McAloney of Canadian Wildlife Services to thank them for their letter and informing them that Council will not be sending any input due to the above said.

**9) COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**9.1 Planning Advisory Committee**

Councillor Danny Hill indicated that Council and members of the Planning Advisory Committee met with Greg Zwicker and Kevin Brooks of Terrain Group on Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup> to go over the findings that Terrain had collected during the series of community discussions, held throughout the Municipality of Clare in August 2009.

Councillor Hill explained that the next step for Terrain will be to hold a public meeting, at one central location, some time in October. The format will be a fun event with food and discussions, with everyone from the general public invited. The date and time will be advertized and Council will be informed.

**Building Permits Report (2-year comparison)**

Councillor Danny Hill presented the building permits reports (*copy included*) as submitted by the Building Department (see below).

<b>Permits</b>	<b>Value of Construction</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year</b>
33	\$596,900.00	July	2009
37	\$895,836.00	July	2008
15	\$393,000.00	August	2009
33	\$273,500.00	August	2008

## 9.2 Clare Municipal Recreation Committee – Councillor Brian Comeau

Councillor Brian Comeau gave a report regarding the Clare Recreation Committee's activities (August 27, 2009 Meeting Minutes). He reported that the Committee had granted the amount of \$1,500 to the youth dance group *La Baie en Joie* to assist with the cost of performing in the *Congrès Mondial Acadien* in New Brunswick.

Councillor Comeau stated that due to health problem Committee member Denise LeBlanc had to resign. The new vice-president is Martine Jacquard.

Councillor Comeau informed Council that the Committee has received the draft Five-Year Strategic Plan from Mike Trinacty. This Plan will be finalized in the near future. A meeting will be held in September to discuss the Plan with Mr. Trinacty.

As well, the subject of the lack of field maintenance was discussed at their last meeting. This issue will be looked at further.

## 9.3 South West Shore Development Authority

Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc reported that SWSDA presented its financial statements at their last Board meeting. Deputy Warden LeBlanc also indicated that a study of the Digby and Yarmouth Ferries was being conducted. He also reported that Expo-Commerce will be held on September 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> at *Université Sainte-Anne*.

## 9.4 Tourism Committee – Councillor Arnold LeBlanc

Councillor Arnold LeBlanc reported the ongoing activities of the Tourism Committee as listed in the circulated minutes (*dated September 8, 2009*). He reported that:

- The Visitor Info Centre will be closing at the end of September for the season.
- The statistics at the church in Church Point show an increase in visitors this year, notably more tour buses.
- “Les Raconteurs” (Storytellers) project is progressing well and a ‘trial run’ is being worked on. This project would offer visitors the opportunity to meet local people in their homes, hear local stories and taste secret family recipes.
- The lobster and steamed clam suppers of “Les beaux jeudis” (Goodtime Thursdays) was a huge success and the event will be repeated next year.
- The website is also being looked at and a new webpage will be developed.
- The Yarmouth and Acadien Shores Guide is being looked at as well the Clare map in the Guide.
- The *Musique de la Baie* program was expanded to the regional level this year, offering more locations. Workshops for this program may be organized in November.

### Rendez-Vous de la Baie

Councillor Arnold LeBlanc indicated that construction of the *Rendez-vous de la Baie* is still going well and the Café and the Art Gallery are scheduled to open on Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup>. The Interpretive Centre and the other components will open in the spring of 2010.

**9.5 Villa Acadienne – Councillor Brian Comeau**

Councillor Brian Comeau informed Council that the *Villa Acadienne* had awarded the tender for Medical Supplies to Saulnierville Pharmacy.

He added that two employees of the *Villa acadienne*, Gail Robicheau and Yvette Thibodeau, will be receiving awards for 25 years of service during the Staff Appreciation Banquet to be held in October.

Renovations are under way at the Villa, including the kitchen, windows and offices.

**9.6 Waste Check – Warden Jean Melanson**

Warden Jean Melanson indicated that there was nothing to report at this time.

**10) NEW BUSINESS**

**10.1 Adoption of New Road Names**

**Catherine Road in Woodvale**

**MOVED BY** Deputy Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Danny Hill that the Municipality of Clare accept the motion that a new road located in Woodvale, off the Dargie Cove Road, in the County of Digby, Nova Scotia, be named “CHEMIN CATHERINE ROAD”.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Camper’s Cove Road in New Tusket**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Danny Hill and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that the Municipality of Clare accept the motion that a road starting at Sprague Lake Road and leading to the lots by the lake, in New Tusket in the County of Digby, Nova Scotia, be named “CHEMIN CAMPER’S COVE ROAD”.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10.2 Fire Departments 5-Year Capital Plan Requests**

CAO Connie Saulnier presented the Fire Departments 5-Year Capital Plan requests for 2009 (Year 2 of 5) (copy enclosed).

**MOVED BY** Councillor Danny Hill and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that Council for the Municipality of Clare accept the recommended amounts as per the document presented by CAO Saulnier for the Fire Departments Capital Plans for 2009 (Year 2 of 5) for a total cost of Capital in the amount of \$17,479.57.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10.3 Twinning with County Clare, Ireland**

CAO Connie Saulnier read an email from Angélique LeBlanc of the CDÉNE regarding the possibility of ‘twinning’ Clare (NS) with Clare, Ireland (copy enclosed). The request was tabled until Council receives more information.

#### **10.4 Request to Sponsor of “Rails to Trails” Bench**

CAO Connie Saulnier read a letter from the Association sentier de Clare – Rails to Trails Association’s president, George (Ziggy) Comeau with regards to a Bench Fundraising Project the Association is organizing. The suggested donation is \$500 for businesses.

**MOVED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Arnold LeBlanc that Council for the Municipality of Clare support the Association sentier de Clare – Rails to Trails Association’s Bench Fundraising Project by contributing the amount of \$500.00 towards the project.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **10.5 Advertisements in “Le Courier” – Councillor Brian Comeau**

Councillor Brian Comeau informed Council that he was contacted regarding advertisements from the Municipality of Clare appearing in the Clare Shopper but not always being placed in *Le Courier* as well. CAO Saulnier explained that efforts are constantly being made to insure that, as much as possible, the ads placed in the Clare Shopper are placed in *Le Courier* as well.

#### **10.6 Lunchroom and Washroom Facilities at Municipal Transfer Station**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Arnold LeBlanc and **SECONDED BY** Councillor Russell Comeau that Council for the Municipality of the District of Clare accept the tendered bid in the amount of \$34,171.20 (\$30,240.00 plus \$3,931.20 HST) as submitted by “Troy’s Kitchens & Construction” on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 for the construction of lunchroom and washroom facilities at the Clare Municipal Transfer Station.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **INFORMATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY:**

The Municipality of Yarmouth’s new Municipal Office will hold their official opening on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009, between 10 am and 2 pm and everyone is welcome to attend.

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

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

#### **12) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Jeannette Doucet - Deputy Clerk*