

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a
SPECIAL MEETING OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Held in the Council Chamber, 210 Aberdeen Road, Bridgewater, N. S.
Monday, November 16, 2009 - 1:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Don Downe
Councillor Basil Oickle - District 1
Councillor Donald Zwicker - District 2
Councillor Frank Fawson - District 3
Councillor Milton Countway - District 4
Councillor Sandra Statton - District 5
Councillor Wade Carver - District 6
Councillor Cathy Moore - District 7
Councillor Arthur Young - District 9
Councillor Lee Nauss - District 10
Councillor Eric Hustvedt - District 12

Absent: Deputy Mayor Martin Bell - District 11
Councillor John Veinot - District 8

Staff: Tammy S. Wilson, Chief Administrative Officer
Heather Whynott, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Downe called the Special Council Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The purpose of the Special Meeting was to have an *In Camera* discussion regarding Contract Negotiations and to meet with Mr. Darcey MacBain, Area Manager of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (DOTIR).

2. IN CAMERA

Moved by Councillor Countway, seconded by Councillor Nauss that Council go *In Camera In Committee*. Carried.

The purpose of the *In Camera* meeting was to discuss Contract Negotiations in accordance with section 22 (2) (e) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Nauss that Council rise and report. Carried.

3. MEETING WITH DARCEY MacBAIN, AREA MANAGER, DOTIR

In attendance at 2:30 p.m. was Mr. Darcey MacBain, Area Manager, DOTIR.

On November 2, 2009, the Municipality sent Mr. MacBain a letter listing the following 7 items that they wanted him to address when he next met with Council:

1. Follow-up procedure to reply to a Councillor when they call in a report to the Hebbville Office or send an e-mail directly to you. Can a procedure be put in place to update the Councillor on how the matter reported was addressed. (All Councillors)
Mr. MacBain's response - When a request or complaint comes in, they forward them to the Operations' division and notification is put into the system. The best idea is to call back and someone in the office can go into the system and check the status.

Councillor Statton asked what the time frame is for call-back. Mr. MacBain said a couple of weeks.

Councillor Oickle reported on a situation in his area that has not been finalized. Mr. MacBain suggested that Councillor Oickle call the Hebbville Base at 543-8169.

Mayor Downe asked if it would be easier if Councillors called the Supervisor direct. Mr. MacBain said if they did it would not be recorded, as the Base person puts the notification in the system.

5. What is the timetable for work on the Petite Riviere bridge? Has a decision been made to continue it as a one lane bridge? (Councillor Hustvedt)

Mr. MacBain's response - DOTIR will continue with the design work for the bridge. Next year's priority list is not yet finalized. A community meeting has not been scheduled because they are waiting for the design work and priorities.

Councillor Hustvedt asked if the design is for one lane or two.

Mr. MacBain said the community raised issues about a one-lane bridge, so he's sure they are looking at all possibilities.

2. Policy or standards for roads that are posted " Sanding Only". What is done if there is no sand available to sand the roads when they are icy. (Councillor Moore)

Mr. MacBain's response - In most situations sand will be used. Should sand not be available, they are told not to use salt if it's stipulated " sand only", unless it's an emergency.

3. Residents often want to play an active role by cutting branches around a highway sign (to make visible) or cut brush near the sides of the road. What should they be told? In what situations would their help be welcomed by DOTIR? (Councillor Hustvedt)

Mr. MacBain's response - Officially, to do work on highway property they are to have permission of the DOTIR. He would encourage cutting bushes in front of your own property; but if it's in front of someone else's property, he would tell them to get permission.

Councillor Oickle asked if he could call DOTIR and ask permission to cut bushes along the highway to the fish plant.

Mr. MacBain said if you're cutting an area in front of someone else's property, then you have to have permission, and it would be granted under a Breaking of Soils Permit which is issued by him.

4. Is there any procedure for letting businesses know when the routes to their business will be blocked by road work? (Councillor Hustvedt)

Mr. MacBain' s response - In a construction situation, the contractor would be letting businesses know; but if they are outside the construction area, there is no protocol in place.

6. Is the bridge connecting Bell' s Island to Bush Island on any current schedule for maintenance? (Councillor Hustvedt)

Mr. MacBain' s response - Both bridges have been inspected recently, and both are safe. There are no plans to replace bridges to either Bush or Bell Islands.

7. Bush cutting

Mr. MacBain' s response - They' ve done a lot of bush cutting this year – approximately \$150,000 worth in their budget. They did about 103 hectares of machine bush-cutting and about 17,000 square metres of manual cutting. He read the list of roads on which work has been done, including those that were done in addition to the regular funding. He indicated that their plan right now is a 6-year rotation of dealing with it.

Councillor Oickle commented that in six years bushes can grow extremely fast and high.

Mr. MacBain said there are a lot of factors that they take into consideration when determining when bush cutting is required.

Councillor Oickle noted that there are a lot of turns in roads where the Slow Down signs are gone.

Mr. MacBain said warning signs, such as Curve warning signs, they look at when reviewing roads and if they' re gone they replace them.

Councillor Zwicker reported that there are a number of culverts at various places on Highway 332 that need to be replaced. Also, there' s a granite rock sticking through the pavement on Wilkie Cove Road.

Mr. MacBain said he will see what he can do for Highway 332.

Councillor Carver reported that he has received calls about the Walburne Road. The biggest concern is that it is graded only up as far as Tom Ernst' s gate and they don' t do the rest of the Walden Road.

Mr. MacBain said he will check into that.

Councillor Statton reported that the Pine Grove Road is in need of resurfacing, and she asked how to get a capital project in the budget for next year.

Mr. MacBain reported that he has not seen the capital project list yet for next year. He will check to see if it' s on the list and get back to her.

There was some discussion about requests for the capital projects' list and having input into it.

Councillor Nauss reported that there is a boulder that is coming through larger and larger on the Crouses Settlement Road. They would like some asphalt put around it, and also some bush cutting done.

Councillor Young reported on a situation on the Lower Branch Road where the bridge washed out on one end last spring. There are warning signs there, but in winter it could be a dangerous situation. He feels some upgrading should be done.

Mr. MacBain said it' s supposed to be done before winter.

Councillor Countway asked if the bridge work is over yet for this year.

Mr. MacBain said in-stream work is done by September 30th, but out-of-stream work can be done after that.

Mayor Downe reported that on North Street, by the Irving service station where you turn down the road that travels along the LaHave River, there' s a person with a hidden driveway and they would like a Hidden Driveway sign posted. Also, they are asking about lights to get off that road onto North Street, as it' s very difficult to get on North Street. Mr. MacBain said he will pass that on to the Construction and Traffic division.

Mr. MacBain asked, as we' re moving into the winter season, if packages have been sent to Council providing information about when they can expect roads to be plowed?

Ms. Wilson said she' s not aware of them being received yet.

Mr. MacBain suggested that when those packages arrive Councillors should read them carefully and they should be able to handle many residents' concerns without them having to come to DOTIR. If there is a problem that continues, then bring it forward to DOTIR.

Mayor Downe thanked Mr. MacBain for coming to the meeting and for the cooperation we are having with DOTIR.

Mr. MacBain thanked Council and he left the meeting.

2.1 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting during the *In Camera* session.

Moved by Councillor Statton, seconded by Councillor Carver that Municipal Council directs the Municipal Solicitor to prepare an addendum to the Second Mortgage Agreement between the Bridgewater Golf and Country Club and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg to defer 50% of the 2008 and 2009 payment until the end of the loan term being 2016; and that the Municipal Solicitor be instructed to prepare an addendum to the First Mortgage Agreement between the Bridgewater Golf and Country Club and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg to defer payment of \$58,900 until 2012. Carried unanimously (with exception of Mayor who did not vote on the motion as he had declared a conflict of interest during the *In Camera* discussion).

4. ADJOURNMENT

At 3:35 p.m. it was moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Moore that the meeting adjourn.

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MAYOR DON DOWNE, CHAIRMAN

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TAMMY WILSON, CHIEF ADM. OFFICER