MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Council Minutes
May 9, 2017 7:00 p.m.
Sanford Council Chambers

1. Call to Order
The Warden called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Call of Roll
Present: A. Zebian  Warden
          R. Jannasch  Councillor District 1
          K. Monroe   Councillor District 2
          D. Keith    Councillor District 3
          T. Leopold  Councillor District 4
          D. Francis  Councillor District 5
          R. Hussey   Councillor District 6
          J. Daniels  Councillor District 7
          P. Morton   Deputy Warden
          R. Zwicker  Councillor District 10
          C. Osborne  Chief Administrative Officer
          M. Laycock  Director of Finance
          J. Bourque  Planner
          R. Brown   Municipal Clerk
          J. Woodman Administrative Assistant

There were 8 members of the public in attendance

3. Announcements

Warden Zebian welcomed everyone. He reviewed the fire evacuation procedures.

Councillor Jannasch announced that the Citizens Actions to Protect the Environment (CAPE) group are hosting a public presentation on Thursday, June 8th at Center Burlington Hall with guest speaker Tim Webster, a researcher from Nova Scotia Community College in Middleton. He informed the topic is “What Nova Scotia can expect in terms of rising sea levels, and how to adapt to that change”.

Councillor Daniels announced on Saturday, May 13th Southwest Hants Fire Society will be hosting their big breakfast. She also pointed out there is an article on Quality Machining in the REN’s newsletter on how they utilize the universities for skilled workers, which she thought was very well done.

Warden Zebian announced there is a benefit auction and dance scheduled for Saturday at the Rawdon & District Fire Hall at 7:30 p.m.

CAO Osborne reported that Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal has released the Environmental Assessment Review of the twinning of Highway 101 and it is available online, she noted there is also a copy available at the office if anyone wishes to view it in-house. She reminded Council that staff is holding the surplus of assets sale for not-for-profits at the Newport Station School on Saturday, May 13th from 8:30 am – 10:30 pm. She explained it is first come first serve for not-for-profit organizations in West Hants and anything of value left will go to tender.

Warden Zebian announced the Great Little Art Show will have openings every Saturday & Sunday for the month of May from 10:00am-5:00 pm.

4. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions

MOVED and SECONDED that the agenda be approved with the following addition:

- 13 (b) – Tree Saplings – Warden Zebian

Motion Carried.
5. Public Hearings  
   a. Application to amend the Hantsport Municipal Planning Strategy (HMPS) to enable Council to consider rezoning properties from the Single Unit Residential (R-1) to Two Unit Residential (R-2) zone.

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting move to a Public Hearing. Motion Carried.

The meeting moved to a public hearing at 7:05 p.m.  
The meeting reconvened at 7:10 p.m.

MOVED and SECONDED that Council give Second Reading to and approve the amendments to the Hantsport Municipal Planning Strategy to enable Council to consider amending the zoning on properties within the Single Unit Residential (R-1) Zone to the Two Unit Residential (R-2) Zone, as outlined in the Planning Staff Report to the Hantsport Area Advisory Committee dated December 14, 2016. Motion Carried.


MOVED and SECONDED that the Council Minutes of April 11, 2017 & April 11, 2017 Public Hearing Minutes By-Law Respecting the Management of the Riverbank Cemetery as amended & April 25, 2017 Special Council Minutes be approved as circulated. Motion Carried.

7. Business Arising from Minutes and any Related Correspondence

There was no business arising from the minutes or any related correspondence.

8. Presentation(s)

There were no presentations.

   a. Warden’s Report

Warden Zebian reported he attended the Provincial Volunteer Awards Banquet with the Director of Parks & Recreation and volunteer recipient Rita Porter. He and the CAO attended the AMA/UNSM CAO/CEO conference in Truro. He had also attended many other community events, such as the Volunteer Awards Banquet at the Community Center, Hantsport Library Community Showcase, Rotary Club Dinner in support of the Hospital Foundation, and the Hantsport Princess Tea. The Warden confirmed he taped an episode of In Focus through Eastlink where he highlighted the many attributes of West Hants. He indicated that he and CAO Osborne had a discussion with the CAO & Mayor of the Town of Windsor on the new arena project and the study that is required.

Warden Zebian thanked Deputy Warden Morton for attending the West Hants Ground Search & Rescue 40th Anniversary Awards and thanked Councillor Francis for attending the Volunteer Appreciation event at the Cedar Gallery.

10. Reconsideration or Recision of Resolutions of Which Notice has Been Given on a Previous Day

There were no reconsiderations or rescissions of resolutions.

11. Report(s) of the Committee(s) and Officer(s)  
   a. Committee of the Whole  
      i. Excerpts March 28, 2017
Request for Proposals – VCFN Extension Project

MOVED and SECONDED to award a contract for RFP WH-IT#2017-001 to Eagle Telecom Engineering and Consulting for $185,013.90 plus net HST. Motion Carried.

Snow Reserve and Surplus

MOVED and SECONDED to instruct staff to create a General rate and Area Rate Operating Snow Reserves funded by operating and area rate surpluses, from time to time, and;

move the remaining 2016-17 budgeted snow removal funds funded by General rate and Hantsport Area Rate to the Operating Snow Reserves, and;

that Council expense the operating surplus of $97,800 from the 2016-17 Road budget to pay the remaining balance due to the General Capital Fund for the 5-ton Dump Truck and related equipment. Motion Carried.

b. Planning Advisory Committee

   i. Application to rezone property at 289 Falmouth Back Road, Falmouth, West Hants (PID 45036712) from Single Unit Residential (R-1) to Two Unit Residential (R-2).

MOVED and SECONDED that Council give First Reading and hold a Public Hearing to consider amending the zoning map of the West Hants Land Use By-law from the Single Unit Residential (R-1) zone to Two Unit Residential (R-2) for 289 Falmouth Back Road (PID 45036712), as outlined in the Planning Staff + Report to the Planning Advisory Committee dated April 20, 2017. Motion Carried.

c. Report of the Chief Administrative Officer

   i. Land Lease Agreement with Minas Basin Pulp and Power Company Ltd.

The Municipal Clerk reported this is a 20-year agreement renewal, and is the third lease agreement with Minas Basin for the Prince Street section of road closed by policy. She confirmed the Municipality’s revenue in each of the first 5 years is $2,000 per year after which time the amount can be renegotiated.

MOVED and SECONDED that Council enter into a lease agreement with Minas Basin Pulp and Power Company Limited for the closed portion of Prince Street PID 45228186 for a term ending March 31, 2036. Motion Carried.

   ii. Valley Waste Resource Management Authority Agreement – Amending Agreement

CAO Osborne reported that Valley Waste Resource Management Authority is requesting that the Municipality approve the Third Amending Agreement which corrects the Second Amending Agreement where wording was inadvertently added to the agreement not providing the Annapolis County full partnership in voting rights.

MOVED and SECONDED that Council agree to the Third Amending Agreement of the Inter-Municipal Services Agreement executed on October 1, 2001, creating the Valley Regional Solid Waste Resource Management Authority, and hereby agree to admit and the Town of Annapolis Royal a party as intended in the Second Amending Agreement, effective October 1, 2013. Motion Carried.
d. REMO Advisory Committee

There was no report of the REMO Advisory Committee.

e. Police Advisory Committee

Deputy Warden Morton reported the RCMP are requesting that Council provide them with their top five priorities for policing in the area based on the priorities set by the RCMP. The CAO will circulate the information to councillors.

f. Other Committee Reports or Recommendations
   i. Fire Restructuring Committee
      There was no meeting of the Fire Restructuring Committee.

   ii. French Mill Watershed Committee – Deputy Warden Morton
       Deputy Warden Morton reviewed his report.

   iii. Hantsport Watershed Committee – Deputy Warden Morton
       Deputy Warden Morton reviewed his report.

12. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

13. Miscellaneous / New Business
   a. Suspension of Committee of the Whole Meetings – August Report

Councillor Daniels proposed that Council consider taking the Committee of the Whole meeting off in August, instead of both Council and Committee of the Whole meetings. She suggested from her prior experience, there hasn’t been a lot of business in the summertime, adding it was quiet and routine.

Councillor Daniels expressed concern with quorum explaining there will be Councillors going on vacation with family. She offered it is important to make sitting on Council appear attractive to engage younger people in the future. She indicated she wanted to foster an environment that will allow them to participate more in local politics.

MOVED and SECONDED that Council Procedural Policy COGE-0030.00 be amended in Section 3, 5.3b. to reflect that there will be no regular Committee of the Whole meetings in the month of August.

MOVED and SECONDED to amend the motion to include regular Council, and Planning Advisory Committee meetings as well.

Councillor Monroe reiterated that she didn’t feel councillors should be taking time off and suggested this is a back-door way of getting the motion put to the floor again. She stated that bureaucracy grinds so slow in municipal government, and questioned why take a month off. She indicated she would not support the motion. Councillor Daniels clarified it wasn’t intended as a back-door way of getting the issue revisited. She suggested the majority of the work is done by staff not Council, and reminded if there is anything impending a special meeting can be called immediately.

CAO Osborne noted as a matter of procedure if some thing is not recommended to Council by Committee of the Whole then it is not something Council has considered and can be brought to Council for consideration as part of the regular procedure. She cautioned that once Council voted on the motion, it would not be eligible for reconsideration because it had already been discussed and voted on at the Committee of the Whole meeting in substantially the same format.

Amendment Carried.

Motion Carried.
Councillors Monroe, Jannasch and Zwicker voted nay.

b. Tree Saplings – Warden Zebian

Warden Zebian reported that Gordon and Dorothy Martin are requesting permission by the Municipality to plant saplings on the property at the Brooklyn civic in recognition of the battle of Vimy Ridge.

MOVED and SECONDED that Gordon and Dorothy Martin be granted permission to plant saplings on the property of the Brooklyn Civic Center.
Motion Carried.

14. In Camera Session

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting move in camera.
Motion Carried.

The meeting moved in-camera at 7:35 p.m.
The meeting reconvened at 8:43 p.m.

15. Date of Next Meeting – June 13, 2017

The next Regular Council meeting will be held on June 13, 2017.

16. Adjournment

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn.
Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Abraham Zebian, Warden  Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk