

1. **Council Convenes - O Canada** - Warden Hunter called to order the March 4, 2009 session of Cumberland Municipal Council at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the E. D. Fullerton Municipal Building, Upper Nappan. O Canada was sung.
2. **Roll Call** - The roll was called by Shelley Hoeg, Executive Assistant to the CAO. All Councillors were in attendance. Also in attendance were Rennie Bugley, CAO; Steve Ferguson, Director of Policy and Research; Robert Streach, Director of Public Works; and By-Law and Enforcement Administrator Peter Cottingham
3. **Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)** - The agenda was approved with the following additions and deletions  
  
**Deletions:** Items 10.1 and 10.2 are deferred to the next meeting  
  
**Additions:** 11.4 – Ice Storm, 15.1 Event in Pugwash
4. **Approval of Minutes**
  - 4.1 **February 18, 2009 Council Session** - The Minutes of the January 14, 2009 Council session were approved with the amendment of old RCMP station being replace with the new RCMP station in the motion of 14.2.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes** -
  - 5.1 **February 18, 2009 Council Meeting** - Item 4, 6, 11 and 12 are still in progress and 21 has been completed. Staff were requested to place an advertisement for a representative on the Cumberland Housing Authority.
6. **Delegations and Presentations**
  - 6.1 **L.A. Animal Shelter** – Kirsteen Thompson, President, L.A. Animal Shelter. Ms. Thompson began her presentation by advising Council that the L.A. Animal Shelter is the only shelter in Cumberland County. Ms. Thompson advised that the aim of the shelter is to find the animals a home. The Shelter is trying to educate the public and as such has begun a program for the spaying and neutering of stray cats.  
  
Ms. Thompson advised that the Shelter has 1 and ½ staff people, with the full time employee living on site. The two present employees are extremely overworked. Ms. Thompson also provided the following statistics: approximately 40% of shelter dogs are from the County, and 36% of the cats which works out to 41 dogs and 30 cats. The approximate cost per animal is \$576. Basic operational costs for the previous year were about \$104,000. Ms. Thompson also advised that at present, the shelter requires renovations and repairs.  
  
The Municipality of Cumberland has been providing \$5,000 per year and Ms. Thompson stressed that this amount is simply not enough. Ms. Thompson advised that the Shelter is also contacting all other municipalities who are using the shelter to provide funding at the appropriate percentage..  
  
At this point, Ms. Thompson also requested that a By-Law be put in place to deal with the ongoing situation of stray cats.  
  
The Warden thanked Ms. Thompson for the presentation and assured her that she will be contacted to attend a By-Law Policy meeting.
  - 6.2 **Seaside Communications** – Adam Conter, Director of Communications, provided a presentation to Council updating on the progress of High-Speed in Cumberland County. Mr. Conter provided a history of this project. There are 13 elements or “stages” to the project. They are: Radio Frequency Design, Land Acquisition, Public Consultation, Permitting, Equipment Procurement, Site Preparation, Construction, Equipment Installation, Power Supply Confirmation, Network Connectivity, Signal Verification, Service Announcement, and Customer Installations. Over 85 individual steps to complete each structure. He informed those present that this is the first project of its scale in North

America. The success of this project relies on the cooperation of all parties, including communities and individuals.

Warden Hunter thanked Mr. Conter for his informative presentation.

7. **Public Hearings**

- 7.1 Sewer Assessment Appeal – Northumberland Community Curling Club – The Northumberland Community Curling Club submitted a written request to review the assessment regarding sewer services for the curling club. Mr. Streach, Director of Public Works advised that the curling club is assessed at 7.1 units as per our by-law and regulations under the liquor control act. Mr. Streach informed Council the facility could be assessed at the recreational facility rate and would equal 3.6 units.

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Reid to assess sewer units of the Northumberland Curling Club as a recreational facility which would equal 3.6 sewer units.**

**MOTION CARRIED #09-021**

8. **Correspondence**

In regards to correspondence received from a citizen, there was discussion on our communication practices in regards to land use and planning matters. It was agreed that once a Planner has been hired he/she will be directed to look into our communication practices regarding land use planning.

9. **Planning Issues**

There were none.

10. **Financial Reports/Issues**

- 10.1 Low Income Exemption – Deferred to next meeting
- 10.2 Budget Meeting Dates - The Director of Finance will be directed to forward information on dates for budget meetings to Council and applicable staff.

11. **Operational Services Reports/Issues**

- 11.1 Administrator of Dangerous and Unsightly Premises – The draft Policy was provided in the Council package. Council was advised that once the Policy is developed and approved, the CAO has the authority to appoint the Administrator of Dangerous and Unsightly Premises.

**IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Warden Redmond, seconded by Councillor Read to adopt the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Policy which reads as such:**

Municipality of Cumberland  
POLICY 09-??  
DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

1. This Policy is entitled the “Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Policy”.
2. Pursuant to section 345 (1) of the Municipal Government Act (the “Act”), Council hereby delegates all of its authority under Part XV of the Act (Dangerous and Unsightly Premises) to the Administrator, except the power to order demolition.
3. The Administrator of Dangerous and Unsightly Premises shall be appointed, in writing, by the Municipality’s Chief Administrative Officer.
4. Any previous Policy of the Municipality regarding Dangerous and Unsightly Premises is hereby repealed.
5. This Policy is effective upon adoption.

(Clerk’s Annotation for Official Policy Book)

**MOTION CARRIED #09-022**

- 11.2 Generator Installation - Funding Request – Mr. Jim Hannon, Regional Emergency Management Coordinator is requesting that Council look favourably on funding a generator for the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Amherst which would be utilized as a comfort station during times of emergency. The Church is looking for a one time grant of \$5,000 from the Municipality. The Church has received \$10,000 in JEPP funding, \$5,000 from the Town of Amherst and an in kind contribution of electrical installation (from the Town) and the Church will providing the remaining \$15,000. Mr. Hannon advised that this would be an asset to the County. He also advised that if the need ever arose to relocate large numbers of people to a centralized location, this would be the facility.

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gilbert, seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to approve \$5,000 funding for a generator to be located at the First Baptist Church in Amherst which will be utilized as a comfort station during times of emergency.**

**MOTION CARRIED #09-023**

- 11.3 Sea Wall Breach – West Advocate – Councillor Merriam advised that a 300 meter section of the seawall has eroded in the West Advocate area. This breach has seriously compromised the retaining capability of the natural seawall, leaving the community of Advocate in a very serious and what some might consider, dangerous predicament. Emergency Management Coordinator, Jim Hannon advised that if a severe storm should persist, the weakened seawall would allow extreme levels of seawater into the village causing millions of dollars of damage and endangering the lives and livelihood of the residents.

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Merriam, seconded by Councillor Gilbert that a letter of concern and request for immediate action/repair, be forwarded to the Federal Department of Environment to address the 300 m section of sea wall which has eroded in West Advocate as a result of a December 2008 storm.**

**MOTION CARRIED #09-024**

- 11.4 Ice Storm – Mr. Jim Hannon, REMO advised/updated Council on actions taken and continuing due to the ice storm of March 2, 3, 2009. Also, Dominique Fewer of Emergency Management N.S. provided an update on power outages. Council was advised that all of Nova Scotia Power's resources are concentrated in Cumberland County at this point.

Councillor Reid thanked Mr. Fewer for the response of EMO N.S. and Cumberland REMO and also of the hundreds of volunteers that are working towards resolution of this situation.

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to send correspondence to Regional Emergency Management Coordinator, Jim Hannon, Emergency Management N.S., and all volunteer fire fighters for their recent efforts during the ice storm.**

**MOTION CARRIED #09-025**

**IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Reid to forward a letter of support to the CRTC re: the application of the Tantramar Radio Society for an FM license for a new community radio station**

**MOTION CARRIED #09-026**

12. Committee/Other Reports

There were none

13. Old Business

There was none.

14. New Business

There was none.

15. **Information Items**

15.1 **Event in District 4 -**

Councillor Gillis advised that the Northumberland Curling Club is hosting the High School Regionals for Curling this weekend.

At this point in the meeting a moment of silence was observed for the Honourable Michael Baker who recently passed away after a courageous battle with cancer.

16. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m. on motion by Councillor Kellegrew

17. **God Save the Queen**

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