

1. **Council Convenes - O Canada** – Warden Hunter called to order the November 18, 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 CAO, Rennie Bugley, Director of Policy and Research, Steve Ferguson, Director of Planning and Development, Penny Henneberry, Director of Finance, Andrew MacDonald, Human Resources and Community Relations Administrator, Emily Frenette, Records Manager/Municipal Clerk, Brenda Moore, Solid Waste and By-Law Administrator, Peter Cottingham, and Recreation and Physical Activities Coordinator, Stephanie Fage.

At this point Warden Hunter acknowledged and extended a warm welcome to Etienne Lapointe (from Montreal) and Adi Suranta Ketaren (from Indonesia) who are two of the Canada World Youth participants. These gentlemen will be in Amherst for three months before heading to Indonesia for three months. During the three months that they will reside in Amherst they will be working with the Amherst Daily News 3 days a week.

3. **Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)** - The agenda was approved with the following additions and deletions:

Deletions: #6.2, 7, 8.1, 11.1ii, 12.3 -

Additions: 11.1ii - Nobel Prize Celebration, 11.4 - Northumberland Curling Club, 14.2 H1N1, 14.3 Chignecto Game Sanctuary, 15.2 Development Officer; 16.1 Heating Rebate Forms
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - 4.1 Minutes from the November 3, 2009 Council Session – The minutes of the November 3, 2009 Council session were approved as circulated.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
 - 5.1 Action List, November 3, 2009 Council Meeting – There was no discussion on this subject.
6. **Delegations and Presentations**
 - 6.1 BizPal – BizPal – Ms. Patti MacAulay an employee of SNSMR was on hand to present information that would provide Council with an understanding of what BizPal is. Ms. MacAulay explained that BizPal does not involve a financial commitment by the Municipality. BizPal stands for Business Permits and Licenses and is a web-based service that generates a list of permits and licenses from all levels of government that is customized to a specific business activity and a specific location.

BizPal covers municipal, provincial, and federal requirements in one visit, 24/7 access worldwide. This is housed on the SNSMR site, but would feature our logo. At present, BizPal has over 11 provinces and territories and over 345 municipalities. They are presently covering 50 per cent of the Canadian population. Ms. MacAulay explained who is using BizPal in Nova Scotia and who SNSMR is presently working with to come on board. SNSMR has set up templates for every municipality and town in the province. This may also assist in educating the local area residents on requirements.

Ms. MacAulay wrapped up and then asked for any questions Council might have. She also advised that she will be forwarding the template to Ms. Hoeg in a couple of weeks.

The Warden thanked Ms. MacAulay for her insightful presentation.
7. **Public Hearings** – This item was deleted.
8. **Correspondence**
 - 8.1 Information Correspondence - This item was deleted.
9. **Planning Issues**
 - 9.1 Federal Surplus Lands/Buildings - Ms. Penny Henneberry, Director of Planning and

Development informed Council that when correspondence is received regarding Federal Surplus Lands/Buildings there is usually a fairly tight timeline to reply regarding our interest in the property. Ms. Henneberry is requesting authority from Council to be able to respond in the affirmative regarding offers of interest in federal lands/buildings and then have staff research the issue. If the issue seems worthwhile, then the item will be brought to Council.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Warden Gilbert, seconded by Councillor MacNutt to authorize staff to respond in the affirmative regarding offers of interest in federal lands/buildings.

MOTION CARRIED #09-117

10. **Strategic Planning**

- 10.1 Recreation and Physical Activity Strategic Plan – The document had previously been provided to Council.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Read, seconded by Councillor Redmond to accept the Recreation and Physical Activity Strategic Plan.

MOTION CARRIED #09-118

11. **Financial Reports/Issues**

- 11.1 Grants Requests -

Easter Seals – This item is being referred to a future session for further information. Staff will bring information back to Council as it is received.

Cumberland Health Care Foundation – Cancer Assistance Fund – Mr. Bugley, CAO provided Council with the following information: there is not a specific dollar amount being requested; and this will be an ongoing program.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Warden Gilbert, seconded by Councillor Redmond to provide a grant of \$1,000 this year and \$2,000 for each of the next two years to the Cancer Assistance Fund.

MOTION CARRIED #09-119

Nobel Prize Celebration - Councillor MacNutt advised that on December 10, 2009 Mr. Willard Boyle will be awarded the Nobel Prize in physics. There will be a local celebration in held in Pugwash.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor MacNutt, seconded by Councillor Gillis to provide \$1500 (to the Pugwash Home and School) for a celebration of the awarding of the Nobel Prize to Mr. Willard Boyle, pending receipt of a completed application.

MOTION CARRIED #09-120

- 11.2 2010/2011 Budget – Council was advised by the Director of Finance, Mr. Andrew MacDonald that the Finance Department will have budget work sheets to all Directors by the end of the week. The Finance Department is also striving to have a draft operating budget by the end of January. Council was also advised that during the first of January an add will run in the newspapers regarding the Grant to Organizations and it's Policy.

- 11.3 Audit Update - Council was advised by Mr. MacDonald that the Auditors will be here next week and will strive to have the financial statements for the next Council session.

- 11.4 Tax Exemption - **IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Redmond that a grant to the Northumberland Curling Club in the amount of \$12,848.45 be approved and that the amount of the grant is based on the outstanding balance on tax account #10007526 after taking into account the previous \$6,000 grant to the curling club in June 2009.**

MOTION CARRIED #09-121

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Redmond that the

**Northumberland Curling Club property, tax account #10007526 be added to Schedule A of the Municipality Tax Reduction and Exemption By-Law effective April 2010.
MOTION CARRIED #09-122**

12. **Operational Services Reports/Issues**

12.1 Dangerous and Unsightly Premise Update – Council was advised that a draft policy regarding timelines in dealing with these properties should be provided before Christmas.

12.2 Solid Waste Management – Mr. Bugley, CAO, advised that staff will be working on this item as a priority, as the contract expires March 31, 2012. Councillor Merriam asked if a questionnaire could be put in the tax billings requesting feedback regarding solid waste collection. Councillor MacNutt feels that the public has to be educated as well as Council and then let people make a choice. Staff would like a couple of months to discuss the issue.

12.3 Easement over Airport Lands – This item was deferred to a future Council session.

13. **Committee/Other Reports**

13.1 CREDA - These were provided in the Councillor Mail Boxes.

14. **Old Business**

14.1 Advocate Seawall – Mr. Steve Ferguson, Director of Policy and By-Law, advised there isn't any new information on this subject. A definite action plan is expected in the near future and Council will be kept apprised of the issue.

14.2 H1N1 Update – Mr. Bugley, CAO, and Ms. Frenette, Human Resources Administrator attended an update session put on by UNSM. This session included legislation that applies to sick leave, illnesses, and employee/employer rights. Council was advised that Management is undertaking a number of actions to help us address the issues and minimize the impact. Councillors were reminded that they should not attend meetings when sick or if their immediate family are sick. We are encouraging staff to get the vaccination and are providing staff 1 ½ hours of work time to get the vaccination.

14.3 Chignecto Game Sanctuary – Councillor Reid advised that he attended a meeting of the Cumberland Wilderness Society where they provided a proposal of a plan for the Chignecto Game Sanctuary. As many Councillors felt more information on this subject was important, staff were requested to have representatives at a future meeting. Councillor MacNutt asked what role does Council play in the decision and was advised by Warden Hunter that Municipal Council may have lobbying abilities, but that the Provincial Government will have the final say.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Read, seconded by Councillor Reid to invite representatives of the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environment, the Cumberland Wilderness Society and the ATV Group and local Snowmobile Club to attend a future Council session for the purpose of providing Council further information on this issue.

MOTION CARRIED #09-123

15. **New Business**

15.1 Building the Council Team Workshop – Councillors were requested to advise Ms. Hoeg of their interest to attend.

15.2 Development Officer – Ms. Penny Henneberry advised Council that due to the H1N1 issue, the Municipality should have an Assistant Development Officer.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councilor Merriam to appoint Mr. Monty Maddison as Assistant Development Officer.

MOTION CARRIED #09-124

16. **Information Items**

16.1 **Heating Rebate Forms** – Council was advised that forms for applicants with a total household income of \$42,000 or less are available with Access Nova Scotia.

16.2 **Energy Conservation for Nova Scotia** – Councillor Read advised that suggests there should be a representative from Cumberland County on this Committee. If anyone is interested they can contact Ms. Hoeg and get information regarding the application process.

17. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

18. **God Save the Queen**

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