



Municipality of East Hants

REQUEST FOR MAKING PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL/COMMITTEE APPLICATION FORM

Meetings of Municipal Council and Municipal Committees are held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Office, 2361 Highway No. 2, Millford, Nova Scotia. Please call the Municipal Office to confirm meeting date(s).

No more than one public presentation will be scheduled on the agenda of each Council/Committee meetings each month. Each presentation is limited to ten (10) minutes. This form must be returned properly completed no later than seven days prior to the Meeting at which you wish to appear.

- 1) Name of Presenter: Paul Mombourquette (speaking on behalf of the residents of Lantz who signed a petition in favor of the Old School property in Lantz to be given to Lantz Volunteer Fire Dept.)
- 2) Address: 883-1202
- 3) Phone: 883-1202 Fax: 883-8285 (456-4421 cel)
- 4) Reason you wish to appear before Council (brief summary of presentation/identify specific requests for funding, if any): See Attached Presentation
- 5) Date of Council/Committee Meeting at which you wish to appear: June 23, 2008
- 6) Are you representing:
 - Yourself
 - An Organization/Society/Club (name: _____)
 - A Business (name: _____)
 - Other (Please specify: Community of Lantz a)
- 7) Please attach a copy of your presentation to this application or submit it no later than the Friday before the Council/Committee meeting. Your presentation will be circulated to Councilors prior to the meeting to provide Councilor with an opportunity to review your submission.

Note: Failure to provide a written copy of your presentation will result in the processing of this request being delayed until the required information is received at the municipal office.

Please return the completed form to Janice VanTol, Deputy Clerk, P. O. Box 190, Shubenacadie, N.S. B0N 2H0 Fax: 902-758-3497 E-mail: jvantol@easthants.ca

Once you have read the Policy, on the reverse side of this application, please confirm you agree to the conditions contained therein by signing this form in the space provided.

I have read the attached Policy on making Public Presentations and acknowledge and agree to comply with the conditions under which an opportunity to make a presentation to Council or Municipal Committee will be provided.

Paul Mombourquette
Signature

Note: Copy of Presentation Policy on reverse side of this form.

For Office Use Only:

Date Request Received	_____
Approved	Not Approved
Applicant Notified	_____
Date of Presentation:	_____

Residents of the community of Lantz want the Municipality of East Hants to put a stop to any further progress on designing a new Municipal building on the old Lantz School Property until they have a chance to voice their opinion on how the property should be used. As of June 18th a petition with over 500 names has been signed and is still currently being circulated asking the Municipality to give the land to the Lantz Volunteer Fire Dept. for the purpose of building a new fire station in the future.

Residents feel that the land rightfully belongs to the community even though legally it may belong to the Municipality. This land was originally given to the community by a member of the community. The location of the old Lantz School Property is the best location in Lantz for a fire station; central to present and future Lantz (with the proposed Kimberly Lloyd and Clayton Developments subdivisions on either side). It has direct access to the #2 highway and the #277 Highway. In fact there may be no other viable sites at all and certainly none with as perfect a location. Easy access for fire fighters to get into and out of a fire station is of the ultimate importance as seconds can mean lives. Other sites mentioned in the May report to Council are all privately owned and would most likely have to be purchased if, in fact, if they are even available. Each one of these sites have a higher development cost compared to the Old Lantz School Property. The location of a piece of land for the fire department cannot be left to chance.

The Municipality has options on the location of their building but the fire department has to be in Lantz. It is understood that the alternative sites which the Municipality have considered would potentially cost the Municipality more than by using the Old Lantz School site and this fact is recognized in the petition. The extra cost to the Municipality is small in comparison to the cost of the whole project and more so, when this cost is spread out over the 22,000 residents who currently populate East Hants. Conversely, Lantz has approximately 2,500 residents and any extra land acquisition costs would create a large burden on such a small population

base. Furthermore, extra money spent on land and associated development costs would be money taken away from other uses, such as equipment and would most certainly prolong the eventual starting for a new fire station.

If the fire department had a piece of land now it would provide the starting point for future planning. It would be a huge moral boost and create an excitement which hopefully would create an interest for new members to join a Volunteer Organization providing such an important community service.

Sure, a new large building such as the proposed Municipal Building would be “nice” in Lantz, but not at the expense for an organization as important as a fire department. The fact is that there are very few people in Lantz who would derive any benefit at all from the new Municipal Building being located there. It is more important for the community of Lantz to have a secured location for their future fire station than a new Municipal Building. Don’t gamble on securing an adequate location for a new fire station.

The Lantz location for the Municipal building seems to have been chosen because of cheaper land development costs and in the interest of expediting a decision. However, in the haste to make a decision, council has overlooked the democratic process of letting the community residents have their say. They have also not given enough weight to the advertising value of a location in the central business district in Elmsdale and more specifically the Business Park. A building with the stature of a new Municipal building next to the resource Center would certainly say to everyone “This is East Hants” instead of “hiding” the building in Lantz, and within 2800 feet of Halifax County where there is an abundance of available land.

Lantz, certainly isn’t as central and convenient to the rest of the Municipality as Elmsdale. Instead of drawing people to Lantz and Halifax County, draw them to the “business hub” of the Municipality where you want business to locate. Show

support for existing businesses located in the Park. Growth in the Business Park is the most important factor if this Municipality is going to increase the ratio of business taxes to residential. It should be noted that two of the businesses in Lantz who would benefit the most ; Daddy Greens Pizza and Leos Supermarket; have signed the petition and in fact have petitions in their store.

The municipality should not promote one thing and do the other. Effectively the municipality is saying “Yes, locate in our business park; it is a great spot for your business. However we built our building somewhere else because it would cost too much to be in the park and we don’t see any value to be there, but it would be a perfect location for you.”

We understand that changing to an alternative site would probably delay the start of construction on the new Municipal Building and we sympathize with the staff that have to work out of different locations and do understand the difficulties having to do with the logistics of operating out of multiple locations. However, private companies and government operate out of different locations all the time and our Municipality has been doing so for some time now.

We urge council to do the right thing and respect the wishes of the residents of the community of Lantz and give the land back to its rightful owners, the community; or at least give them a say.

The main page on the Municipalities website says “Welcome to the Municipality of East Hants” on the top and “Volunteers... The Heart of our Community “ on the bottom. Well don’t rip the heart out of our community; give our volunteers a much needed boost and show of support.

Sincerely,

Paul Mombourquette

Paul Mombourquette

On behalf of the residents of Lantz who signed the petition in favor of the Old School Property being given to the Lantz Volunteer Fire Department.