

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013  
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, December 2, 2013, at 1:30 pm at the Courthouse in Port Hood with the following in attendance:

Warden Duart MacAulay  
Deputy Warden Jim Mustard  
Councillor Gloria LeBlanc  
Councillor Dwayne MacDonald  
Councillor Alfred Poirier  
Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie

Staff: Joe O'Connor, CAO  
Eveylena Gillis, Council Recorder  
Harold MacIsaac, Solicitor

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran  
Adam Cooke, Reporter

**CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Duart MacAulay called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m.

**PRESENTATION BY DR. DAVID WHEELER – CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Wheeler provided information on the future direction and challenges facing the Cape Breton University. The university has 3200 students with around 50% of the students recruited from Cape Breton Island and 29% international students. CBU is rated the 5<sup>th</sup> in Canada for student /faculty interaction. Dr. Wheeler reviewed the sustainability vision over the next ten years.

**PRESENTATION BY DIANNE CALVERT-SIMMS, CEO & DR. R. DUNN, VP OF MEDICINE – CAPE BRETON DISTRICT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

Warden MacAulay welcomed Dianne Calvert-Simms who provided information on Perioperative Services, Palliative Care and the CT Scanner just announced for the Inverness Hospital. Ms. Calvert-Simms updated Council on the surgical services review at the Inverness Hospital.

Dr. Rex Dunn provided information on physician recruitment and retention. The number of physicians in the district has doubled in the past 30 years with 270 physicians presently in the CBDHA. Dr. Dunn reviewed the 2013 recruitments to date and provided information on the incentive packages for doctor recruitment.

Warden MacAulay excused himself from the meeting.

Deputy Warden Mustard assumed the position of Chair.

### **CHEQUE PRESENTATION BY SEASIDE COMMUNICATIONS**

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard welcomed representatives from Seaside Communications and the Volunteer Fire Departments. Cheques were presented to the Judique Volunteer Fire Department and the West Bay Road Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$3750.00 consisting of \$1,000 from Inverness County, \$2000 from Seaside Communications and \$750 from Nova Scotia Power.

Warden MacAulay returned to his seat.

### **PRESENTATION BY TRANSIT CONSULTING NETWORK – STRAIT AREA TRANSIT**

Warden MacAulay welcomed Wally Beck from Transit Consulting Network. Mr. Beck reviewed the report and provided information on the financial, administrative and technical challenges facing the SAT. The recommendation from this report is that the funding partners approve the report in principle, provide the funding needed to execute the action plan to increase SAT revenues, maximize external funding opportunities and improve SAT efficiency and effectiveness.

### **GENERATOR – BANKS ROAD – INVERNESS**

Warden MacAulay asked for permission from Council to allow for discussion from the Banks Road residents present at Council with respect to the decision of Council not to install a generator on the Banks Road. After some discussion it was agreed that Garrett Beaton, Joe O'Connor and Deputy Warden Mustard meet with the residents to discuss further.

### **PRESENTATION BY ALLAN MACMASTER, MLA**

On behalf of Council, Warden MacAulay congratulated Allan MacMaster, MLA, on his re-election and welcomed him to Council. Mr. MacMaster emphasized the importance of maintaining the ongoing working relationship between the two governing bodies and encouraged Councillors to contact him at any time with issues of concern.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by:** Councillor Gloria LeBlanc  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Alfred Poirier  
**Carried.**

**That the minutes of the November 4, 2013, Municipal Council meeting be approved.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**Page 4 – Past Years Accomplishments** – Councillor MacDonald questioned whether the report of the past years accomplishments has been completed. Mr. O’Connor advised that the report has not been finalized.

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

**Moved by:** Councillor Dwayne MacDonald  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie  
**Carried.**

**That \$800,000. be transferred from the operating budget to the operating reserves.**

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MARCH 31, 2013**

**Moved by:** Councillor Gloria LeBlanc  
**Seconded by:** Deputy Warden Jim Mustard  
**Carried.**

**That the Financial Statements to March 31, 2013, be approved.**

**FIRST READING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE INVERNESS LAND USE BY-LAW TO RE-ZONE A PORTION OF TWO PROPERTIES FROM WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT TO COMMERCIAL MIXED USE**

Warden MacAulay advised that a Planning & Advisory Committee meeting was held previous to Council and the recommendation from this meeting was for this amendment to proceed to Council for first reading.

**Moved by:** Councillor Alfred Poirier  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Dwayne MacDonald  
**Carried.**

**That the First Reading for an amendment to the Inverness Land Use By-Law to Re-Zone a Portion of Two Properties from Waterfront Development to Commercial Mixed Use be approved.**

**DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**Moved by:** Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Gloria LeBlanc

**Carried.**

**That a Public Hearing be held on Monday, January 6, 2014, with location to be determined at a later date.**

**FIRST READING OF THE REPEAL OF BY-LAW #22 “IMPROVEMENT CHARGES” AND REPLACE WITH “LOCAL IMPROVEMENT BY-LAW #22”**

**Moved by: Deputy Warden Jim Mustard  
Seconded by: Councillor Alfred Poirier  
Carried.**

**That the First Reading of the Repeal of By-Law 22 “Improvement Charges” and replace with new “Local Improvement By-Law #22” be approved.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Moved by: Councillor Alfred Poirier  
Seconded by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald  
Carried.**

**Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of November 29, 2013, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**NOVA SCOTIA TRAILS FEDERATION**

Correspondence was received from Blaise MacEachern, Chair, of the NS Trans Canada Trails Committee requesting the opportunity to give a short presentation and update to Council. At this time Mr. MacEachern is requesting a letter of support for the connection of the Trans Canada Trail through Inverness County by December 31, 2016, and support in principle to endorse the Trans Canada Trail land and alternate water route 2016 connection options.

**Moved by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald  
Seconded by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie  
Carried.**

**That a letter of support be provided to the Chair of the Nova Scotia Trans Canada Trails Committee.**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Followup correspondence was received from the DOT in response to requests put forward at the October 7, 2014, Council meeting.

**TOWN OF YARMOUTH FERRY SERVICE**

A copy of correspondence was received from the Town of Yarmouth to the UNSM in appreciation of all municipal units in the province for their support in assisting the town in their efforts to see the return of the Yarmouth-New England Ferry Service.

**TOWN OF MAHONE BAY**

The Town of Mahone Bay passed a motion to make a \$500 donation to a relief fund for the Philippines disaster and is encouraging all other municipal units in the Province to make a similar donation.

**Moved by:** Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Alfred Poirier  
**Carried.**

**That the County contribute \$500 to the Philippines Relief Effort.**

**TEAMSTERS CANADA**

Correspondence was received from Teamsters Canada encouraging the County to make sure Transport Canada steps up its surveillance of rail companies and consequently ensure the safety of all residents.

**PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

**CEILIDH TRAIL MEETING**

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie advised that a Ceilidh Trail meeting was held in Judique in November and was well attended.

**JOE SHANNON – ORDER OF CANADA**

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald asked that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to Joe Shannon on his receiving the Order of Canada Award.

**OVERDUE TAXES**

On question from Councillor MacDonald, Joe O'Connor advised that the Finance Dept. should be contacted if a resident had concerns with their overdue taxes.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc asked that the DOT be contacted again to have the debris cleaned up at the Cranton Bridge.

**VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE – MARGAREE FORKS**

Councillor LeBlanc informed Council that there is concern from the residents in the Margarees that the Visitor Information Centre will not be opening next year due to funding issues.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - PAVING**

Councillor Alfred Poirier noted that paving from the Point Cross Road to the All Aboard Restaurant has been completed.

**ADMINISTRATOR – FOYER PERE FISET**

Councillor Poirier expressed appreciation to Betty Ann Aucoin for her years of service as Administrator of the Foyer Pere Fiset and welcomed Mona Poirier as the new Administrator.

**TRAVEL LIFT – RAYMOND DEVEAU**

Councillor Poirier noted that the travel lift will be delivered to Cheticamp the following day.

**SIDEWALK LIABILITY**

On question from Councillor Poirier as to sidewalk liability, Joe O'Connor advised that he should discuss this issue with the Director of Public Works.

**FOOD SECURITY**

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard asked Council for permission to submit an application from the County to ECBC for funding for a coordinator position for the Food Security Committee. Council agreed. Deputy Warden Mustard noted that there will be a meeting in January with other municipal units with regard to food security.

**LIGHT UP FOR LIFE**

Council agreed to provide a \$200. donation to the Light Up For Life Program

**CAPE BRETON ISLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

It was agreed that Joan McKeough, Director of the Cape Breton Island Housing Authority be invited to the January Council meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Councillor Poirier, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc that meeting adjourn.**

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**CLERK**

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**WARDEN**