

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, January 6, 2014, at 1:30 pm at the Fire Hall in Inverness with the following in attendance:

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

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

Not Present: Councillor Alfred Poirier

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran
Adam Cooke, Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Duart MacAulay called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of December 2, 2013, be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Page 2 – Generator – Banks Road – Deputy Warden Mustard reported that a backup pump was purchased for the residents of the Banks Road and a further review will take place in the spring.

PRESENTATION BY CAPE BRETON ISLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Warden MacAulay welcomed Joan McKeough, Director, and Paul Burt, Senior Property Manager, CBIHA. Ms. McKeough reviewed the objectives of the housing programs, the

household income limits, eligibility criteria, vacancies etc. Ms. McKeough also reviewed the method of how the yearly Municipal contribution to the housing deficit is determined.

Warden MacAulay asked for Council's approval to move the agenda forward to the item scheduled for 3:30 pm. Council agreed.

SECOND READING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE INVERNESS LAND USE BY-LAW TO RE-ZONE A PORTION OF TWO PROPERTIES FROM WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT (W-D) TO COMMERCIAL MIXED USE (C-3)

Deputy Warden Mustard reported that the plan review for Inverness is almost complete. Councillor Mustard reviewed some of the concerns brought forward by the residents of Inverness at the Public Hearing held previous to Council.

Moved by: Deputy Warden Jim Mustard
Seconded by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie
Carried.

That the application 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 referred back to the Eastern District Planning Commission for a report of the concerns brought forward at the Public Hearing.

PRESENTATION BY BLAISE MACEACHERN – NOVA SCOTIA TRANS CANADA TRAILS

Blaise MacEachern updated Council on the Trans Canada Trail connection throughout Nova Scotia and in particular in Inverness County. The National Trans Canada Trail from Coast to Coast has been scheduled for completion by 2017. Mr. MacEachern reviewed the challenges and options for the land and water route connections for Inverness County. Mr. MacEachern thanked Council for their support in principal for these connector options.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Moved by: Deputy Warden Jim Mustard
Seconded by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald
Carried.

That the Audit Committee meeting of December 2, 2013, be approved.

PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Seconded by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie.
Carried.

That the Planning & Advisory Committee meeting of December 2, 2013, be approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

SERVICE NOVA SCOTIA & MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

Correspondence was received from the Minister of SNSMR advising that they are unable to assist in funding for the Maple Street Sewer Extension in Inverness at this time.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL

Correspondence received from the Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal informing Council that street lighting on provincial secondary roads is a municipal responsibility. He has asked department staff to conduct an investigation to evaluate the need for illumination at the Point Cross Bridge and Council will have an update when this investigation is complete.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL

Correspondence received from Steve MacDonald, Area Manager, advising that an evaluation was carried out with respect to the request for a hidden driveway sign on Egypt Road (civic #928) and a hidden driveway sign is not warranted. Brush along the northbound approach will be removed in the upcoming maintenance season to further improve sight lines.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – DESIGNATION UNDER THE FENCES & DETENTION OF STRAY LIVESTOCK ACT

Correspondence received from the Dept. of Agriculture advised that Inverness County has not been designated under the Fences & Detention of Stray Livestock Act. Designation will enable the County and its residents to have an additional avenue through a Fences Arbitration Committee to address issues.

Moved by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Jim Mustard
Carried.

That the County make application to the Department of Agriculture for designation under the Provincial Fences & Detention of Stray Livestock Act.

FIRST READING FOR AN AMENDMENT FOR A PROPOSED RE-ZONING OF PROPERTIES IN THE PORT HOOD PLAN AREA FROM RESIDENTIAL RURAL (R-2) ZONE TO THE RESIDENTIAL URBAN (R-1) ZONE TO REFLECT THE CURRENT EXTENT OF MUNICIPAL WATER & SEWER SERVICES

Warden MacAulay advised that a Planning & Advisory Committee meeting was held previous to Council and the recommendation from this meeting was that this amendment be referred to Council.

Moved by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie
Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.

That the First Reading for an Amendment for a proposed Re-Zoning of Properties in the Port Hood Plan Area from Residential Rural (R-2) Zone to the Residential Urban (R-1) Zone to reflect the current extent of Municipal Water & Sewer Services be approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Moved by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie
Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.

That a Public Hearing be held on Monday, February 3, 2014, at 1:00 p.m.

SECOND READING OF THE REPEAL OF BY-LAW #22 “IMPROVEMENT CHARGES” AND REPLACE WITH “LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS FUNDED BY FRONTAGE CHARGE OR AREA RATE”

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

That the Second Reading of the repeal of By-Law #22 Improvement Charges and replace with Local Improvements Funded by Frontage Charge or Area Rate be approved as amended.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc asked that a letter be forwarded to the Dept. of Transportation asking for another review for a hidden driveway sign at civic #928 Egypt Road and also remove the debris located at the Cranton Bridge and the East Margaree Bridge.

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie asked that a request be included with this letter for an investigation for a hidden driveway sign near 11411 Highway 19, Duncreigan Inn and 11390 Highway 19, Koster Huis Small Options Home in Mabou.

MABOU ATHLETIC CENTRE GRANT

Moved by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie
Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.

That a grant in the amount of \$1150.00 be issued to the Mabou Athletic Centre.

PARK STREET RESIDENTS

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard, Joe O'Connor, and Garett Beaton will meet with the Park Street residents to discuss the conveyance of land to the County.

CABOT LINKS/INVERNESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION RESTRICTIVE COVENANT

Deputy Warden Mustard questioned whether a restrictive covenant goes forward with a re-zoning application and where it gets recognized in the planning process. Solicitor MacIsaac will review restrictive covenants.

COLBY TOWER – WORLD UNDER 17 HOCKEY

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald expressed congratulations to Colby Tower on his performance at the World Under 17 Hockey Tournament.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor MacDonald asked that a letter be forwarded to the DOT requesting a public meeting to discuss the condition of the roads in his district.

JUDIQUÉ VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT LOAN GUARANTEE

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

That a loan guarantee in the amount of \$46,934. be approved for the Judique & District Volunteer Fire Department.

LAND PURCHASE – BRENDA COOPER

Solicitor MacIsaac declared a conflict of interest.

Joe O'Connor provided information on the request from Brenda Cooper to purchase 1/7 of municipal land at Northeast Mabou. It was agreed that Mr. O'Connor get more information before a decision is made.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN