

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 4, 2016
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, July 4, 2016, at 1:30 pm at the Municipal Building in Port Hood with the following in attendance:

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

Staff: Joe O'Connor, CAO
Eveylena Gillis, Council Recorder
Garett Beaton, Dir/Public Works
Tanya Tibbo, Dir/Finance
Damian MacInnis, Econ. Dev. Officer
Harold MacIsaac, Solicitor

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Duart MacAulay called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Page 3 – Land Planning – Replace Planning & Advisory with “Land Planning”.

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

That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of June 13, 2016, be approved with the above noted change.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Page 1 – Microphone System In Council Chambers – Councillor LeBlanc questioned whether a cost estimate had been received. Mr. O'Connor is still waiting for an estimate.

PRESENTATION BY SCHOOLSPLUS – SRSB

Warden MacAulay welcomed Chrissi Lynch, Coordinator of Student Services, Rebecca Haggard-Nauss, SchoolsPlus Facilitator for Inverness County and Richard Britten, Principal,

Inverness Education Centre. The SchoolsPlus Program provides increased access to the services of various community agencies and government departments to students and their families by using local schools as access points. This service is available in all five schools in the county.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting of June 13, 2016, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

POLICY

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of June 13, 2016, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

FIRST READING OF BY-LAW RESPECTING CHARGES FOR THE PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM

**THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF INVERNESS
BY-LAW # 47
RESPECTING CHARGES FOR
THE PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM**

TITLE

1. This Bylaw shall be known as "*The Property Assessed Clean Energy Program*" Bylaw.

PURPOSE

2. The purpose of this Bylaw is to enable financing of energy efficiency upgrades to qualifying residential properties within the Municipality.

DEFINITIONS

3. In this Bylaw:
 - a) "Chief Administrative Officer" means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality;
 - b) "Director of Finance" means the Director of Finance of the Municipality;

- c) "Energy Efficiency Upgrade" means an installation that is permanently affixed to the property and which
 - i. Will result in improved energy efficiency and substantially reduced energy use;
 - ii. Meets or exceeds applicable energy efficiency standards established or approved by the Municipality; and
 - iii. Involves central ducted or ductless heat pumps or solar panels meeting specifications or having ENERGY STAR ® certification, air sealing, insulating, ENERGY STAR ® windows and doors, or such other energy efficiency upgrades as are approved and agreed in writing by the Municipality.
- d) "Municipality" means the Municipality of the County of Inverness;
- e) "PACE Customer Agreement" means the written, signed Property Assessed Clean Energy Efficiency Program Customer Agreement between the owner of a qualifying property and the Municipality for financing of an Energy Efficiency Upgrade to the property.
- f) "PACE Charge" means the Property Assessed Clean Energy improvement tax levied on the property pursuant to s.81A of the *Municipal Government Act*.
- g) "PACE Program" means the program established by the Municipality under which owners of Qualifying Properties may apply for and obtain financing for Energy Efficiency Upgrades.
- h) "Qualifying Property" means an owner-occupied residential property located within the Municipality, but does not include multi-unit residential or non-profit owned buildings and does not include business or industrial premises.

APPLICATION AND APPROVAL

- 4. An owner of a Qualifying Property within the Municipality who is not otherwise in default of any municipal taxes, rates or charges, may apply for Municipal financing of Energy Efficient Upgrades to the property.
- 5. Financing shall be subject to Municipal approval and execution of a PACE Customer Agreement with the owner of the Qualifying Property.

PAYMENT OF CHARGE

- 6. The PACE charge shall become payable in full on completion of installation of the Energy Efficiency Upgrade in accordance with the PACE Customer Agreement.
- 7. The Director of Finance shall maintain a separate account of all monies due for PACE charges levied pursuant to this By-law, identifying:
 - a. The names of the property owners and assessment, PID and civic address information of the subject property;
 - b. The amount of the PACE charge levied on the property;
 - c. The amount paid on the PACE charge.

LIEN

- 8. On completion of an Energy Efficiency Upgrade pursuant to a PACE Customer Agreement, the PACE Charge shall be levied against the property.
- 9. A PACE Charge imposed pursuant to this Bylaw constitutes a first lien on the subject property and has the same effect as rates and taxes under the *Assessment Act*.
- 10. A PACE Charge pursuant to this Bylaw is collectable in the same manner as rates and taxes under the *Assessment Act* and, at the option of the Director of Finance, is collectable at the same time and by the same

11. proceedings as taxes.
12. The lien provided for in this Bylaw shall become effective on the date on which the Chief Administrative Officer files with the Director of Finance a certificate that the agreed improvement has been completed.
13. The lien provided for in this Bylaw shall remain in effect until the total charge, plus interest, has been paid in full.

INTEREST

14. Interest will be charged on PACE Charges at a rate of Municipal cost of borrowing plus 1% per annum
15. Interest shall accrue on any PACE Charge or portion thereof which remain outstanding from the date of billing.
16. Interest is payable annually on the entire amount outstanding and unpaid, whether or not the owner has elected to pay by installments.

INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

17. The owner of a Qualified Property may elect to pay the PACE Charge by equal installment payments over a period or not more than 10 years, as set out in the PACE Customer Agreement.
18. In the event of default of any installment payment under the PACE Customer Agreement, the entire outstanding balance shall be immediately due and payable.

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald reviewed the PACE Program sponsored by Efficiency Nova Scotia. He will be attending a Council meeting in Guysborough County where a representative from Efficiency Nova Scotia will be making a presentation.

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

That the First Reading of By-Law “Respecting Charges for the Property Assessed Clean Energy Program” be approved.

SECOND READING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO BY-LAW 30, CAPITAL COST OF SEWER & WATER CONSTRUCTION

Warden MacAulay allowed questions/comments from several Port Hood residents with respect to the billing of the Harbourview Sewer & Water.

Moved by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald
Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.

That the Second Reading for an Amendment to By-Law #30, Capital Cost of Sewer & Water Construction be approved.

APPROVAL OF THREE YEAR WATER OPERATING BUDGET

Warden MacAulay explained that the Three Year Water Operating Budget was reviewed at a meeting held previous to Council.

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

That the Three Year Water Operating Budget be approved.

RECOMMENDATION – CHARITABLE TAX EXEMPTION

The Charitable Tax Exemption was reviewed previous to the Council meeting and the following was recommended.

Moved by: Councillor Alfred Poirier
Seconded by: Councillor Jim Mustard
Carried.

That the Charitable Tax Exemption for 2017 be accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

MINISTER OF COMMUNITIES, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Correspondence was received from the Minister of Communities, Culture & Heritage with respect to a review of the equity grant for the Eastern Counties Regional Library.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Councillor Jim Mustard

Inverness Water – Councillor Mustard and Garrett Beaton are going to tour a Municipal water facility in East Hants to examine how they are treating their hard water problems.

Crosswalks – Councillor Mustard would like to set up a meeting with Bernie Murphy to review the crosswalk issue. Councillor Mustard asked Mr. O'Connor to contact Steve MacDonald. Most catchment basins in Inverness have now been repaired.

Mill Road Social Enterprises – The Inverness Cottage Workshop has been re-named “Mill Road Social Enterprises” and is now open at their new location.

Engage Nova Scotia – An Engage Nova Scotia meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 27th at the Normaway Inn.

Housing Survey – Councillor Mustard encouraged residents to complete the survey which is on the Municipal web site.

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

Crowdis Bridge – Councillor MacDonald has received no information as to when repair work will be carried out on the Crowdis Bridge.

Marble Mountain Road Paving – Councillor MacDonald asked that the TIR be contacted as to the status of paving on the Marble Mountain Road.

Cleanup – Troy Beach – Councillor MacDonald thanked the residents and the County for their help with the cleanup on the Troy Beach and asked that a “No Dumping” sign be ordered.

Heavy Garbage Pickup – Councillor MacDonald asked that the Garbage Collection Policy be updated so that residents will have a better knowledge of what will be picked up during heavy garbage pickup week.

AMENDMENT TO APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY WARDEN POLICY

Councillor MacDonald provided the following:

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF INVERNESS**APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY WARDEN**

PREAMBLE: Section 16 (1) of the Municipal Government Act requires the selection of a Deputy Warden of the Council.

Section 16 (2) of the Municipal Government Act requires the Municipal Council to determine the term of office of the Deputy Warden.

POLICY:

1. It shall be the policy of the Municipality of the County of Inverness that the appointment of a Deputy Warden shall be for a four (4) year term and shall be appointed by a majority vote of the elected Councillors present at the first (1st) meeting of Council in the month of November following Municipal elections.
2. It shall be the policy of the Municipality of the County of Inverness that a review of the Deputy Warden position will take place at the first (1st) meeting of Council in the month of November, two (2) years after the appointment of a Deputy Warden.
3. It shall be the policy of the Municipality of the County of Inverness that, during the two (2) year review of the Deputy Warden position, a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the elected council members present would remove a Deputy Warden from office as Deputy Warden, and Council would

proceed to elect a new Deputy Warden immediately. An outgoing Deputy Warden would be eligible to reoffer for the position of Deputy Warden.

4. In the event that the Deputy Warden is unable to serve her/his term, the position will be filled by a majority vote of the elected Councillors present at the first (1st) meeting following the vacancy of the Deputy Warden position.

It was agreed that under “Policy” (1) after meeting of Council – insert “following the Municipal Election”.

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

That the Amendment to “Appointment of Deputy Warden Policy” as presented with the above noted changes be accepted.

APPOINTMENT OF WARDEN POLICY

Councillor MacDonald provided the following:

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF INVERNESS

APPOINTMENT OF WARDEN

PREAMBLE: Section 12 (1) of the Municipal Government Act requires the selection of a Warden of the Municipality be chosen by the council members from among themselves.

Section 12 (2) of the Municipal Government Act requires the term of office of the warden expires when the term of office of the council expires, *unless prior to the selection of a warden, the council adopts a shorter term of office for the warden.*

POLICY:

1. It shall be the policy of the Municipality of the County of Inverness that the appointment of a Warden shall be for a four (4) year term and shall be appointed by a majority vote of the elected Councillors present at the first (1st) meeting of Council in the month of November following Municipal elections.
2. It shall be the policy of the Municipality of the County of Inverness that a review of the Warden position will take place at the first (1st) meeting of Council in the month of November, two (2) years after the appointment of a Warden.

3. It shall be the policy of the Municipality of the County of Inverness that, during the two (2) year review of the Warden position, a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the Council members present would remove a Warden from office as Warden, and Council would immediately proceed to elect a new Warden. An outgoing Warden would be eligible to reoffer for the position of Warden. A new Warden shall be appointed by a majority vote of the elected Councillors present.

4. In the event that a Warden is unable to serve her/his term, the position will be filled by the Deputy Warden until the two (2) year review of the Warden position at the first (1st) meeting of Council in the month of November, two (2) years after the appointment of the outgoing Warden, at which time a Warden shall be appointed by a majority vote of the elected Councillors present, or until the term of office of the council expires.

It was agreed that under “Policy” (1) after meeting of Council – insert “following the Municipal Election”.

Moved by: **Councillor Dwayne MacDonald**
Seconded by: **Councillor Gloria LeBlanc**
Carried.

That the “Appointment of Warden Policy” as presented with the above noted changes be accepted.

Deputy Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie

TRAILER BY-LAW #20

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

That the Trailer By-Law #20 be referred to a Policy meeting for review.

Work on the Back of the Building – Deputy Warden MacQuarrie asked that repair work be carried out on the back of the building re rust around the windows, concrete around the bottom of the building as well as repair work in the parking area.

Invitation to Meet Syrian Families – An invitation has been extended to Council to meet with three of the Syrian Families on July 10th from 3-5 pm at St. Peters Parish Hall, Port Hood.

Councillor Alfred Poirier

TIR – Councillor Poirier asked that a letter be forwarded to the TIR with respect to repair work on Island Light Road as well as the J Class Streets in Cheticamp.

Cell Service – Pleasant Bay – Councillor Poirier questioned whether there has been any further updates for the cell service in Pleasant Bay. Joe O’Connor advised that this has been referred to the Connectivity Committee. Joe O’Connor and the CAO’s from Richmond & Victoria Counties are going to work together on the cellular service issues.

Senior Home – Cheticamp – Councillor Poirier reviewed what has been carried out at the Foyer Pere Fiset Senior home in Cheticamp and the future plans for the facility.

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc

Visitor Information Centres – Councillor LeBlanc asked that the Visitor Information Centre employees be made aware of the discrepancies in using a GPS locator so that employees could inform tourists of this problem.

TIR – East Margaree Road – Councillor LeBlanc asked that an e-mail be forwarded to Steve MacDonald requesting an update as to when repair work will be scheduled for the East Margaree Road.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN