

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2014
10:00 AM**

The Annual Meeting of the Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, June 9, 2014, at 10:00 am at the Court House in Port Hood with the following in attendance:

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

Not Present: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc

Staff: Joe O'Connor, CAO
Eveylena Gillis, Council Recorder
Maurice Boudreau, Solicitor

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran
Adam Cooke, Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Duart MacAulay called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

MOMENTS SILENCE FOR DECEASED COUNCILLORS

Warden MacAulay asked for a moments silence for deceased Councillors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the May 5, 2014, Municipal Council meeting be approved.

CAO REPORT

Joe O'Connor, CAO, reviewed the projects and achievements over the past year such as – completion of the Port Hood Sidewalk and the Port Hood Sewage Treatment Plant; proposed expansion of the Margaree Airport; Tourism Strategy for the county; completion of the design for upgrades to the Cheticamp Sewage Treatment plant; completion of a conceptual plan for Inverness; continuation of REN discussions, etc.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICY COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of May 5, 2014, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting of May 5, 2014, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of May 22, 2014, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

MARGAREE & INVERNESS VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES

It was noted that Destination Cape Breton will be funding both the Margaree & Inverness Visitor Information Centres for this upcoming season.

CORRESPONDENCE

RE-PAVING OF J CLASS ROADS

Joe O'Connor advised that the Department of Transportation has been in contact with him with respect to the repaving of J Roads with 50% funding from the County. Mr. O'Connor provided the following roads to the DOT for repaving – 1) MacIsaac St; 2) MacKenzie Ave; 3) Varniers Lane; in Inverness and 4) Brown St. in Port Hastings.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Deputy Warden Mustard reported that he met with officials from the Dept. of Transportation to identify what work has to be carried out on the roads.

Council adjourned for a five minute break.

Warden MacAulay called meeting back to order at 11 am.

PRESENTATION BY NICOLE & SEVERIN LEFORT – LA COOPERATIVE DE TRANSPORT DE CHETICAMP LTEE

Nicole & Severin LeFort provided information on the history of the transit system which began in 2011 with a startup grant of \$50,000. They now receive \$2,000 from the Cheticamp Co-op, \$500. from the Cheticamp Credit Union and \$9,500 from the Municipality which is matched by the Community Economic Development Investment Fund (CEDIF). Donations of approximately \$7,000 is received each year and approximately \$13,000 in ridership fares.

FIRST READING OF SERVICE FEES FOR PAYMENT CARDS BY-LAW #46

Tanya Tibbo provided information on By-Law #46 – “Service Fees For Payment Cards By-Law” which will permit residents to pay for municipal services and activities using a payment card specifically Visa and Mastercard. The service fees will be paid by the user of the card at no cost to the County.

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

That the First Reading of By-Law #46 “Service Fees For Payment Cards” be approved.

Council adjourned to Lunch

Warden MacAulay called the Public Hearing to order at 1:00 pm.

Council re-convened back to Council.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

MONCTON TRAGEDY

Councillor Poirier complimented the professionals involved in the tragedy in Moncton for a job well done.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor Poirier informed Council that he has a meeting scheduled with Steve MacDonald and he will be discussing the water issue on Wally Timmons property in Cheticamp as well as the signage issue from Grand Etang to Point Cross. Councillor Poirier thanked the DOT for the work carried out on the gravel roads in his district.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Deputy Warden Mustard updated Council on the Veterans Memorial Court land which is ongoing for transfer to the County. Also progress is ongoing for the transfer of a portion of land on Hillcrest Ext owned by the Cape Breton Island Housing Authority.

PRESENTATION BY MARC DUBE – PORT HAWKESBURY PAPER

Mr. Dube provided an update on the 1st year review of environmental and community performance of Port Hawkesbury Paper. Mr. Dube stated that the mill is world class as far as employee relations, safety rating, employee technical strength, equipment and fibre. They continue to look for opportunities to create energy solutions that will allow them to be more competitive. The engineering study for a demonstration sugar extracting operation at the mill is almost complete and they hope to move ahead with this project within the year.

PRESENTATION BY CHAD MUNROE – HALIFAX BIOMEDICAL

Mr. Munroe reviewed the progress over the past several years and noted that their business has been established in Mabou for almost nine years. Mr. Munroe advised that the company has expanded into the Boston area. Halifax Biomedical is the only company worldwide currently providing a complete product and service solution for conducting RSA-based research. Lack of adequate housing continues to be a problem.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS CONT'D**SIGNS – PORT HASTINGS**

Councillor MacDonald asked Mr. O'Connor to investigate the remaining signs that have yet to be removed in Port Hastings.

CELL PHONE SERVICE

Councillor MacQuarrie advised that Allan MacMaster, MLA, has been in contact with her with respect to the areas in her district with little or no cell service.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Councillor MacQuarrie noted that the communities of Port Hood and Mabou have carried out their spring cleanup.

SECOND READING - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE PORT HOOD MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY TO ALLOW THE SUBDIVISION OF ONE ADDITIONAL LOT WITHOUT FRONTAGE

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

That the Second Reading for the proposed amendment to the Port Hood Municipal Planning Strategy to allow the subdivision of one additional lot without frontage be approved.

SECOND READING - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE PORT HOOD LAND USE BY-LAW TO ALLOW THE SUBDIVISION OF ONE ADDITIONAL LOT WITHOUT FRONTAGE

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

That the Second Reading for the proposed amendment to the Port Hood Land Use By-Law to allow the subdivision of one additional lot without frontage be approved.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN