

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, March 2, 2015, at 1:30 pm at the Court House in Port Hood with the following in attendance:

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

Absent: Councillor Jim Mustard

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

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Duart MacAulay called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the February 2, 2015, Municipal Council meeting be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Page 3 – Victoria County – Councillor MacQuarrie asked for clarification on the breakdown of costs of the Service Agreement with Victoria County. Joe O'Connor explained the breakdown of the costs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

Carried.

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of February 13, 2015, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Moved by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc

Carried.

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of February 17, 2015, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

VOLUNTEER NIGHT

The Volunteer Appreciation Night is being held on Wednesday, April 15th at St. Peter's Parish Hall, Port Hood.

EASTERN DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION

Moved by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie

Seconded by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

Carried.

That the staff appointments provided by the Director of the Eastern District Planning Commission for various municipal positions be approved.

FIRST NATIONS - MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Joe O'Connor advised that all Councillors are invited to a one day workshop being held on Thursday, March 12th in Waycobah. Representatives of the FCM, Council, and members from Waycobah First Nations will be attending this workshop.

ESTATE OF ROBERT MACDONALD – PROPERTY IN GLENCOE

Joe O'Connor provided information on property located in Glencoe which was vested in the County in 1954. Taxes have been paid on this property until 2010. Solicitor MacIsaac reviewed this property issue.

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

That the recommendation from Solicitor MacIssac to issue a Quit Claim Deed to the Estate of Robert MacDonald be accepted then proceed to tax sale.

FIRST READING FOR AMENDMENT TO THE PORT HASTINGS LAND USE BY-LAW TO RE-ZONE PROPERTY OF PHILIP & NANCY LATIMER FROM RESIDENTIAL (R-1) TO RURAL MIXED USE (RM-1)

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

That the First Reading for an amendment to the Port Hastings Land Use By-Law to Re-Zone property of Philip & Nancy Latimer from Residential (R-1) to Rural Mixed Use (RM-1) be approved.

FIRST READING FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE PORT HASTINGS LAND USE BY-LAW

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

That the First Reading for amendments to the Port Hastings Land Use By-Law to change the special requirements for stables and barns be approved.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

LOAN GUARANTEE – VALLEY MILLS & DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

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

That a loan guarantee in the amount of \$50,000. be approved for the Valley Mills & District Volunteer Fire Department.

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc asked that the Terms of Reference, the last minutes as well as the information worked on by the student with respect to heritage be provided to her for review.

MI-CARME CENTRE

Councillor LeBlanc advised that the Mi-Carme Centre will be open from March 11-13 for the Mi-Carme celebrations.

INVERNESS COUNTY HOME SUPPORT

Councillor LeBlanc will provide information to Council when the funding is finalized for the Inverness County Home Support Program.

TOURISM STRATEGY

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

That the Tourism Strategy for the County be approved in the amount of \$144,000.

WINTER STORMS

Deputy Warden Poirier expressed appreciation to the Dept. of Transportation plow operators for the prompt work they provided in removing snow over the past several months.

SEASONAL WORKERS

Deputy Warden Poirier mentioned that there could be a problem recruiting workers for the fish plant in Cheticamp and indicated that in the next several months he may be asking for support for seasonal immigration workers.

OUTDOOR RINK - PLEASANT BAY

Deputy Warden Poirier congratulated the residents of Pleasant Bay for the work they carried out on their outdoor rink and noted that the residents are organizing future winter activities.

CELL PHONE SERVICE

Deputy Warden Poirier continues to be concerned with the lack of cell service in the Pleasant Bay area and noted that lack of cellular service presented a problem when the tour bus overturned last year in Neils Harbour.

LAND VALUE PROTECTION

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie asked that the Land Value Protection Resolution be added to the agenda for the next Policy Committee meeting.

MARGAREE AIRPORT

Councillor MacQuarrie asked for clarification as to why previous discussions for an airport in Strathlorne were discontinued. Warden MacAulay explained that due to a problem with wind patterns this location was not practical. Also the Margaree Airport would be less costly as the capital asset is already invested in Margaree.

STRAIT RICHMOND HOSPITAL – BLOOD COLLECTION

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald advised that blood collection at the Strait Richmond Hospital will now be sent to the lab at St. Martha’s Hospital in Antigonish for analysis.

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

That a letter be forwarded to GASHA asking that the status quo for blood collection service be maintained at the Strait Richmond Hospital.

COMMUNITY MAILBOXES – MILLVILLE

Councillor MacDonald asked that a letter be forwarded to Canada Post requesting that the parking lot at the community mailboxes in Millville be kept ploughed.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor MacDonald asked that the Dept. of Transportation be contacted requesting that the Millville sign be re-installed.

CREIGNISH REAR ROAD

Councillor MacDonald provided information on a situation where an ambulance was called out to a residence on the Creignish Rear Road which a portion of it is not plowed in the winter time and then had to back track from Creignish to the General Line Road. Councillor MacDonald asked that the EDPC, DOT, and 911 be contacted for clarification.

KRAFT HOCKEYVILLE COMPETITION – INVERNESS

Councillor MacDonald on behalf of Councillor Mustard asked for support for the community of Inverness in the Kraft Hockeyville Competition.

CLOSURE OF PROVINCIAL PARK OFFICE – WHYCOCOMAGH

Warden MacAulay advised that the office at the Provincial Park in Whycomagh is closing with a loss of 6-7 jobs. Warden MacAulay and Councillor MacDonald are meeting with staff to discuss this closure.

TOURISM SIGNAGE STRATEGY

Joe O'Connor explained that the County is exploring the possibility of cooperating with Richmond County on a Joint Signage Strategy and a meeting will be held in the next several weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN