

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2014
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, March 3, 2014, at 1:30 pm at the Court House in Port Hood with the following in attendance:

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

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

Media: April MacDonald, Inverness Oran
Adam Cooke, Reporter
Brad Perry, The Hawk

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of February 3, 2014, be approved.

Warden Duart MacAulay took his seat as Chair.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from minutes.

Warden MacAulay welcomed students from Dalbrae Academy.

PRESENTATION BY EFFICIENCY NOVA SCOTIA

Douglas MacLellan, Regional Manager of MJM Energy, the service provider for Efficiency Nova Scotia reviewed the Low Income Homeowner Program. This program is designed to help homeowners on a low or fixed income and primarily focuses on insulating basements, walls and attics as well as a general tightening of the house. The requirements and application process was reviewed and if the applicant qualifies for this program 100% of the cost are covered for the retrofit.

PRESENTATION BY JOELLA FOULDS & JODY MACARTHUR – CELTIC COLOURS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Joella Foulds reviewed the growth, community development, and the tourism and economic impact of the Celtic Colours Festival. Ms. Foulds provided information on the benefit to the County businesses and community organizations.

PRESENTATION BY BOBBY MACEACHERN – INVERNESS COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. MacEachern outlined some concerns the association has such as mutual aid agreement, training assistance, dispatch service assistance, blanket insurance coverage, etc. and asked that Council address these concerns.

PRESENTATION BY CAROLINE CAMERON – GAELIC COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA

Caroline Cameron updated Council on the recent activities and future plans of the Gaelic Council. Ms. Cameron requested a contribution of \$5,000. which will be used mainly to support the provincial gathering to be held in Mabou this year. Warden MacAulay advised that this funding request will be reviewed at an audit committee meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Correspondence received from the DOT has determined that a crosswalk is not warranted between the Post Office and Mabou Communications and the Parish Hall in Mabou. Councillor MacQuarrie asked that this request be re-visited or a different location be investigated by the DOT.

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie asked that the DOT be contacted once again for a further review of the possibility of installing a hidden driveway sign near 11411 Hwy 19, Duncreigan Inn and 11390 Hwy 19, Koster Huis Small Options Home in Mabou.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY**

Councillor MacQuarrie reported on the funding issues of the Eastern Counties Regional Library. The province will not be providing an increase in funding for this coming year, therefore the board is working on reviewing programs and community usage to evaluate where funding can be reduced.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald updated Council on the Energy Reduction Challenge 2014. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2014, and the six competing communities will be named at the April 7th Municipal Council meeting.

BIOMASS FEASIBILITY STUDY

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard reported that the Biomass Feasibility Study has been completed and the study will be released at a meeting at the Strathlorne Tree Nursery before the end of March.

PORT HAWKESBURY AIRPORT

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald advised that the Port Hawkesbury Airport Feasibility Study has been completed. Warden MacAulay questioned what industries are using the airport and the usage by these industries as well as the number of cargo flights. Councillor MacDonald will provide this information at the next meeting.

FOOD SECURITY COMMITTEE

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard reported that an application for funding for a Food Security Coordinator has been submitted to the Dept of Agriculture and they are waiting for a response.

AUDIT/POLICY COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit/Policy Committee meeting of February 28, 2014, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

INVERNESS COUNTY ASYLUM CEMETERY PROJECT

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie asked that the neighbouring municipalities be updated as to this Asylum Cemetery Project after we receive a cost estimate from Stanley Beaton.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

BUDDY MACMASTER AWARD

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald expressed congratulations to Buddy MacMaster on his receiving a Folk Alliance International Lifetime Achievement Award and asked that a letter be forwarded to Mr. MacMaster in recognition of this award.

ROAD NAME CHANGE

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

That the request from the Town of Port Hawkesbury to have road “5086 P” located in Port Hastings named “Hector MacInnis Rd” be forwarded to the Eastern District Planning Commission for approval.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc asked that the DOT be contacted requesting an assessment for a guard rail at 12094 Cabot Trail; a reminder for the removal of debris (trees & brush cuttings) at Portree and the trees & shrubs to be cut at 928 Egypt Road, and a review of the drainage issue on the East Margaree Rd.

HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc asked that the minutes of the Heritage Committee meetings over the past several years be reviewed as well as the terms of reference and committee members.

MEAT COVE & CHETICAMP ROADS

Councillor Alfred Poirier informed Council that he is meeting with several residents of Meat Cove and Pam Eyking, MLA, to discuss the winter snow removal.

Councillor Poirier will also be meeting with Allan MacMaster, MLA, to discuss the roads in the Cheticamp area.

GENERATOR - CHETICAMP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Councillor Poirier reported that the generator at the Cheticamp Fire Dept. has been repaired and will be maintained by the Fire Dept.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor Poirier asked that correspondence be forwarded to the DOT requesting that the ditching issue next to Wally Timmons property on the Cheticamp Back Road be investigated.

UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard put forward an Unsightly Premises report for property located at 29 MacIsaac St., in Inverness for referral to the Eastern District Planning Commission.

CROSSWALKS & PARKING – INVERNESS

Deputy Warden Mustard would like to see more discussion with respect to additional crosswalks and parking in Inverness.

CABOT LINKS RE-ZONING APPEAL

Warden MacAulay provided information on the appeal that has been filed with the Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board with respect to the amendment to the Inverness Land Use By-Law to allow for additional accommodations associated with the Cabot Links Golf Course.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN