

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, March 7, 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
Harold MacIsaac, Solicitor

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran
Grant McDaniel, Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of February 1, 2016, be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Page 4 – Proposed Quarry in Grand Etang – Joe O'Connor will continue to try to get more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of February 1, 2016, 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

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting of February 1, 2016, 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 Gloria LeBlanc
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie
Carried.**

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of March 2, 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 COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of March 2, 2016, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

EASTERN DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF APPOINTMENTS

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

That the staff appointments for the Eastern District Planning Commission be accepted.

LAND TRANSFER REQUEST – JUDIQUÉ RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Warden MacAulay advised that a Public Hearing was held on February 18th and further discussion took place at a Policy meeting on March 2nd.

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

That the property as requested by the Judique Recreation Association be transferred to their association.

LAND TRANSFER REQUEST – PORT HOOD & AREA DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

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

That the property as requested by the Port Hood & Area Development Society be transferred to their society.

NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND BY-LAW #30 – CAPITAL COST OF SEWER & WATER CONSTRUCTION

Warden MacAulay reviewed the procedure to amend By-Law #30 – Capital Cost of Sewer & Water Construction to allow for recovering of costs for upgrades/construction of sewer & water. The First Reading for this amendment will be considered at the April 4th Council meeting.

PRESENTATION BY DWAYNE MACDONALD – STRAIT AREA TRANSIT

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald reviewed the Strait Area Transit budget for 2016/2017. Mr. MacDonald provided information on the staffing, services, vehicles, ridership, fares, etc.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Councillor Jim Mustard –

BLUE DOT MOVEMENT - A DECLARATION OF THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness understands that people are part of the environment, and that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the well-being of our community;

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness recognizes the mutual importance and interconnectedness of a healthy environment, a vibrant economy and a healthy society;

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness recognizes that environmental protection is a fundamental value held by its citizens;

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness recognizes that our world and all of its inhabitants are faced with the (growing and increasingly urgent impacts) challenge of climate change, air and water pollution, and loss of biodiversity;

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness recognizes the importance of protecting citizens' health from environmental hazards such as air pollution, contaminated food and water, and toxic chemicals;

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness has a structured sphere of influence and a defined jurisdiction;

Whereas in proclaiming this declaration, Council is articulating public policy principles, but not creating or guaranteeing any legal rights or obligations;

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness supports the recognition of the right to a healthy environment in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;

Whereas the Municipality of the County of Inverness, through their Community Planning and policies, reflects the values of its citizens and demonstrates a commitment to protecting the environment and moving toward a more (sustainable) healthy and prosperous future;

Now therefore the Council of Municipality of the County of Inverness declares that:

1. All people have the right to live in a healthy environment, including the right to:
 - breathe clean air;
 - drink and access clean water;
 - eat safe and healthy food;
 - access nature;
 - know about pollutants and contaminants released into the local environment; and
 - participate in decision-making that will affect the environment.
2. Within its jurisdiction, the Municipality of the County of Inverness has certain authority to respect, protect, fulfill and promote these rights and commits to encouraging the respect, protection, fulfillment and promotion of these rights.
3. The Municipality of the County of Inverness shall apply the precautionary principle by taking measures to prevent the degradation of the environment and protect the health of its citizens where threats of serious or irreversible damage to human health or the environment exist.
4. The Municipality of the County of Inverness will consider costs to human health and the environment when evaluating reasonably foreseeable costs of proposed actions and alternatives.
5. The Municipality of the County of Inverness has and will continue to work with its community partners to specify objectives, targets and timelines and actions we can all take to address our right to a healthy environment under section 1, including priority actions to:
 - a. distribute environmental benefits and burdens within the municipality, preventing the cumulative health impacts of exposure to environmental contaminants;
 - b. ensure infrastructure and development projects protect the environment, including air quality;
 - c. address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and implementing adaptation measures;
 - d. responsibly increase density;

- e. prioritize walking, cycling and public transit as healthy and economical modes of transportation;
- f. prioritize infrastructure and protected water sources for the provision of safe and accessible drinking water;
- g. promote the availability of safe, local foods;
- h. reduce solid waste and promote recycling, re-use and composting;
- i. establish and maintain accessible green spaces in residential neighbourhoods, and protect and conserve nature in public open spaces;
- j. attract and invest in green businesses, green energy, clean tech and jobs of tomorrow.

The Municipality of the County of Inverness municipality will review the objectives, targets, timelines and actions every five (5) years, and measure progress towards fulfilling this declaration; and
The Municipality of the County of Inverness will consult with residents as part of this process.

- 6. The Municipality of the County of Inverness will send letters to the provincial government and to the federal government calling for the development of provincial and federal legislation that recognizes the right to live in a healthy environment.

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

That the Blue Dot Resolution as presented be approved.

Engage Conference – The Engage Conference is scheduled for May 13th and 14th in Waycobah and a trade fair is also being organized for the conference.

Food Security Committee - Councillor Mustard provided two documents from the Food Security Committee meeting to be tabled for further discussion 1) Food Development Immigration Coordinator and 2) Agriculture Land Use Committee.

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald –

Congratulations – Beckey & Alex Hughie MacInnis on the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Visitor Information Centre – Councillor MacDonald was pleased that the VIC in Port Hastings will be opening again this year.

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc –

Cranton Bridge & East Margaree Road – A letter has been forwarded to the Minister of Transportation - no response has been received as yet.

Sound System – Councillor LeBlanc asked for the possibility of installing a sound system in the Council Chambers.

Access to Rivers – There is a problem in the Margaree area with residents having a problem accessing the river due to the fact that the abutting property is privately owned and access is being denied. Solicitor MacIsaac will provide a copy of the Angling Act for Councillor LeBlanc.

Councillor Alfred Poirier –

Pot Holes - Roads – There are a great number of pot holes on the roads in the Cheticamp area and Councillor Poirier is hoping that these will be repaired as soon as possible.

Syria Families – One family is now residing in Cheticamp and the committee is working on taking in another family.

CCCL Committee – Councillor Poirier advised that he has been appointed to a CCCL Advisory Committee.

Deputy Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie –

Port Hood Plan Review – The plan review for Port Hood is moving along well.

Library – Dalbrae – The library at Dalbrae is open one evening per week until 6:00 pm.

Chimney Swifts – A representative from the Nature Conservancy of Canada will be in the Mabou area with respect look to the Chimney Swifts.

Still Standing – A film crew from the Still Standing television show was in Mabou this past week filming the community of Mabou for one of their episodes.

Congratulations - Sarah Beaton on the celebration of her 100th Birthday.

Syria Families – Two families have settled in the Port Hood/Mabou area and the committee is working on taking in one more family.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN