

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2014
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, May 5, 2014, at 1:30 pm at the Court House in Port Hood with the following in attendance:

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
Harold MacIsaac, Solicitor

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran
Adam Cooke, Reporter

Not Present: Warden Duart MacAulay

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Warden Jim Mustard called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Seconded by: Councillor Alfred Poirier
Carried.

That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of April 7, 2014, be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Page 5 – Heritage Committee – Councillor LeBlanc advised that she will continue to work on the Heritage Committee By-Laws and she will be attending the Heritage Connection Cape Breton Annual General Meeting to be held on May 9th in Whycomagh.

Page 1 – Meat Cove & Cheticamp Roads – Councillor Poirier expressed disappointment with the service being provided by the Dept. of Transportation in northern Inverness County as compared to other areas of the County.

PRESENTATION BY JANET BICKERTON & MELISSA HINES – MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION SERVICES – CBDHA

Janet Bickerton provided some background information on the North of Smokey Safer Communities key agencies /individuals who came together in April of 2011, to review and assist with developing a plan for crime prevention. Melissa Hines, Crime Prevention Coordinator, reviewed the three year work plan and advised that there has been a reduction in crime over the past two years. To ensure the continuation of employment of the Coordinator for a further 12 weeks, approximately \$5,000. is required, therefore Ms. Bickerton is requesting assistance with funding a portion of this amount.

Deputy Warden Mustard advised that this request would be referred to an Audit Committee meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**AUDIT COMMITTEE – APRIL 7th & April 22nd, 2014**

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meetings of April 7, and April 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.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – APRIL 7th & APRIL 22nd, 2014

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Community Development Committee meetings of April 7, and April 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.

INTEREST RATE REDUCTION

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

That the interest rate be reduced from 10% to prime plus 2% for a rate of 5%.

ENERGY REDUCTION CHALLENGE

Councillor MacDonald reported that the Energy Reduction Challenge contest is underway with the communities of Mabou, Inverness, Glendale and West Bay Road participating.

EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY

Councillor MacQuarrie reported that the CEO is going to circulate more in the other branches in the County. Also the Port Hood and the Coady Tompkins branches will be open for an additional five hours.

FIRST 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: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.

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

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

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING

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

That a Public Hearing be held on Monday, June 9, 2014, at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF OPERATING BUDGET – 2014-2015

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 72 of the Municipal Government Act, of the Province of Nova Scotia, the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness estimated that sums amounting to \$13,779,674.00 are required for the lawful purpose of the said municipality for the year ending March 31, 2015, after crediting the probable revenue from all sources other than the rates of the said year and making due allowances for the abatement and losses which may occur in the collection of taxes for the said year which may not be collected or collectible.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council hereby authorize the levying and collection of a commercial property rate of \$1.85 and a residential and resource rate of \$1.02 per one hundred dollars of the assessed value of property and on the assessment roll which the said Council deems sufficient to raise the sum required to defray the expenditures of the said Municipality of the said year.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the area rates be established as follows in the following areas:

Residential	\$1.02	Per \$100 of Assessment
Commercial	\$1.85	Per \$100 of Assessment

District 1		
Sewer Maintenance	\$0.30	Per \$100 of Assessment
Cheticamp Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.08	Per \$100 of Assessment
Cheticamp Fire Department Fire Protection (Commercial)	\$0.04	Per \$100 of Assessment
Pleasant Bay Fire Department Fire Protection	\$125.00	Per Dwelling Unit
Meat Cove Fire Department Fire Protection	\$60.00	Per Dwelling Unit

District 2		
LeMoine Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.08	Per \$100 of Assessment
LeMoine Fire Department Fire Protection (Commercial)	\$0.05	Per \$100 of Assessment
N.E. Margaree Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
Margaree Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
Margaree Fire Department Fire Protection (Commercial)	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment

District 3		
Sewer Maintenance	\$0.30	Per \$100 of Assessment
Inverness Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.08	Per \$100 of Assessment

District 4		
Sewer Maintenance	\$0.30	Per \$100 of Assessment
Whycocomagh Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
Lake Ainslie/Upper Margaree Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
Valley Mills Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
Blues Mills Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.05	Per \$100 of Assessment

District 5		
Sewer Maintenance	\$0.30	Per \$100 of Assessment

Mabou Fire Department Fire Protection resident has more than two properties	\$100.00	Maximum of \$200 where
Port Hood Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
Port Hood Fire Department Fire Protection (Commercial)	\$0.06	Per \$100 of Assessment
Port Hood Island Fire Station	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
District 6		
Sewer Maintenance (Judique & Port Hastings)	\$0.30	Per \$100 of Assessment
Port Hastings Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
West Bay Road Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment
Judique Fire Department Fire Protection	\$0.10	Per \$100 of Assessment

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council hereby require payment of the said rates to be made to the Tax Collector or Treasurer of the said Municipality on August 29th, 2014.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council hereby impose an additional percentage of twelve percent per annum on all rates and taxes remaining unpaid after August 29th, 2014.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council fixes April 1, 2015, as the day after which the tax collector may proceed to issue warrants for the collection on all rates and taxes then unpaid.

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

That the Operating Budget for the year ending March 31, 2015, be approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA

Correspondence was received from Veterans Affairs Canada in response to Councils' concern with the closure of Veterans Affairs offices.

CHILD CARE AWARENESS MONTH

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

That the month of June be proclaimed "Child Care Awareness Month".

HEART & STROKE FOUNDATION

Moved by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.

That June 7th be proclaimed “National Health & Fitness Day” in Inverness County.

PORT HAWKESBURY AIRPORT INFORMATION

The Port Hawkesbury Airport information as requested by Warden MacAulay was provided.

UNSM – IVANY REPORT WORKSHOP

Joe O’Connor and Councillor Dwayne MacDonald will attend the Ivany Report Workshop to be held on May 23rd at the Holiday Inn in Truro.

UNSIGHTLY PREMISES – PROPERTY OF EHLER INVESTMENTS – WHYCOCOMAGH

An Unsightly Premises notice was received from the EDPC for property of Ehler Investments Limited recommending that an “Order to Remedy Condition” be issued and the order be a 7 day Demolition Order.

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

That a 7 day Demolition Order be issued to Ehler Investments Limited.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

ENGAGE MARGAREE MEETING

Councillor LeBlanc advised that an Engage Margaree meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6th, at 6:30 pm at the South West Margaree Hall.

RURAL POST OFFICES

Councillor LeBlanc expressed concern with the cut back in hours at the rural post offices in many areas of the County.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Moved by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Seconded by: Councillor Alfred Poirier
Carried.

That correspondence be forwarded to the Geoff MacLellan, Minister of Transportation, with the following requests:

- 1) That the holes on the sides of the road north of the Margaree Harbour Bridge be repaired;**
- 2) That the broken pavement along the guard rail in East Margaree (pictures included) be repaired;**

Solicitor MacIsaac was excused from the meeting.

NORTHERN INVERNESS COUNTY ROADS

Councillor Poirier expressed concern with the condition of the roads in northern Inverness County and the level of service being provided in this part of the county.

ENGAGE CHETICAMP MEETING

Councillor Poirier informed Council that an Engage Cheticamp meeting is being held on May 27th at 7:00 pm at the Ecole NDA School.

PROVINCIAL AND RURAL ROADS

Councillor MacQuarrie also expressed concern with the lack of maintenance on the provincial and rural roads.

SPRING CLEAN UP

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

That the spring clean up be held the week of May 26th.

LOAN GUARANTEE – INVERNESS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

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

That a loan guarantee in the amount of \$85,000. be approved for the Inverness Volunteer Fire Dept.

TOURISM STRATEGY

Moved by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

**Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.**

That the Tourism Strategy be approved.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – SIGNS

Councillor MacDonald asked that the Dept. of Transportation be contacted to install signs naming – 1) Duff’s Brook; 3) Milford (English and Gaelic) and 4) “Children Playing” sign.

PARK STREET EXTENSION

**Moved by: Councillor Alfred Poirier
Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.**

That the County move forward with the migration of the land and a tender package for Park Street Extension.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN