

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

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

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

Staff: Joe O'Connor, CAO
Eveylena Gillis, Council Recorder
Garett Beaton, Dir/Public Works
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 Jim Mustard
Seconded by: Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie
Carried.

That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of October 5, 2015, be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Page 1 – CAO Review – Councillor Mustard suggested setting up a meeting with Emily Pond, Municipal Advisor, during the UNSM Conference to discuss the CAO review and then look at dates for council to meet to create a priority list.

Page 1 – Water Services – Mabou –

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

That the adequacy of the water supply in Mabou be referred to a Policy Committee meeting for further discussion.

PRESENTATION BY PAUL STROME – BLUE DOT MOVEMENT

Mr. Strome provided information on the Blue Dot Movement which is a movement to encourage Municipal Governments to officially recognize the right of citizens to a healthy environment and encourage Provincial and Federal Governments as well. Mr. Strome provided a model Municipal Declaration for “The Right To A Healthy Environment”. Warden MacAulay advised that this request will be discussed further at a Policy Committee meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICY MEETING – OCTOBER 5, 2015

It was noted that on Page 2 – it should read “Open Pen Aquacultural Free zone”

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of October 5, 2015, be approved with noted changes and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – OCTOBER 5, 2015

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting of October 5, 2015, 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 – OCTOBER 20, 2015

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of October 20, 2015, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Councillor Mustard agreed to contact Dan Troke, CEO, Housing Nova Scotia and Neil MacDonald, Director of Housing Services to discuss affordable housing in the County during the UNSM Conference.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY WARDEN

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

That Betty Ann MacQuarrie be appointed Deputy Warden for the 2015-2016 term.

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Councillor's LeBlanc, MacDonald and Poirier will review the committee structure and provide an updated list for approval at the December Council meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The request for a "Horse Rider" sign was rejected as the business is not a registered business or stable.

After evaluation for the installation of a crosswalk in Petit Etang it was determined that a crosswalk is not warranted.

Paving – MacKenzie Ave – Inverness – the contractor declined to add this extra work into their schedule due to time restraints. This street should be submitted for paving consideration for the 2016/17 J Class program.

APPOINTMENT TO DESTINATION CAPE BRETON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

That Donna MacDonald be appointed to the Board of Directors of Destination Cape Breton.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

Deputy Warden MacQuarrie received a letter from the Minister of Agriculture congratulating the County of Inverness with their initiative re Agricultural Immigration.

TAX WRITE-OFFS

The following tax accounts were received from the Finance Dept for write-off:

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

That \$2829.00 (plus interest) be written off on Account #02146207.

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

That \$11,204.84 (plus interest) be written off on Account #04560531.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc –

Crowdis Bridge – The Minister of Transportation advised at the meeting held with Council in Whycocomagh that the Crowdis Bridge should be open by mid December.

Cranton Crossroads Bridge - No funding is available for repair work on the Cranton Crossroads Bridge.

East Margaree Road – Department of Transportation is going to carry out some temporary work.

RCMP – Cheticamp – Councillor LeBlanc and Councillor Poirier are going to meet with the Police Chief in Cheticamp to discuss issues of concern.

Councillor Jim Mustard –

Manhole Covers - Mabou – Acknowledgement to the Public Works Dept. for repairing the manhole covers in Mabou.

MacKenzie Avenue – Councillor Mustard expressed disappointment that Weeks Construction are not willing to pave the remainder of MacKenzie Ave. Councillor Mustard would like to see Council prepare a priority list of road work for review with Dept. of Transportation officials.

MUNICIPAL EARLY YEARS COALITION

Whereas: The One NS Coalition has recognized the Early Years as the first of its 7 priority focus areas in its forthcoming recommendations.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKiHvpgnQ6g>

Whereas: Early childhood or “the early years” is the most important developmental phase of life in which crucial advancements in physical, social, cognitive, emotional and language domains take place. Experiences during this time - and even before birth - influence health, education and economic prospects throughout life. Experiences in the first six years can become biologically embedded and influence outcomes throughout the life course in a positive way but also in a negative way.

Whereas: The Province has begun to move forward on an early years strategy by initially providing resources for 1 community based early years centre in each of the 8 school board districts.

Whereas: In order to provide universal coverage across our Province it will entail having more than 250 early years centres - based on the coverage represented by the present Elementary school system. In our county it could mean up to 6 Early Years centres.

Whereas: Communities already play a big part in providing the early environments in which our youngest citizens grow and develop - From: active living, play-spaces, childcare, local food, housing, social/cultural activities, transportation, etc ...

Whereas: Communities can play an even more instrumental role in shaping what the early centres in their communities need to be nurturing, enriched and welcoming environments for our families and children to grow, play and learn.

Whereas: Provincially supported local coalitions, like in Manitoba and Alberta, have helped develop the local understanding, planning, actions and monitoring needed to develop a seem-less universal approach to early child development from the pre-natal period onwards through:

- 1- Engaging diverse local Community coalitions,
- 2- Providing access to Data – EDI (early development Instrument), 18 month screening, birth data,
- 3- Working from an approach of upstream universality versus downstream targeting,
- 4- Sharing the knowledge of critical importance of ECD to all our bottom lines in and across communities,
- 5- Having a more facilitative leadership style and qualified staff
- 6- A whole of government approach Provincially – health, education, community services, justice, finance,

Whereas: Sustained community engagement is the active ingredient for building and sharing the relationships, knowledge and assets needed to improve developmental outcomes for young children

Therefore be it resolved: That the Municipality of the County of Inverness take the lead in forming a coalition representing all sectors - including primary health, family doctors, families, education, early intervention, libraries, recreation, business, politicians, municipal staff - to ensure that our region has the leadership and partnerships needed to create a welcoming environment in each community that supports the optimum development of every one of the approximately 100 citizens born across our county each year.

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

That the resolution as presented be accepted.

Councillor Alfred Poirier –

Lights in Cheticamp – Some of the decorative street lights are still not working. Councillor Poirier will contact the contractor.

Park – Cheticamp – The park at the Robin's property in Cheticamp is 70 percent complete.

French Conference – Councillor Poirier attended a French Conference in Quebec which was well attended and informative.

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald –

NS Association of Police Governance - Councillor MacDonald has been appointed Strait Area Representative on the Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance.

Port Hawkesbury Airport – Councillor MacDonald requested that the Town of Port Hawkesbury be contacted for an update on the next Port Hawkesbury Airport meeting.

Deputy Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie –

Port Hood Area Advisory – Patricia Van Zutphen has also agreed to become a member of the Port Hood Area Advisory Committee.

MUNICIPAL AGRICULTURAL LAND

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

That Municipal staff along with the assistance of PVSC provide to the “Food Security Committee” a list of PID’s identifying designated agricultural land in the County with the purpose of working together with the agricultural community in developing a land trust.

NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE

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

That a letter be forwarded to the Director of Housing Nova Scotia expressing interest in participating in Housing Nova Scotia’s Neighbourhood Improvement Initiative for all the company homes in the community of Inverness.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN