

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

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, November 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 Alfred Poirier
Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie

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

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran
Karo Comeau, Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Duart MacAulay called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION BY SARGENT SHELBY MILLER - RCMP

Warden MacAulay welcomed Sargent Shelby Miller who provided information on the statistics so far this year. The call for service complaints have decreased as compared to the same time frame as the previous year. Staff Sargent Miller advised that there will be more officers on duty during the Remembrance Day Services. Council felt there is a need for more education in the school system.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of October 6, 2014, be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie questioned the status of the derelict building on the East Margaree Rd. Mr. O'Connor will investigate.

Page 3 – Feed In Tariff Program – Biogas Project – Deputy Warden Jim Mustard informed Council that Mr. van den Heuvel was successful in obtaining funding through the Comfit Program and would like to meet with Council for further discussion.

Page 6 – Housing Summit – Deputy Warden Mustard advised that he is working on scheduling a Housing Summit for December.

FIRST READING FOR AMENDMENT TO THE INVERNESS MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY GENERALIZED FUTURE LAND USE MAP TO RE-DESIGNATE A PROPERTY (PID 50131606) FROM THE INDUSTRIAL GENERAL DESIGNATION TO THE COMMERCIAL MIXED-USE DESIGNATION

Warden Duart MacAulay advised that a Planning & Advisory Committee meeting was held previous to Council.

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

That the First Reading for amendment to the Inverness Municipal Planning Strategy generalized future land use map to re-designate a property (PID 50131606) from the Industrial General Designation to the Commercial Mixed-Use Designation be approved.

FIRST READING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE INVERNESS LAND USE BY-LAW MAP TO RE-ZONE A PROPERTY (PID 50131606) FROM THE INDUSTRIAL (I-2) ZONE TO THE COMMERCIAL MIXED-USE (C-3) ZONE.

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

That the First Reading for an amendment to the Inverness Land Use By-Law map to Re-Zone a property (PID 50131606) from the Industrial (I-2) Zone to the Commercial Mixed-Use (C-3) Zone be approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

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

That a Public Hearing be held on Monday, December 1, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall in Inverness.

SECOND READING FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE PROPOSED RE-ZONING OF PROPERTIES IN THE PORT HOOD PLAN AREA FROM RESIDENTIAL RURAL (R-2) ZONE TO THE RESIDENTIAL URBAN (R-1) ZONE TO REFLECT THE CURRENT EXISTENCE OF MUNICIPAL WATER & SEWER SERVICES

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

That the Second Reading for amendments to the proposed Re-Zoning of properties in the Port Hood Plan Area from Residential Rural (R-2) Zone to the Residential Urban (R-1) Zone to reflect the current existence of Municipal Water & Sewer services be approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of October 6, 2014, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald reported that the Energy Reduction Challenge is ongoing with the communities of Mabou, aintWest Bay Road and Glendale as final competitors. The winner will be announced in the near future.

PAN CAPE BRETON FOOD COORDINATOR

Deputy Warden Mustard advised that Alicia Lake has been hired for the position of Food Coordinator. The first Advisory Committee meeting is being held in Baddeck on Monday, November 10th.

STRAIT AREA TRANSIT – INTERIM MANAGER

Deputy Warden Mustard informed Council that Dwayne MacDonald has been hired as Interim Manager for the SAT. The routes have been established and currently there are 7 drivers carrying out these duties. Ridership numbers will be available for Council in the New Year.

FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie advised that she attended the Federation of Agriculture Annual meeting last week. The Federation continues to remain in relatively stable condition. The status and future of the Cape Mabou Pasture was discussed at length.

Councillor MacQuarrie noted that Leo Cox was inducted into the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame.

EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY

Councillor MacQuarrie advised that the Eastern Counties Regional Library Share the Book Campaign has been launched. There are 6 Living Libraries in the County one of which is the Coady Tompkins Library and the request from the library is for a donation of \$100 for Living Library signage.

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

That a donation of \$100. be provided to the Eastern Counties Regional Library for “Living Library” signage.

VETERANS MEMORIAL COURT LAND

Joe O’Connor informed Council that an offer to sell four parcels of surplus land (an extension of Veterans Memorial Court) has been received from Nova Scotia Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal.

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

That the County accept the offer from the Province for these four parcels of surplus land of Veterans Memorial Court Extension.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – VETERANS MEMORIAL COURT EXTENSION

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

That Expressions of Interest be publicized for development of this land.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – COST SHARED AGREEMENT – LIST OF STREETS

The Dept. of Transportation are requesting a prioritized list of streets for paving, repaving or double chipping for the 2015/2016 construction season at a 50/50 cost sharing for eligible streets. Discussion followed and it was agreed to create a criteria list for the purpose of establishing a guideline policy.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY WARDEN

Warden MacAulay expressed appreciation to Councillor Mustard for the work he carried out in his role as Deputy Warden during the past year.

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

That Councillor Alfred Poirier be nominated Deputy Warden for 2014-2015.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

NOVA SCOTIA POWER

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie expressed disappointment with the fact that Nova Scotia Power was unable to provide her with a time frame for the work she requested to be carried out in the Port Hood area.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor MacQuarrie re-emphasized the importance of resolving the water issue on Route 19 in Mabou. Joe O'Connor will contact Steve MacDonald, Area Manager.

BUSINESS COMMUNITY AWARD

Councillor MacQuarrie congratulated JR & Pauline MacDonald on receiving the Business Community Award from the Strait Area Chamber of Commerce.

PORT HOOD RESOURCE SOCIETY

Councillor MacQuarrie asked that the Port Hood Resource Society be added to the agenda for a policy committee meeting to discuss several issues of concern.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc requested that a reminder be forwarded to the DOT with the following requests – 1) a survey for the placement of a guard rail at 12094 Cabot Trail; 2) the placement of a sign indicating the Old Cabot Trail Rd in Grand Etang; 3) that a further investigation be carried out for a “Hidden Driveway” sign south of civic #928 Egypt Road.

UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

Councillor LeBlanc questioned the status of the Unsightly Premises at 2283 East Margaree Rd. Mr. O’Connor will followup.

CAPE BRETON ISLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY – ELEVATORS

Councillor LeBlanc asked that the Cape Breton Island Housing Authority be contacted as to the status for the installation of an elevator at the Grand Etang Seniors Complex.

UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

Councillor LeBlanc provided information on an unsightly dilapidated trailer located at 2865 West Big Intervale Rd. and asked Mr. O’Connor to confirm ownership of this trailer.

CHETICAMP WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADES – TENDER

Two bids were received for the upgrades to the Cheticamp Wastewater Treatment Facility – 1) Brilun Construction - \$558,873; and 2) ROCLAN Construction - \$631,567.

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

That the tender from Brilun Construction in the amount of \$558,873 be accepted for the upgrades to the Cheticamp Wastewater Treatment Facility.

ROBIN’S LAND – CHETICAMP

That the County move forward with a public hearing for the transfer of the Robin’s land in Cheticamp to Conseil Economique de Cheticamp.

CHETICAMP BUSINESS CLOSURES

Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier expressed concern with the number of businesses which are closing in the Cheticamp area. Deputy Warden Poirier was also concerned with the closure of the Acadian Centre which in the past was used as an emergency centre. A community meeting is going to take place and Deputy Warden Poirier will advise of the date when finalized.

WATER QUALITY – INVERNESS

Councillor Mustard questioned the status of the water review in Inverness. Garrett Beaton advised that he is continuing to look at options and will schedule a meeting for November.

INDUSTRIAL LAND

Councillor Mustard questioned the status of the transfer of land with the Province for the purpose of establishing an industrial park. Mr. O'Connor informed Council that several parcels of land have been identified and discussions are ongoing.

WATER EXTENSION – INVERSIDE

Councillor Mustard advised that a meeting was held with the residents of Inverside and costs will be provided to the residents in the New Year.

BIOMASS CONFERENCE

Councillor Mustard provided information on the Biomass Conference he attended in Sydney and reiterated the importance of developing a biomass facility in the County.

STRAIT AREA TRANSIT

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald declared a conflict of interest.

Councillor Mustard provided information on the status of the SAT. Discussion took place as to funding.

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

That a monthly contribution of \$12,400 be provided to the SAT until fiscal year end March 31, 2014, with a review held at this time.

CAPE BRETON ISLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY – JUDIQUÉ SENIORS UNITS

Councillor MacDonald asked that the Cape Breton Island Housing Authority be contacted requesting that the railing at the bottom of the outside stairway be secured at the Seniors Units in Judique.

PUBLIC WORKS AWARD

The Port Hood Sewer Treatment Plant won the 2014 Project of the Year Award issued by the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN