

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016  
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, September 12, 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 Jim Mustard  
Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

Not Present: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc  
Councillor Alfred Poirier

Staff: Joe O'Connor, CAO  
Debbie Nicholson, Council Recorder  
Tanya Tibbo, Dir/ Finance  
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 – JULY 4, 2016**

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

**That the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of July 4, 2016, be approved.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING – AUGUST 5, 2016**

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

Deputy Warden MacQuarrie asked that it be noted in the August 5<sup>th</sup> Special Council minutes the adjournment for the dedication of the bench in memory of the Inverness County Home Children.

**That the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 5, 2016 be approved with noted amendments.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Councillor Mustard wants to meet with the Dept of Transportation re: Inverness crosswalks.

**DEPUTY WARDEN APPOINTMENT**

**Moved by: Deputy Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie  
Motion defeated.**

To reconsider for review the policy for appointment of deputy warden.

**MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**

Emily Pond was introduced by Warden MacAulay. She is here to observe, and noted she is pleased with the 3 projects recently approved, and the REN increased contribution.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AUDIT**

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

**Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meetings of July 11, 2016, and August 5, 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 Dwayne MacDonald  
Carried.**

**Resolved that the minutes of the Community Development Committee meetings of July 11, 2016, and August 5, 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**

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meetings of July 11, 2016, and August 5, 2016 be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

**PAC**

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

Resolved that the minutes of the PAC Committee meeting of August 5, 2016, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

**SECOND READING OF BY-LAW RESPECTING CHARGES FOR THE PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM**

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

That Second Reading of the By-Law Respecting Charges for the Property Assessed Clean Energy Program be approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

An e-mail correspondence from Steve MacDonald re: County road issues was reviewed.

**OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER**

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

That Council support the “International Right to Know Week” proclamation.

**TAX RIGHT OFF – PORT HOOD DAY PARK**

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

**That Council approve the \$1105.70 Tax Right Off for the Commercial Assessment for the bathroom facilities at the Port Hood Day Park, as recommended by the Taxation Office.**

**OTHER**

Councillor MacDonald introduced a letter from Sandra Buker re: future land use. She requests that Council work on issues protecting our lands. Warden Duart MacAulay indicated that municipal officials are reviewing their by-law governing wind turbines.

Connie Verge spoke about the issue to erect a wind turbine in Colindale. She is concerned for the natural beauty of Colindale, and hopes that Council considers project relocation. Ms. Verge asked that her letter be included in the minutes.

On behalf of my family and other property owners in Colindale, I would like to comment on Council's recent public statement that it unanimously supports the proposal to erect wind turbines in for Colindale. I would like to comment because your decision will impact us and the natural beauty of Colindale for the next 20 years. In short, we believe:

1. **It is unfair that Council support a utility project which has not gone through a proper public consultation process.** Projects which have the potential to impact property owners, property values and the potential for tourism in an area for 20 years should go through a proper, democratic, transparent public consultation process.
2. **It is unjust that Council backs a project which knowingly harms members of the community** by infringing on their right to enjoy their property and devaluing their property especially when these costs can be avoided through project relocation. It is Council's role to mediate an outcome that is in the best interest of All members of the community.
3. **It is illogical that Council supports a project in which the benefits are lower than the costs.** In our view, this project will generate a relatively small amount of Green Energy and a have a relatively small and narrow economic impact on the municipality. But, the project will harm nearby property owners, damage Colindale's natural beauty and undermine its tremendous development potential for the next 20 years. For the municipality, the costs include significantly lower potential for cottage development in Colindale, tourism in Colindale, job creation in Colindale and higher tax revenues for the Municipality. Most of these costs can be avoided by project relocation.
4. **It is unfair that Council justify approving this project on the basis of the existing bylaws when we and Council and the Eastern District Planning Commission all acknowledged the need to make revisions and**

when in fact the bylaws contain deficiencies which should have been fixed months ago. To recap, the bylaws are flawed – they don't protect people's right to enjoy their property in waterfront communities, they don't protect the natural beauty of Cape Breton's coastline, they don't contain a public consultation requirement and they don't have an appeal process. These bylaws are not in the interest of people in the Municipality.

Our opinions are laid out in much more detail in a group letter sent to Council on August 25<sup>th</sup> on behalf of owners of hundreds of acres of property in Colindale. We ask Council to review this letter and to reconsider its position or tell us why it has not worked to relocate the project or revise the bylaws.

## PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

### Councillor Jim Mustard

**Department of Transportation** – Looking for their commitment on a number of issues: paving in Inverness, signage issues, catchment basins in Inverness and crosswalks.

**Cat By-Law** – Councillor Mustard would like to sit down with community groups in the County that support the issue of controlling stray dogs and cats.

**Connectivity** – An Eastlink announcement has considerations for fiber in the County. Councillor Mustard would like to have a follow up meeting with John Gillis for an update.

**Water Quality** – Councillor Mustard visited a water treatment plant in Shubenacadie, where they do water softening at the source. The issue of water quality will be addressed.

**Public Hearing re: Rezoning** – Councillor Mustard was away for the August 29<sup>th</sup> hearing. He wants communities to focus on plan development, and building trust that we have an inclusive process.

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

**That any public hearings must have the local councillor present – Council will look at the current policy, and an amendment will be considered at an upcoming policy meeting.**

### Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

**Long Stretch Road** – An illegal road sign is situated here. Councillor MacDonald will see that this situation is addressed.

**Port Hastings request** – Parent Lindsay Beaton is requesting a road sign re: special needs child in the Hilltop Drive area. This request will be sent to Bernie Murphy at the Department of Transportation.

**Congratulations** - To the County Public Works Dept. for the Hazmat Event on September 30.

**Long Point Connectivity** – Residents are dealing with slow connectivity from Seaside. They would like Eastlink to expand there; they will get back to them within a month.

**NS Association of Police Meeting** – Councillor MacDonald attended their fall conference, noting a very serious drug that is on the rise: fentanyl.

**Volunteer Fire Dept** – Councillor MacDonald asked that a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation Geoff MacLellan re: inspectors stopping fire trucks to see if they had an overweight permit to carry water.

**Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie**

**Funding cuts to Nursing Homes** – Funding cuts will affect the Foyer and Inverary Manor. Councillor MacQuarrie has a draft letter in place.

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

**That a letter be sent to Premier MacNeil, and the Minister of Community Services concerning the possible reduction in care caused by these funding cuts.**

**Municipal Building Access** – Councillor MacQuarrie addressed the issue of possible parking near the front area of the building for people wanting to access the ramp.

**Councillor Jim Mustard**

**Maple Street Sewer** – That work will be going out soon.

**Extension of Inverside Water** – this will be occurring in the near future.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday, October 3, 2016, at 1:30 pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Warden Duart MacAulay, seconded by Deputy Warden MacQuarrie that the Council meeting adjourn.**

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CLERK

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WARDEN