

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, September 8, 2015, at 1:30 pm at the Marble Mountain Community Centre in Marble Mountain 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
Tanya Tibbo, Dir/Finance
Harold MacIsaac, Solicitor

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran
Grant McDaniel, Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENTATION TO INVERNESS COUNTY COUNCIL

Tom McCann presented "Out of the Limelight" by Don Pillar, a book on the history of Marble Mountain to Warden MacAulay.

PRESENTATION BY FORD RICE, SUPERINTENDENT – SRSB

Mr. Rice reviewed the plan for the SRSB over the next ten years. Mr. Rice provided information on the past and present enrolment, student performance provincial assessments, as well as the Long – Range Outlook which involves school reviews of four major initiatives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the July 23, 2015, Municipal Council meeting be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Page 2 – Presentation by Dr. Monika Dutt – Councillor MacDonald advised that he attended the Department of Health Annual General Meeting in Halifax where discussion took place on the National Pharmacare Program.

Page 2 – Housing Resolution – Councillor Mustard advised that he will be attending a meeting in Halifax with CMHC. Their committee is looking at putting in place a Housing Development person.

FIRST READING OF THE INVERNESS MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY & LAND USE BY-LAW

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

That the First Reading for the Inverness Municipal Planning Strategy & Land Use By-Law Review be accepted.

OPEN HOUSE & PUBLIC HEARING – INVERNESS MPS & LUB

An Open House will be held at the Fire Hall in Inverness on September 24th from 3-5 pm with a Public Hearing to follow at 6:00 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of July 23, 2015, 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

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

Resolved that the minutes of the Community Development Committee meetings of July 23 and September 3, 2015, 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 Gloria LeBlanc
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier
Carried.**

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of September 3, 2015, be approved and that the recommendations made to Council therein, and the motions passed therein are hereby adopted, approved and passed by Council.

FOYER PERE FISET

Deputy Warden Poirier noted that the purchase of the property by the Municipal Housing Corporation next to the Foyer Pere Fiset in Cheticamp has been finalized.

MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION – MEETING

Warden MacAulay advised that a meeting is being set up with the Minister of Transportation later in September.

POLICE ADVISORY MEETING

A Police Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for September 10th at 2:00 pm.

EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY

Councillor MacQuarrie asked if anyone would be available to attend the ECRL Board Meeting on September 17th at 4:00 pm. Councillors will check their calendars.

CORRESPONDENCE

INVERNESS COUNTY DISTRICT RCMP ANNUAL REPORT

The RCMP Annual Report for the County was received for review. Deputy Warden Poirier expressed disappointment with the lack of RCMP presence in the Cheticamp area over the past several weeks. Councillor LeBlanc will bring this matter to the Police Advisory meeting on Sept. 10th.

MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Correspondence was received from Zach Churchill, Minister of Municipal Affairs advising that he will be setting up a meeting within the next several months to meet with Council.

TAX WRITE-OFF

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

That taxes in the amount of \$1590.76 be approved for write-off for the North Mountain Cultural & Recreation Centre.

WATER UTILITY ARREARS WRITE-OFF

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

That arrears in the amount of \$29,011.47 be written-off on water utility accounts as presented by the Finance Department.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Councillor Betty Ann MacQuarrie –

WATER SERVICE – MABOU - Councillor MacQuarrie informed Council that the owner of a farm and several households in Mabou are interested in connecting to the Municipal water service. Garrett Beaton is presently investigating the water capacity used at other farms and whether the current well has the capacity to accommodate these additional households.

MANHOLES – ROUTE 19 – MABOU - Councillor MacQuarrie questioned the status for repair work of the manholes in Mabou. Garrett Beaton reported that he has the material and will be carrying out the work within the next several weeks.

Councillor Gloria LeBlanc –

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - Councillor LeBlanc advised that she sent pictures of the Old Cabot Trail Road in Grand Etang to the Premier.

Councillor LeBlanc requested that a letter be forwarded to the DOT asking for another assessment for a Hidden Driveway sign and a speed sign at 928 Egypt Road.

Councillor Jim Mustard –

CLEANUP – INVERNESS – Councillor Mustard thanked the Public Works Dept. for the cleanup carried out in Inverness.

INVERNESS WATER SYSTEM – Garrett Beaton will followup.

INVERNESS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER RESOLUTION

Councillor Mustard presented the following resolution –

Inverness Community Development Officer

WHERE AS: In Inverness County our Vision is a healthy, vibrant and prosperous county that is the best place to live and work...to raise our children and to age gracefully...to run businesses and support our volunteer run organizations ...to have access to artistic, recreational and cultural programs and activities ... and to take care of and enjoy our beautiful environment

WHERE AS: The Municipality of the County of Inverness our Mission is: to provide cost effective and responsive services for our citizens. To work as a support an inclusive, equitable and responsive engagement process in and across the county that builds relationships, shares information, supports strategic thinking and planning and strengthens the collaborative ability to help organize ourselves locally to make better decisions in light of opportunities and challenges in repopulating our region.

WHERE AS: Municipal government is the level of government closest to the people and the only level of government specifically mandated to serve the whole community. Residents expect municipal leaders to have a deep understanding of local conditions and to play a supportive role in addressing their concerns – even when the issues fall outside the formal responsibilities and powers of municipal government.

WHERE AS: the challenges and opportunities have never been so great in terms of dealing with the demographic of our aging population and the need to attract and retain families with young children to ensure our region can maintain services, increase businesses and support the not-for-profit volunteer sector.

WHERE AS: The “One Nova Scotia - Now or Never” Report released last year is a call to action. Not just re-arranging the deck chairs but rather turning our Provincial ship around, finding a bold new direction past boundaries and past partisan politics, to a unity of purpose and responsive governance.

WHERE AS: The foundation for this bold new direction for Municipalities is to be better facilitated internally, as well as in communities and across the region. By improving the practice of meaningful engagement we become better strategic thinkers, able to organize ourselves around a unity of purpose, gain trust to work through issues, set meaningful/evidence based priorities and make investments that will improve our collective health and prosperity.

WHERE AS: Community development is an inclusive and ongoing process and includes the public, private and not-for-profit sectors in order to understand any issue or opportunity fully and make better decisions towards our shared vision.

WHERE AS: The feedback from the first 2 conferences was to continue the annual Engage events as a way to connect and inspire people, share ideas and instil a positive attitude.

WHERE AS: Ideas and requests from this year's conference were for – an expanded engage committee, leadership retreats in the fall, offering facilitator training, improve communication, improve connectivity across the county, entrepreneur programs in our schools, more youth involvement and updates on the tourism strategy.

WHERE AS: The Municipal staff position of Community Development Officer, from November 2013 to February 2015, played a key staff role in introducing our Municipal team and the county residents to professionally facilitated way to understand the issues, look at opportunities and work towards a strategic plan together to get our collective team on side across the county.

BE IT RESOLVED: That a committee comprising of the CAO, 2 elected officials and 2 community leaders be struck to review the community development position, examine the organizational chart for the position in the Municipality, develop a revised job description, post and fill by Nov 9th, 2015.

Discussion followed and it was agreed to delete the deadline date from the resolution. Councillor Mustard and Mr. O'Connor will serve on this committee to review the job description.

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

That the resolution as presented by Councillor Mustard be accepted with the changes as discussed.

CAO ANNUAL PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

Councillor Mustard presented the following resolution –

Resolution #2, September 8th, 2015

To undertake an annual CAO performance appraisal

WHERE AS: The elected Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness have undertaken a number of new strategic initiatives to address the Vision of the County and pro-actively respond to the demographic reality of an aging population and the need to attract and retain young families.

WHERE AS: The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the Municipality of the County of Inverness
– Is the administrative head of the municipality,
– Ensures policies and programs are implemented,
– Advises and informs Council of the municipality's operations and affairs, and
– Carries out responsibilities assigned by the Council.

WHERE AS: The CAO is the individual that Council turns to for the organization and its resources to be administered effectively on a day to day basis. It is a position of authority and influence, and one which requires a high degree of trust between Council and the CAO. Council needs to be assured their collective will, as expressed in resolutions approved by the majority, is being promptly and appropriately translated into action by the CAO.

WHERE AS: The CAO is the only employee of Council, and is the connecting link between Council and municipal operations and is often exposed to the public view and in many cases is the citizens' main link to the municipality.

WHERE AS: Council relies on the CAO to ensure staff performance is regularly reviewed, appropriate training is provided and to encourage and develop an effective and productive work force with high levels of job satisfaction.

WHERE AS: An annual performance review is a way to evaluate the decision making process, strengthen professional relationships, clarify expectations, improve communication and the operational efficiency of the Municipality.

WHERE AS: A performance appraisal should be expected:

- To formally discuss the relationship between the Municipality and the CAO.
- To relate performance to the role, responsibilities, authority and duties as defined by the MGA, the bylaws and policies and the job description.
- To set objectives and criteria for future evaluation.
- To recognize strengths and areas of improvement and reward or address them.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Council undertake a yearly performance appraisal of the CAO by November 30th of each year with the assistance of the Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs.

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

That the resolution as presented be accepted.

Councillor Dwayne MacDonald –

TAX WRITE-OFF – TROY – Councillor MacDonald will provide the information to the Tax Department for a write-off of taxes for the next Council meeting.

MARBLE MOUNTAIN ROAD – Councillor MacDonald will bring the issue of the condition of the Marble Mountain Road to the Minister of Transportation’s attention.

GARBAGE COLLECTION POLICY – Councillor MacDonald provided the following Notice of Motion - At the next Policy Committee, or Council meeting whichever comes first, I intend to introduce a motion amending the garbage collection policy to state that, “anyone living on a private road would have their garbage collected by public works ONLY where their private road meets the public road, and that any other locations would be considered illegal dump sites; and to put a timeline on the enforcement of the private road garbage collection policy, so that all illegal dumpsites are removed, and the violators charged with a three month timeline for removal set, and updates made to council on a regular timeline decided by council at the time of passing, as to the action taken.

LIGHTS – 2464 Riverside Rd & Corner of Rear Intervale Rd & St. Ninian’s Rd, Judique – Councillor MacDonald and Garett Beaton will review the request for the light at 2464 Riverside Rd. Garett Beaton has ordered the light for Judique.

DOT – That a letter be forwarded to DOT requesting a sign notifying drivers of horses and riders on Duff’s Hill in Melville on old Route #4.

ILLEGAL SIGNS – PORT HASTINGS – Councillor MacDonald provided the following notice of motion - At our next council session I will once again introduce a motion to remove the illegal signs from the Port Hastings Plan Area, with a definite timeline for removal set, and updates made to council on a regular timeline decided by council at the time of passing, as to the action taken.

MEETING MOTIONS

In Nov. 2013, a motion passed Council asking that all motions of the previous 12 months be brought to council, and the actions taken, and any outcomes listed. This was deemed too much work for staff, at the time, but it was promised that directives of Council would be updated in this way with each motion going forward after December of that year. This has not happened.

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

That copies of Community Development, Audit, and Policy committee meetings from 2012 to present be electronically forwarded to council within 30 days, and that a review take place of motions and actions taken upon these motions by a committee made up of at least three councilors, and the CAO commencing within the month, and meeting monthly until an updated list is compiled.

Moved by: Councillor Dwayne MacDonald

Seconded by: Councillor Gloria LeBlanc
Carried.

That a list of motions passed by council be compiled commencing this month, and that new motions be added to the list monthly, with only directives with completed outcomes removed, and with the updates of action taken on motions made by council be given to council on a monthly basis. If there is no action taken on a motion in that month, then that shall be the update to council.

CDC FUNDING

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

WHEREAS: Community Development is a priority of the Government of the Municipality of the County of Inverness; and,

WHEREAS: The Municipality of the County of Inverness has established a fund for community development in each district, and;

WHEREAS: Current Municipality of the County of Inverness District/Regional Capital Development Grants Policy states that, “Funding will not exceed 50% of the cost of a project or proposal.”, and;

WHEREAS: Nowhere in the policy is it stated that any of the additional 50% of funding for a Community Development project be from other levels of Government, only that, “The applicant must provide information on the source of funds for the remainder of the project.”, and;

WHEREAS: The Community of Marble Mountain was given only \$1500 of their requested \$3500 for their most recent projects based on the fact that other levels of government didn’t match funds; and,

WHEREAS: the \$1500 was removed from District 6 20% discretionary funds; and,

WHEREAS: The application from the community of Marble Mountain met all requirements of the Municipality of the County of Inverness District/Regional Capital Development Grants Policy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the recent Community Development grant application submitted by the Community of Marble Mountain, requesting \$3500 for their Community Development projects be approved in full by Council, and that the

\$1500 portion of the proposal removed from the District 6 Community Development funds be replaced; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That any further applications by any community to the Community Development Committee of the Municipality of the County of Inverness be considered based of the Community's ability to raise at least 50%, regardless of where these funds are raised.

Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier –

STREET LIGHTS – CHETICAMP – Deputy Warden Poirier advised that there are street lights in Cheticamp still not working.

SEWER PROBLEM – CHETICAMP – The odour from the sewer in Cheticamp remains a problem and the pipe should be replaced.

REMOVAL OF WHALES – CHETICAMP – Deputy Warden Poirier and Councillor MacDonald will set up a meeting with Provincial and Federal representatives to review who is responsible for the removal of the dead whales on the beaches.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLERK

WARDEN