

Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Thursday, January 16th, 2020  
10:00 am  
Council Chambers

Council: Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie  
Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier  
Councillor Jim Mustard  
Councillor John MacLennan  
Councillor John Dowling  
Councillor Laurie Cranton

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO  
Tanya Tibbo, Director of Finance  
Dave Coulombe, Director of Infrastructure and Emergency Services  
Trudy Gillis, Manager of Environmental and Facility Compliance  
Debbie Nicholson, Municipal Council Administrative Assistant  
Melanie Beaton, Special Projects Facilitator

Warden MacQuarrie called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed all in attendance. Warden MacQuarrie offered condolences to Councillor Dowling on the recent passing of his father Raymond Dowling.

Council observed a moment of silence for all who passed away on January 8<sup>th</sup> 2020 in the crash of Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 in Iran.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Island Wide Collaboration Opportunity: Mayor Brenda Chisholm Beaton**

Collaboration is the key to moving Cape Breton forward together. Transportation gateways include our highways, ports, and airports of significant importance. Collaborating to improve, diversify, and develop existing Cape Breton Transportation Gateways will benefit the entire Island as well as visitors, citizens, businesses and industries. Working together to improve these gateways can position the Island for sustainable growth and prosperity. The Canso Causeway Gateway improvements are a chance to give a world class tourism destination a world class gateway so the region can build on the strengths of the island. The Municipality of the County of Inverness is invited to join with all stakeholders to create a broader Gateway project.

### **Cape Breton Regulatory Modernization Pilot: Emily Pond**

In 2019 the Province of Nova Scotia along with the five municipalities on Cape Breton Island entered into a pilot partnership to improve the regulatory environment and make operation and expansion easier for Island businesses. The goals of the pilot is to reduce barriers in doing business and the alignment of specific business regulations to make operation and expansion easier for Island businesses.

### **Inverness Playground**

The goal is to amalgamate the lands of the Municipality, Mill Road Social Enterprises, and Cabot Links for the creation of a park. To apply for funding a framework of ownership is needed. Mill Road will be the agency that applies for the funding.

Recommendation to Council that staff draw up a land agreement between the three parties involved, to be reviewed by Council.

### **LeMoine Volunteer Fire Department**

The LeMoine Volunteer Fire Department is requesting that the fire tax rate for their area be increased to \$0.10 for both residential and commercial.

Recommendation to approve the request for an increase in the fire tax rate for the LeMoine Volunteer Fire Department to \$0.10 for both residential and commercial for the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year.

### **COMMUNITY FUNDING REQUEST**

**X Oceans Literacy Program for Youth** –The goal of the program is to enhance ocean literacy and ocean stewardship for local children, youth and the general public. The application was submitted by St. Francis Xavier University, Biology Department. The request is for \$1500.00, with funds to come from the Regional CDC budget.

Council asks that this request be tabled, and the applicant present to Council prior to a final decision on funding.

### **BY-LAW DISCUSSIONS**

#### **Vending By-Law**

A draft vending by-law was presented to Council. This by-law would replace by-law 15, Auctioneers, Pedlars, Hawkers, and Traders of Goods.

Recommendation that the Vending By-law go to First reading at the February 6<sup>th</sup> regular Council meeting.

#### **Capital Cost of Sewer and Water Construction By-Law amendment**

The Judique water tower project has been completed. The residents on the Water Utility will contribute to the cost. Section 14 L has been added to By-Law 30: Capital Cost of Sewer & Water Construction.

*In the area served by the Judique Water System, the unit charge for the construction of the Judique Reservoir is \$935.97 per serviceable lot.*

Recommendation that this amendment is brought forward at the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regular Council meeting.

Lunch Recess: 12 pm

## Department of Infrastructure and Emergency Services Update

Dave Coulombe, Department Director updated Council.

Purchasing five mobile generators was determined as not the best course of action for the Municipality. The locations best suited for permanent generators are Cheticamp, Inverness and Mabou, with one large portable generator to support the remaining Municipal facilities. Hilltop Electrical & Plumbing has been awarded the contract. The total approximate cost is \$311,000.00

Wharf Updates: Engineering supports formulating a request for proposal to demolish and remove the T section of the Port Hood wharf and refurbish the remainder as a walkway and increase the height of the breakwater. Due to the high cost of the Port Hood Island wharf repairs, more consultation with the property owners is required.

Trudy Gillis, Manager of Environmental and Facility Compliance updated Council.

All reporting, to both federal and provincial entities are up-to-date. Nova Scotia Environment performed a province wide water audit during the winter of 2019. From this audit, 151 directives were received; 54 have been completed, 97 remain outstanding. The Municipality conducted the mandatory annual distribution sampling for the new lower detection limits of lead and copper. All samples were below detection limits. Ms. Gillis outlined the steps taken to rectify the situation resulting in a boil order at Sight Point in September 2019.

### Charitable Tax Exemption – Paroisse Saint Pierre

Recommendation to Council that a charitable tax exemption be granted to Paroisse Saint Pierre in the amount of \$1107.80 (AAN # 01414542)

### Correspondence

Councillor Cranton mentioned that the Margaree Development Group was interested in an accessibility project for the Belle Cote Beach. The committee will meet with Municipal staff on this issue.

### NEXT MEETING DATES

**February 6th, 2020:** next Regular Council

**February 20th, 2020:** next Committee of the Whole

**MOVED:** Councillor Cranton

**SECONDED:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION:** That Council move to “in camera” at 1:20 pm.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOVED:** Councillor Dowling

**SECONDED:** Deputy Warden Poirier

**MOTION:** That Council move back to Committee of the Whole at 2:51 pm.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOVED:** Deputy Warden Poirier

**SECONDED:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION:** That Council adjourn.

**MOTION CARRIED**