

**Municipality of the County of Inverness  
Regular Council Meeting  
Thursday, February 4th, 2021  
1:30 pm  
Video Conference**

Council:           Warden Laurie Cranton  
                      Deputy Warden Bonny MacIsaac  
                      Councillor Alfred Poirier  
                      Councillor John MacLennan  
                      Councillor Lynn Chisholm  
                      Councillor Catherine Gillis

Staff:             Keith MacDonald, CAO  
                      Tanya Tibbo, Director of Finance  
                      Christine Murray, Manager of Legal and Governance  
                      Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council  
                      Melanie Beaton, Special Projects Facilitator  
                      Charlotte MacDonald, Manager of Recreation  
                      Donna MacDonald, Director of Tourism and Culture

Warden Cranton called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOVED:**               Councillor Gillis  
**SECONDED:**         Councillor Chisholm  
**MOTION:**            That the agenda be approved as presented.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED:**               Deputy Warden MacIsaac  
**SECONDED:**         Councillor Gillis  
**MOTION:**            That the Regular Council minutes of January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOVED:**               Deputy Warden MacIsaac  
**SECONDED:**         Councillor Chisholm  
**MOTION:**            That the Committee of the Whole minutes of January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 be approved.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### SELECTION OF AUDITOR

**MOVED:** Deputy Warden MacIsaac Councillor

**SECONDED:** Councillor Gillis

**MOTION:** That Grant Thornton is selected to conduct the Fiscal Audit for the Municipality for 2021, 2022, and 2023

**MOTION CARRIED**

### PAYMENTS TO SYRIAN FAMILIES

**MOVED:** Councillor Poirier

**SECONDED:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION:** That \$2000.00 be issued to the 2 Syrian families that recently settled in Cheticamp (\$1000.00 to each the Al Naasan family and the Al Roumi family)

**MOTION CARRIED**

### LETTER TO BELL CANADA

**MOVED:** Councillor Poirier

**SECONDED:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION:** That that a letter be sent directly to the CEO of Bell Canada (Mirko Bibic) and the Chair of the Board of Directors of Bell Canada (Gordon M. Nixon) outlining the service issues being experienced by our residents. The letter should ask for a response within a defined period of time and should advise that if the matter is not resolved within that timeline, then the Municipality will take further action to ensure the matter is rectified.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### ADOPTION OF EXPENSE POLICY

**MOVED:** Councillor MacLennan

**SECONDED:** Deputy Warden MacIsaac

**MOTION:** That Council adopt the Expense Policy as presented in the Council package.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### ADOPTION OF RENUMERATION POLICY

**MOVED:** Councillor MacLennan

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chisholm

**MOTION:** That Council adopt the Remuneration Policy as presented in the Council package.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **ADOPTION OF AMENDED HOSPITALITY POLICY**

**MOVED:** Councillor Gillis

**SECONDED:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION:** That Council adopt the amended Hospitality Policy as presented in the Council package.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **MUNICIPAL DOG BYLAW ENFORCEMENT**

**MOVED:** Deputy Warden MacIsaac

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chisholm

**MOTION:** That Council proceed with the next steps required to register the Dog Control By-law with the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Department of Justice.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **LETTER TO TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL RE: STONEY POINT ROAD**

**MOVED:** Councillor MacLennan

**SECONDED:** Councillor Gillis

**MOTION:** That a letter be written to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to reconsider this issue.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **CAPE MABOU COMMUNITY PASTURE COOPERATIVE**

**MOVED:** Councillor Gillis

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chisholm

**MOTION:** That Council support this \$15,000.00 request in full in the following manner:

\$3750.00 – from district # 2 Community Grants Program

\$3750.00 – from district # 3 Community Grants Program

\$3750.00 – from district # 5 Community Grants Program

\$3750.00 – from district # 6 Community Grants Program

*Warden Cranton, Deputy Warden MacIsaac, Councillor Gillis and Councillor Chisholm voted in favour; Councillor Poirier and Councillor MacLennan voted against.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **INVERNESS COUNTY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS**

**MOVED:** Deputy Warden MacIsaac

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chisholm

**MOTION:** That Council support this request in the amount of \$1000.00 with funds coming from District # 3's Discretionary Fund

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MILL ROAD SOCIAL ENTERPRISES**

**MOVED:** Deputy Warden MacIsaac

**SECONDED:** Councillor Poirier

That Council support this request in the amount of \$10,000.00 with funds coming from District #3 current fiscal year CDC budget (\$8481.00), and District # 3 next year's CDC budget (\$1519.00)

**MOTION CARRIED**

**STRAIT AREA TRANSIT**

**MOVED:** Deputy Warden MacIsaac

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chisholm

**MOTION:** That Council fund this request in the amount of \$10,090.00 with funds coming from the Provincial SRA (Safe Restart Agreement) funds if allowed. If not, the funding shall come from the Grants to Organizations Fund

**MOTION CARRIED**

**HIGHLAND TRAIL GROOMERS**

**MOVED:** Councillor Gillis

**SECONDED:** Councillor Poirier

**MOTION:** That Council support this request in the amount of \$10,000.00, with funds coming from the Recreation Facility Grant Fund.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MUNICIPAL INNOVATION PROGRAM: INTER-MUNICIPAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) SERVICE**

**MOVED:** Councillor MacLennan

**SECONDED:** Deputy Warden MacIsaac

**MOTION:** Given that the Municipality of the County of Antigonish, Town of Antigonish, Municipality of the County of Inverness, Town of Port Hawkesbury, Municipality of the District of St. Mary's and the Municipality of the County of Victoria would like to consider the establishment of an inter-municipal information technology (IT) service, and the Municipal Innovation Program is intended to support such regional initiatives, it is moved that the Municipality of the County of Inverness supports the application for funding under this program to obtain advisory services to develop a formal three-year start-up plan that will facilitate a final decision on participation by the partnering municipalities.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## MUNICIPAL INNOVATION PROGRAM: EASTERN DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

**MOVED:** Councillor MacLennan

**SECONDED:** Councillor Gillis

**MOTION:** Given that the Municipalities of the Counties of Inverness, Richmond, Victoria and Antigonish as well as the Towns of Antigonish and Port Hawkesbury are contributing partners in a district planning commission working together to support regional economic development through consistent regional planning and given that the Municipal Innovation Program is intended to support such initiatives it is moved that the Municipality of the County of Inverness supports the application of our District Planning Commission for funding under the program and agrees to participate through the planning commission in this regional planning initiative in partnership with the Cape Breton Regional Municipality to hire, on a term basis, planning services to create municipal planning documents that meet the minimum planning requirements instituted by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and where appropriate harmonize these by-laws

### MOTION CARRIED

### CORRESPONDENCE

- **Pitu' Paq Partnership Society: Inverness County Council Representation**

Correspondence was received from Pitu'Paq Partnership Society, a partnership organization that brings leaders from First Nations Communities and Counties in Cape Breton. They are requesting representation from the Municipality of the County of Inverness. Councillor MacLennan expressed an interest in representing the Municipality.

**MOVED:** Councillor Gillis

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chisholm

**MOTION:** That Councillor MacLennan be the Municipal Representative on Pitu' Paq Partnership Society.

- **Inverness County Home Support Society: Inverness County Council Representation**

The Inverness County Homes Support Society is seeking Municipal representation on their board. Warden Cranton expressed an interest in joining the Board of Directors.

**MOVED:** Councillor Gillis

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chisholm

**MOTION:** That Warden Cranton serve as the Municipal representative on the Board of Directors for Inverness County Home Support Society.

- Meeting requests were received from the Strait Area Mutual Aid Association, as well as the Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health organization, requesting evening meeting presentations with Council. Council offered a meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:30 pm. Councillor Gillis will reach out to both groups regarding this proposed date and time to meet.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Committee of the Whole: February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 9:30 am

Public Hearing: February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 1:00 pm

Regular Meeting of Council: March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 6:00 pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED:** Deputy Warden Maclsaac

**MOTION:** That Council adjourn at 2:35 pm

**MOTION CARRIED**