

**Municipality of the County of Inverness
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Thursday, June 17th, 2021
9:30 am
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
Christine Murray, Manager of Legal and Governance
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council
Tanya Tibbo, Director of Finance
Karolyn Aucoin, Communications and Community Engagement Specialist
Donna MacDonald, Director of Tourism and Culture
Charlotte MacDonald, Manager of Recreation
Ellen Murphy, Manager of Infrastructure
Trudy Gillis, Manager of Environmental and Facilities Compliance
Erin Gillis, Manager of Operations and Occupational Health and Safety
Jason Calder, Physical Activity Coordinator
Molly Sutherland, Gender Equity Project Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Warden Cranton called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken. The Warden acknowledged that we are in the ancestral and territorial land of the Mi'kmaq people.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: That the agenda be approved as presented.
MOVED BY: Councillor MacLennan
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

3. STAFF REPORTS

(a) Water and Wastewater Operations, Chestley Carr

A 72 hour pump test was recently performed on the Dunmore well in Port Hood. A yield of 225 gallons per minute was achieved over this period. Replacing the filters and filter valves would likely

result in a greater yield. Repairs and maintenance were completed in early June on the Mabou Lift Station # 2. Additional on-going projects include chlorine pump repairs, SCADA upgrades, lift station repairs and replacement, sink and hot water heater installations, staff training, and sampling. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

(b) Infrastructure Unit, Ellen Murphy

Monthly highlights include water, sewer and asphalt repairs. Water and wastewater facility repairs and maintenance are ongoing. Additional projects include curb stop repairs, lawn maintenance, road grading, street light repairs, staff training, and servicing prep work. Capital budget planning and multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

(c) Operations and Occupational Health and Safety, Erin Gillis

The spring 2021 Heavy Garbage collection is completed. Road repairs at the Kenloch Waste Management Facility have resulted in improved conditions. The back log in material at the Strathlorne Recycling Facility has been addressed in recent weeks. The solid waste educator continues to provide waste reduction and education programs. The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee meets monthly. Ongoing projects in Strathlorne and Kenloch are in progress. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

(d) Environmental Compliance, Trudy Gillis

The annual water and waste water reports for the Provincial Department of the Environment have been completed. Information has been gathered for various contractors working on behalf of the Municipality. The Manager of Operations and Maintenance and the Manager of Infrastructure are assisted to ensure work is being completed in a way that meets approvals. A Cross Connection Control Program has been developed and submitted to the Department of the Environment. Various department projects are ongoing. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

(e) Department of Finance, Tanya Tibbo

Monthly highlights include the 2021 Fiscal year Audit, 2021 Tax Billing, 2021 Audit, and the 2022-2027 Capital Budget. Ongoing tasks include arrears notices/collection, tax sale prep, customer inquiries, payroll, land issues, procurement, various RFPs, water meter installation and maintenance, invoicing, payments, collections, work orders, bank reconciliations, HST rebate and return, tax billing and year end preparation. The CFO and staff have attended a number of meetings including Council, Management Team meetings, and various committee meetings.

(f) Department of Tourism and Culture, Donna MacDonald

Ongoing department projects include the Margaree & Whycomomagh Brand & Signage Project, Judique Brand and Streetscape, the Welcome Network Groups, the Back to Work Project, Coastal Experiences Wayfinding Signage, Summer and Fall Promotions, Outdoor Musical Instruments, and the We'koqma'q Skye River Trail Project. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue. A meeting with all five Cultural Centres within the Municipality is planned for June.

(g) Department of Recreation, Charlotte MacDonald

Monthly highlights in Recreation include the Youth Race Series, Grading Day Challenge, Running Club Development, Community Voices Phone Line, Wellness Committee, Unstructured Movement, Accessibility Committee, Wellness on Wheels, Trails Series, Fall Programs, CB Connect review, Internal Wellness Program, Community Programming, and Summer Student Hiring and Orientation. Various funding application submissions are underway. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

(h) Special Projects, Melanie Beaton

Special Projects continues to advance the work of cross functional internal teams, in partnership with various consultant teams, stakeholders and regulatory bodies. Multiple projects within various Municipal Water and Wastewater facilities are ongoing. RFP development, budget preparation and training opportunities continue, and community projects are in progress. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

MOTION: *That Council approved the staff reports as presented.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

4. PRESENTATION; NOVA SCOTIA POWER, Sean Borden, Paul Breski, Wayne Sangster, Jason Lyver, Amie Woodford, Mary Black

Members of the Nova Scotia Power Government Relations Team updated Council. Weather events in the Spring of 2021 proved very challenging for Nova Scotia Power. The April freezing rain storm and resulting broken poles and wires caused lengthy power outages in some areas. Challenging restoration times were experienced. High wind conditions throughout the year also resulted in power outages. The vegetation management program has allowed for tree trimming and expanded right of ways along power lines.

Council was directed to call the Customer Care Centre and provide the nearest civic number for any locations of trees that are posing a potential danger to power lines.

Warden Cranton is of the understanding that power lines are being moved to the ocean side of the Cabot Trail in Lemoine potentially obstructing the ocean view. Nova Scotia Power staff will investigate and get back to Council.

Street Light installation requests from Council can be addressed to the Nova Scotia Power Government Relations Team.

Civic address locations of Critical Infrastructure at the Municipal Level can be provided to Nova Scotia Power. Mary Black will update Keith MacDonald with the current list.

5. **UPDATE: WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATIONS:** *Tabled to a later date*

6. **PRESENTATION; MUNICIPAL GENDER EQUITY PROJECT,** Charlotte MacDonald, Jason Calder, Molly Sutherland

Females who participate in sports, recreation and physical activity tend to be more successful in other areas in life including academics, careers, and leadership roles. However, women tend to be less physically active than men at all ages. By using the accessible and self-administering toolkit, the Municipality hopes to help organizations and communities identify strengths, weaknesses and opportunities to promote gender equity in sport and other areas. The project wishes to encourage action and education on issues surrounding gender equity and sport across Inverness County. Organizations will be encouraged to complete the “gender equity and inclusion facility self assessment”. Findings from the assessment will be used to identify strengths, weaknesses, and potential ideas for the future.

7. **SECOND READING: CHÉTICAMP DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT**

MOTION: *That the Municipality of the County of Inverness approve and enter into a Development Agreement with Jaron Felix for the property located at 15347 Cabot Trail (PID 50160423) in Chéticamp, permitting the development of two tourist lodging units on the top floor of the current development and a liquor lounge in the restaurant and balcony/patio area of the current development, in addition to the existing uses already permitted on the property.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

8. **UPDATE: JOINT POLICE ADVISORY BOARD;** Deputy Warden MacIsaac

The Joint Police Advisory Board met on Tuesday, May 25th, 2021. Representatives from the RCMP, Town of Port Hawkesbury, Town of Mulgrave, the Municipality of the County of Inverness, and We’koqma’q First Nation were in attendance. Items covered included a draft Terms of Reference,

the Cost Share Arrangement, the number of members, the organizational chart, and crime statistics. The advertising of members of the public appointed to the Board was also discussed.

9. ADVERTISEMENT FOR VACANCIES ON JOINT POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

Recommendation to Council to approve the following qualifications for the two (2) Joint Police Advisory Board openings (pursuant to the Police Act, the Police Regulations, and the Public Appointment Policy):

Qualifications:

- (a) Resident of the Municipality of the County of Inverness for at least the last six (6) months before making an application and must continue to be a resident of the Municipality throughout the term of the appointment (Note: Councillors and employees of the Municipality of the County of Inverness, the Town of Mulgrave, or the Town of Port Hawkesbury are ineligible);*
- (b) Considerable knowledge of community issues and an understanding of policing values and governance;*
- (c) Good character;*
- (d) At least 18 years of age;*
- (e) Consent to criminal and background checks (Note: an applicant will be ineligible if criminal and background checks show that the applicant has been convicted of any criminal offence or has been or is the subject of a disciplinary proceeding in any jurisdiction that, in the opinion of the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness would reasonably be expected to have a negative impact on their acting as a member of the Joint Police Advisory Board); and*
- (f) Willingness to:*
 - make the commitment of time and effort required to carry out responsibilities of the Joint Police Advisory Board; and*
 - take the oath of office or affirmation and abide by the code of conduct required by the Police Act and its regulations;*
- (g) All members of the Board shall serve without pay; and*
- (h) Members must not be ineligible for an appointment pursuant to the Municipality's Public Appointment Policy.*

Recommendation to Council that the deadline to submit applications for these vacancies be Friday, July 30, 2021.

10. UPDATE: INTERNET AND CELLULAR SERVICE

An ad hoc committee of Municipal residents has been formed and has been pushing for better Internet and Broadband service. They are hoping to ensure that the Develop Nova Scotia Broadband Initiative is rolled out in a timely fashion.

11. UPDATE: LAND LINE SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS

Recommendation to Council to invite Bell representatives to a future meeting of Council who can answer questions around the issues discussed in previous letters sent to Bell.

12. TRAFFIC SPEED DETECTION

Portable Speed Detection units can be moved around to different locations frequented by speeding motorists. A costing update was requested of staff. Some quotes have been received, and staff are waiting for more. Once all quotes are received this item can be added to the Capital Budget. Mobile units seem to be the better option as opposed to stationary units.

Recess: 11:25 am – 11:35 am

13. VENDING BY-LAW

On February 6, 2020, Council approved First Reading of the “Vending By-law”, which is intended to repeal and replace By-law 15: Auctioneers, Peddlers, Hawkers and Traders of Goods. Council held a Public Hearing for the proposed adoption of the Vending By-Law on March 5, 2020. At that Public Hearing, residents made oral submissions on the proposed Vending By-Law and written submissions were also received. At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, Council recommended that the issue be tabled, for further discussion at a later date.

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting held March 18, 2021, the status of the Vending By-Law was brought before Council for discussion. At that meeting, Council directed Staff to prepare a revised version of the Vending By-Law. At subsequent meetings of Council, Council considered different matters that should be included in the revised version of the Vending By-Law, including the amount of permit fees, and the amount of fines for contraventions of the By-Law.

Staff have incorporated these changes into an updated version of the Vending By-Law. At today’s meeting, key points of this updated version of the Vending By-Law were presented to Council by Manager, Legal and Governance, Christine Murray. Following the presentation, Council asked questions with respect to the updated version of the Vending By-Law.

Recommendation to Council to approve First Reading of the updated version of the Vending By-Law at the June 30, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION: VENDING PERMIT FEES POLICY

Notice of Motion for the Vending Permit Fees Policy was provided to Council.

15. VENDING BY-LAW PUBLIC HEARING DATE

The updated version of the Vending By-Law will go through the process of a Public Hearing before Second Reading.

Recommendation to Council that the Public Hearing for the updated version of the Vending By-Law be August 5th, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

- **Eastern District Planning Commission** – May 2021 Building Permit Statistics
- **MP Mike Kelloway** – Canada Community Building Fund
- **Department of Transportation and Active Transit** – re: Amber Light Request. The Department will be conducting a study in relation to the Municipality’s request for an Amber Light at the intersection of Barren Road and the Cabot Trail in Chéticamp.
- **MLA Keith Irving** - 60-day public engagement on creating goals under the Sustainable Development Goals Act and a new Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth.

17. NEXT MEETING DATE

June 30th, 2021 – Regular Meeting of Council

Councillor MacLennan left the meeting at 12:25 pm

18. IN CAMERA

The purpose of entering into “In Camera” is to discuss matters relating to:

- a. Contractual Negotiations; and
- b. The acquisition, sale, lease or security of Municipal property.

MOTION: *That Council move to “In Camera” at 12:30 pm.*
MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac
SECONDED BY: Councillor Gillis
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That Council move out of “In Camera” at 1:06 pm.*
MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

Recommendation of Council to approve the Inter Municipal Agreement creating the Municipal Technology Services Association.

MOTION: *That Council approve the access request of Mr. Henry Schenkels to property currently assessed to the Municipality of the County of Inverness, identified as PID# 50162247, for the purposes set out in his letter dated May 21st, 2021 upon the condition that Mr. Schenkels sign an access and indemnity agreement in the form provided by the Municipality.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

19. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 1:09 pm.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

MOTION CARRIED