

Municipality of the County of Inverness
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, August 5th, 2021
3:00 pm
Video Conference

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

Regrets: 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
Erin Gillis, Manager, Operations & Occupational Health and Safety
Charlotte MacDonald, Manager of Recreation
Karolyn Aucoin, Communications and Community Engagement Specialist

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Warden Cranton called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken.

Warden Cranton extended condolences to the family and friends of Jessie Gillis of Judique, mother of Councillor Gillis on her recent passing.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: *That the agenda be approved as presented.*
MOVED BY: Deputy Warden MacIsaac
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *That the Nominating Committee meeting minutes of June 30th, 2021 be approved as presented.*
MOVED BY: Councillor MacLennan
SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden MacIsaac
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Special Council meeting minutes of June 30th, 2021 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Regular Council meeting minutes of June 30th, 2021 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor MacLennan

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of July 22nd, 2021 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor MacLennan

MOTION CARRIED

4. CAPITAL BUDGET

Municipal staff presented Council with an update on the proposed Route 19 Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Replacement project. A recent assessment of the existing Municipal water and waste water infrastructure categorized the Inverness infrastructure with a very poor rating. A tender for completion of this project closed on July 29th, 2021. Municipal staff provided Council with a breakdown of costs, project timelines and recommendations.

MOTION: *That Council award Tender MCI TEN 2021 003 Route 19 Sanitary Sewer & Water Main Replacement to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Zutphen Contractor's Inc., for a total Tender price of \$4,614,451.09 (HST included).*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

Councillor MacLennan voted against the motion.

Councillor Poirier chose to abstain from voting on the motion, and pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, he was deemed to have voted against the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That Council approve a total capital budget for the Route 19 –Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Replacement of \$5,063,299.19 (net of recoverable HST) to be funded by:*

a. Operating reserve in the amount of \$1,500,000.00; and

b. Debenture from the Municipal Financing Corporation in the amount of

\$3,563,300.00 over a term not less than 15 years.

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden MacIsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

Councillor MacLennan voted against the motion.

Councillor Poirier chose to abstain from voting on the motion, and pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, he was deemed to have voted against the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That Council approve the following Temporary Borrowing Resolution for Ministerial Approval:*

WHEREAS *Section 66 of the Municipal Government Act provides that the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, may borrow to expend funds for a capital purpose as authorized by statute;*

WHEREAS *the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness has adopted a capital budget for this fiscal year as required by Section 65 of the Municipal Government Act and are so authorized to expend funds for a capital purpose as identified in their capital budget; and*

WHEREAS *the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness has determined to borrow the aggregate principal amount of three million, five hundred sixty-three thousand, three hundred dollars (\$3,563,300.00) for the purposes of Route 19 – Sanitary Sewer & Water Main Replacement*

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT *under the authority of Section 66 of the Municipal Government Act, the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness borrow a sum or sums not exceeding three million, five-hundred, sixty-three thousand, three hundred dollars (\$3,563,300.00) for the purpose set out above, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs;*

THAT *the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness to such an amount as the Council deems necessary;*

THAT *the issue of debentures be postponed pursuant to Section 92 of the Municipal Government Act and that the Council borrow from time to time a sum or sums not exceeding three million, five-hundred, sixty-three thousand, three hundred dollars (\$3,563,300.00) in total from any chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia;*

THAT *the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Twelve (12) Months from the date of the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing of this resolution;*

THAT the interest payable on the borrowing be paid at a rate to be agreed upon; and

THAT the amount borrowed be repaid from the proceeds of the debentures when sold.

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

Councillor MacLennan voted against the motion.

Councillor Poirier chose to abstain from voting on the motion, and pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, he was deemed to have voted against the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That Council recess for 10 minutes at 4:13 pm.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

Council resumed at 4:23 pm. Christine Murray, Manager Legal and Governance, advised that under the *Municipal Government Act*, if any member of Council chooses to abstain from voting on a motion, then that Councillor is deemed to have voted in the negative. Councillor Poirier acknowledged this and agreed that is how his vote will be recorded on today's motions regarding the Route 19 – Sanitary Sewer & Water Main Replacement project.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Letter to Premier Rankin regarding the removal of dangerous trees

MOTION: *That Council issue the letter to Premier Rankin as provided in the Council package.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

b. Letter to the Department of Transportation and Active Transit extending an invitation to present to Council (bridge closure, tree removal, general maintenance)

MOTION: *That Council issue the letter to the Department of Transportation and Active Transit extending an invitation to present to Council (bridge closure, tree removal, general maintenance) as provided in the Council package.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

c. Review of Municipal Noise By-Law

MOTION: *That staff review the Municipal Noise By-Law and bring revisions to a future meeting of Council.*
MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

d. Community Grant Applications

i. Orangedale Improvement Society – Roofing Repairs

MOTION: *That Council fund the request of the Orangedale Improvement Society for roofing repairs in the amount of \$10,000.00, in full, in the following manner:*
- District # 4 Community District Funding- \$5,000.00
- Tourism Strategy - \$5,000.00
MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

ii. Storyteller’s Gallery – Energy Efficiency/ Building Repairs

MOTION: *That Council not fund the current request of Storyteller’s Gallery for energy efficiency/ building repairs in the amount of \$19,498.93 at this time, but to support the project, and the organization in finding alternate sources of funding.*
MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm
SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac
MOTION CARRIED

iii. Meat Cove Development and C@P

MOTION: *That Council fund the request of the Meat Cove Development and C@P in the amount of \$4,500.00, in full, in the following manner:*
- District # 1 Community District Funding - \$4,500.00
MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm
SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac
MOTION CARRIED

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Correspondence was included in the Council package from the Association of Municipal Administrators, Nova Scotia regarding the development of Municipal Code of Conduct regulations. If any Councillors wish to be involved, then they

must send an expression of interest to the Association of Municipal Administrators, Nova Scotia, by August 10, 2021.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE

August 19, 2021 – Committee of the Whole

8. RECOGNITION OF EMANCIPATION DAY – AUGUST 1, 2021

The following declaration was read by the Warden:

For the first time, the Province of Nova Scotia officially observed Emancipation Day on August 1st, marking the anniversary of 1834 when the British Empire outlawed slavery.

Indigenous people and people of African descent were enslaved here in Nova Scotia and in Cape Breton, some died in terrible conditions during Transatlantic voyages, and all were subjected to dehumanizing abuse that has left a legacy of systemic inequality and oppression.

As we work to dismantle these systems of inequality, I would like to take this moment to remember and honour the victims of slavery, as well as celebrate those who fought to abolish slavery and those who work to end racism and discrimination still today.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 4:45 pm*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Maclsaac

MOTION CARRIED