

**Municipality of the County of Inverness
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, April 7th, 2022
3:00 pm**

MINUTES

Council: Warden Bonny MacIsaac
Deputy Warden Catherine Gillis
Councillor Lynn Chisholm
Councillor John MacLennan
Councillor Claude Poirier

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO
Tanya Tibbo, Director of Finance
Donna MacDonald, Director of Tourism and Culture
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO
Melanie Beaton, Special Projects Facilitator
Karolyn Aucoin, Communications and Community Engagement Specialist
Erin Gillis, Manager of Operations and Occupational Health and Safety

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Warden MacIsaac called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken. Warden MacIsaac acknowledged that the land on which we gather is located in the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: *That the agenda be approved as amended: two recommendations made at this morning's Nominating Committee meeting will be introduced as motions at today's Regular Council meeting:*
1) That Mary Anderson be appointed as a public member of the Municipal Accessibility Committee.
2) That Councillor Poirier be appointed as a member of the following Committees of Council:
I. Eastern Counties Regional Library
II. Eastern District Planning Commission
III. Municipal Homes Board

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier
SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *That the Regular Council Meeting minutes of March 3rd, 2022 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of March 24th, 2022 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Special Meeting minutes of March 24th, 2022 (swearing in) be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Special Meeting minutes of March 24th, 2022 (budget) be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

4. PRESENTATION: JOE SHANNON

Joe Shannon is a resident of Long Point, Inverness County. He has concerns with the proposed Rhodena Wind Farm development project location; on 8000 hectares of Crown Land and private land, west of Highway 19. He is concerned about the potential for a loss of wealth if property values decline after this development project is in place. He encourages Council to not be in favour of this proposed location, and to make their decision known as soon as possible.

5. PRESENTATION: DAVE WILLIAMS; SEAWALL TRAIL

The Seawall Trail is a proposed multi day, forty eight kilometre hiking trail in Northern Cape Breton. The Trail will give local residents, hikers and residents a way to explore an isolated and valued wilderness area. The Seawall Trail Society was formed to facilitate the creation of the Trail. The Society's mandate is to develop walking assets in Northern Cape Breton by working closely with all stakeholders. They are currently waiting for regulatory approval from the Department of the Environment. Assistance by the Municipality to the Seawall Trail would be appreciated in the form of a Letter of Support to the Minister of the Environment, MLA and the premier.

6. WIND TURBINE BY-LAW

Dave Hart of Long Point, Inverness County presented the concerns of the Route 19 Community Association to Council regarding the proposed Rhodena Wind Farm Development. These concerns include:

- a. Health, safety, wellbeing, and protection of residents from activities that unreasonably disturb the peace and tranquility of the residents and the community.
- b. Protection, peaceful use and enjoyment of property; including the avoidance of activities that can create nuisances to residents, (noise, vibrations, and shadow flicker).
- c. Adverse effect to the environment (loss of animal habitat, impacts to birds and ground water).
- d. A lack of meaningful and transparent stakeholder engagement.
- e. Impacts to the cultural, historical, and the socio-economic profile of the community and the region.
- f. Governance (Bylaw review and update).

Recommendation to staff to work with the Eastern District Planning Commissions to update the Municipal Wind Turbine By-Law and Land Use By-law as it relates to wind turbines.

7. LES SUÊTES SIGNAGE

Concern was expressed by District 1 Councillor Claude Poirier regarding the lack of signs or warning lights for traffic in the Acadian Region of Inverness County during high winds.

MOTION: *That the Municipality write a letter to the Minister of Public Works and Steve MacDonald from the Department of Public Works and MLA MacMaster regarding placing Les Suêtes signage in Northern Inverness County.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

8. GREEN FOR LIFE; GARBAGE BIN CLOSING

Councillor Claude Poirier noted that some garbage bin covers throughout District 1 are not being closed by Green for Life (GFL) staff after solid waste pick up, creating a risk of being damaged in high winds. Manager of Operations and Occupational Health and Safety Erin Gillis will contact the General Manager of GFL via e-mail, and copy Councillor Poirier regarding this issue.

9. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICER

MOTION: *That Council appoint Tanya Tibbo as the Returning Officer and Danita Gillis as Assistant Returning officer for the District 2 Special Election to be held on June 4th, 2022.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis
MOTION CARRIED

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC APPOINTMENT

MOTION: *That Mary Anderson be appointed as a public member on the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

- COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

MOTION: *That Councillor Poirier be appointed as a member of the following Committees of Council:*

I. Eastern Counties Regional Library

II. Eastern District Planning Commission

III. Municipal Housing Corporation

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

- INVERNESS COUNTY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS (MOBILE STAGE)

MOTION: *That Council approve this \$10,000.00 request in full with funds coming from the District 3 Community Development Grants Funds.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

- MAPLE BROOK COMMUNITY PASTURE (LIVESTOCK SHELTER)

MOTION: *That Council approve this \$7,866.00 request in full with funds coming from the District # 6 CDC budget.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

- CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS EDUCATION CENTRE AND ACADEMY (PLAYGROUND)

MOTION: *That Council approve this \$10,000.00 request in full with funds coming from The Scotian Wind Fund.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier
SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis
MOTION CARRIED

- GLENCOE STATION RECREATION CENTRE (WARMING CENTRE)

MOTION: *That Council approve this \$8,857.90 request in full with funds coming from District # 5 CDC budget.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm
SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier
MOTION CARRIED

11. CORRESPONDENCE

- Nova Scotia Department of Public Works: J Class Roads

MOTION: *That Council accept the cost estimates of the following projects for fiscal 2022-2023 and wishes to proceed with construction as per the terms of Agreement 2020-013:*

I. Hillcrest Drive - .215 km. Total cost estimate: \$110,000.00 + HST

II. Church Street - .191 km. Total cost estimate: \$95,000.00 + HST

During the budget process Council will determine the funding source.

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

- Eastern Counties Regional Library: Once Library Card Alliance: A new integrated Library System will be implemented on April 21st that will allow all Library users in Nova Scotia to have the same access to the full library collection shared by eight regional libraries.
- Residential School Survivor: Phyllis Googoo: Phyllis Googoo is one of several Canadian residential school survivors and Indigenous leaders, who met with Pope Francis recently in Vatican City. The delegation asked the head of the Catholic Church for an official apology for the trauma caused by its operation of the residential school system.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

April 21st, 2022 9:30 am: Committee of the Whole

Recess: 4:41 pm – 4:50 pm

13. IN CAMERA

The purpose for this “in camera” session was to discuss matters relating to:

- acquisition, sale, lease and security of municipal property
- legal advice eligible for solicitor-client privilege
- public security.

MOTION: *That Council move to “In Camera” at 4:50 pm*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That Council move out of “In Camera” at 5:18 pm*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 5:18 p.m.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED