

**Municipality of the County of Inverness
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Thursday, July 21st, 2022
9:30 am
Council Chambers**

MINUTES

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

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO
Tanya Tibbo, Director of Finance
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/ CAO
Charlotte MacDonald, Manager of Recreation
Maura Beaton, Special Projects Facilitator
Erin Gillis, Manager of Operations and Occupational Health and Safety
Melanie Beaton, Special Projects Facilitator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Warden Gillis called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken. Deputy Warden Gillis 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 presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

3. STAFF REPORTS

(a) Chestley Carr, Water and Wastewater Operations

The new Control Panels on Whycocomagh Lift Stations 1 and 2 were installed along with new services on the pole. Work is being scheduled to replace Lift Station # 6 in Cheticamp. The new Inverness Water Treatment Plant Control Panel has been installed and programmed. The Broad Cove Banks Road Booster Station project is 95% completed. Both Whycocomagh wells went

through an operational pump test. An amendment to Nova Scotia Environment will be submitted by EXP to increase the municipalities' withdrawal limit. Manager meetings, compliance meetings, Joint Occupational Health and Safety, and internal project team meetings continue. Online training opportunities are continuing for water and waste water staff.

(b) Ellen Murphy, Infrastructure Unit

Water leak repairs, sewer repairs, and asphalt repairs continue throughout the Municipality. Maintenance was done to the garden beds at the Port Hood Recreation office. Water leak detection is ongoing in the village of Whycomagh. New HVAC units have been ordered for Strathlorne and Port Hood. Ongoing maintenance and repairs continue throughout the Municipality's water and waste water facilities. Lawn maintenance, streetlight repairs, curb stop repairs, and meter installs are ongoing. Road maintenance was done on the Mountainview Drive and the Arts Centre Road. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

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

Issues continue with GFL solid waste collections; namely staffing shortages and mechanical problems. Residential Solid Waste and Illegal Dumping & Littering by-laws are under review. The Operations Manual for Kenloch is being updated. Capping activities continue at the Kenloch waste management facility to ensure safe access to C&D and to provide fire protection. The Strathlorne recycling facility is experiencing challenges with equipment failures and staffing. A summer staff person has been hired to cover vacation schedules. External training opportunities are being sought for the by-law enforcement officer. Multiple projects continue in Operations and meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

(d) Trudy Gillis, Environmental Compliance

Weekly and monthly reports to Nova Scotia Environment were completed. Various Nova Scotia Environment directives were responded to. Flow meters in Inverness are checked regularly to ensure they are working properly. An in-house training module for operators is in development for various aspects of the plants and approvals. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue such as the Public Works Director, the Inverness Wellfield Project, the Municipal Standards Specifications Committee and the Special Projects Team.

(e) Tanya Tibbo, Department of Finance

Monthly highlights in the Department of Finance include property tax payments and collections, title changes, tax sale preparations, water utility payments and collections, meter reads and installs, water disconnections, RFP review and evaluations, credit card, fuel, and telephone allocations, water, tax and reception enquiries, HST rebates and returns, and land issues. A full time property tax clerk was hired. A breakdown of payments received to date was provided. Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

(f) Charlotte MacDonald, Department of Recreation

County residents participated in the Community Better Challenge and placed 1st in the province, and 32nd in the country. The hiring and orientation of four recreation summer students is complete. They will now assist in the delivery of youth focused programming for 8 weeks over the summer. Summer programming is now open for registration. The gender equity focus groups are complete; the development of recommendations is now underway. The Accessibility Advisory Committee participated in the NS Accessibility Act Review. The Recreation Master Plan consultant is analyzing and creating a findings report for August. Multiple meetings within the department and with external funding partners and organizations continue.

(g) Charlotte MacDonald, Department of Tourism and Culture

Multiple grant opportunities are being administered including Communities in Bloom, Summer Employment, Festivals and Events, and Cultural Programming. Cultural and VIC Centres continue to receive support via Operational Funding. 7500 copies of the Municipal Summer/Fall events guide have been distributed to County residents and VICs. Marketing partnerships are ongoing with the Oran, Reporter, CJFX, the Hawk, CKJM, and CBFM. The Down Town music project and the signage strategy in conjunction with Special Projects continue.

(h) Melanie Beaton, Special Projects

The Special Projects Team has continued to lead and facilitate many meetings on a vast profile of internal and external projects in partnership with consultant teams, project stakeholders, and community residents. Internal Linear Infrastructure projects, and Internal Complex Infrastructure projects continue. Many community projects are in development, and facility and equipment upgrades are underway. Construction oversight and quality control measures continue on the Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Replacement Project (Strathlorne/Inverness). Multiple meetings within the department and with external partners continue.

4. PRESENTATION: Marc Botte and Duane Nardocchio; Cape Breton Music Industry Cooperative

The Cape Breton Music Industry Cooperative, or CBMIC is a Not for Profit organization that exists to provide support services, resources, education, direction, and program funding. All these initiatives are done in the interest of developing and sustaining a viable Cape Breton Music Industry. The covid-19 pandemic has had a dramatic effect on the music industry, resulting in a refocused mission for the CBMIC. The focus continues to be education and training, product and export development, strategic partnership development, and increased outreach and representation. The CBMIC is increasing its efforts in being a truly island wide organization, and to better engage with partners including the establishment of branch offices and the Hall of Fame expansion. Further information can be found at: <https://cbmic.ca/>

5. CHARITABLE TAX EXEMPTION – ASSESSMENT ACCOUNT NUMBER 02636506

Recommendation that Council approve a charitable tax exemption of \$1640.10 for assessment account number 02636506 for the 2023 fiscal year. In addition, it is recommended that council instruct staff to add this property for future consideration to the list of properties provided to council annually under Bylaw 35, Tax Exemption By-Law for Charitable Properties.

6. ROAD NAME CHANGE REQUEST

A Road Name Change Petition was received by Council from the Eastern District Planning Commission. Residents of an unnamed private lane off Mount Pleasant Big Brook Road in District 2 are requesting this lane be renamed “Emerald Lane”.

Recommendation that an unnamed private lane off Mount Pleasant Big Brook Road in District 2 be renamed “Emerald Lane”.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- Department of Public Works – Hart Bridge – A temporary detour bridge is now under construction at this location while the new permanent bridge is under construction. The detour bridge will eliminate the need to use the present detour route through Egypt Road.
- Eastern District Planning Commission – June 2022 Building Permit Statistics were included in the Council package

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

September 1st, 2022 3:00 pm Regular Meeting of Council

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 10:19 am*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED