

Municipality of the County of Inverness
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, January 12th, 2023
Council Chambers
3:00 pm

MINUTES

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

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO
Tanya Tibbo, CFO
Melanie Beaton, Special Projects Facilitator
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO
Joe Carew, Communications and Community Engagement Specialist
Chestley Carr, Director of Public Works

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 presented.*
MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *That the Regular Meeting minutes of December 1, 2022 be approved presented.*
MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Special Meeting minutes of December 8th, 2022 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor MacLennan

SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of December 15th, 2022 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

4. PRESENTATION: WHYCOCOMAGH WATERFRONT CENTRE, Craig and Terry Gillis

Over the past ten years the Whycocomagh Waterfront Centre has evolved into a space that services both locals and tourists alike. Many gatherings, social events, training opportunities and cultural celebrations are just some of the many events hosted at the Centre. The Centre is currently in the final phase of an extensive capital investment which will enhance user experiences and increase economic and entrepreneurial opportunities. The goal is that the lower level of the facility will become a library location for the greater Whycocomagh area. A library could offer services such as internet access, photocopying, printing, scanning and faxing, and would help foster literacy, encourage new skills through workshops, and result in an overall healthier community.

5. PRESENTATION: INVERNESS COUNTY HERITAGE AND CULTURE SECTOR, John and Cathy Gillies

A number of volunteers with various museum and heritage groups within the Municipality continue to promote and encourage engagement in historical aspects of the County. A weekly feature in the Oran newspaper entitled "And then Again" continues the discussion originally developed by the late Jim St. Clair. A Heritage and Culture Conference held at Beinn Mhàbu, on December 2nd 2022 brought together representatives from a number of heritage and culture organizations and resulted in the following recommendations:

1. Establish an Inverness County Archives
2. Reconstitute the Heritage and Culture Advisory Committee for Inverness County
3. Develop a 3-year plan for the Heritage and Culture sector
4. Dedicate a position for a Heritage and Culture administrator/advisor
5. Update municipal funding for heritage and culture organizations in the county and
6. Search for ways to fund programming in addition to infrastructure supports.

Consideration for celebrating Inverness County's 200th Anniversary in 2024 -25 is encouraged.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Chéticamp Salmon River Association – Wild Salmon Watershed, Stream Restoration

MOTION: *That Council fund this \$5,000.00 request in full with funds coming from District 1's CDC budget.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

- AAN 06353592 – Request to remove interest

MOTION: *That the interest applied to AAN 06353592 not be written off.*

MOVED BY: Councillor MacLennan

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

- Whycocomagh Volunteer Fire Department Loan Guarantee

MOTION: *WHEREAS the Whycocomagh Volunteer Fire Department is a registered fire department with the Municipality of the County of Inverness;*

WHEREAS the Whycocomagh Volunteer Fire Department is incorporated by the Societies Act;

WHEREAS the Whycocomagh Volunteer Fire Department has determined to borrow the aggregate principal amount of Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$375,000.00) for the purpose of a Pumper Truck by special resolution on the 12th day of January, 2023, as per Section 10 (d) of the Societies Act;

WHEREAS the Whycocomagh Volunteer Fire Department has requested the Municipality of the County of Inverness; to guarantee the said borrowing;

WHEREAS Section 294(6) of the Municipal Government Act provides that a municipality may grant or lend money to, or guarantee a loan for, a registered fire department for operating or capital purposes; and

WHEREAS Section 88(3) of the Municipal Government Act provides that no guarantee of a borrowing by a municipality shall have effect unless the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved of the proposed borrowing or debenture and of the proposed guarantee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT the Municipality of the County of Inverness does hereby approve the borrowing by the Whycocomagh Volunteer Fire Department of Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$375,000.00) for the purpose set out above;

THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of the Municipal Affairs and Housing of the guarantee, the Municipality unconditionally guarantee repayment of the principal and interest of the borrowing so made;
THAT upon the issue of the debentures, the Warden and Clerk of the Municipality do sign the guarantee attached to each of the debentures and affix thereto the corporate seal of the Municipality.

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

- Capital Budget Adjustment Request – Staff Facility for the Kenloch Waste Management Facility

MOTION: *That Council move \$67,507.00 out of the Chéticamp Outfall Project Budget to cover the cost of a staff lunch facility at the Kenloch Waste Management Facility.*

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

7. PRE-APPROVAL MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT FLEET ENHANCEMENTS

MOTION: *WHEREAS clause 66 (1) of the Municipal Government Act (the “Act”) provides that a municipality may borrow to carry out an authority to expend funds for capital purposes conferred by the Act or another Act of the Legislature;*
AND WHEREAS clause 91(1)(a) of the Act provides that where a municipality is authorized to borrow money, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs (the “Minister”), that the sum shall be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures, in one sum or by installments, as determined by the council;
AND WHEREAS clause 91(1)(b) of the Municipal Government Act authorizes the council to determine the amount and term of, and the rate of interest, on each debenture, when the interest on a debenture is to be paid, and where the principal and interest on a debenture are to be paid;
AND WHEREAS clause 91(2) of the Municipal Government Act states, that in accordance with the Municipal Finance Corporation Act, the mayor or warden and clerk or the person designated by the council, by policy, shall sell and deliver the debentures on behalf of the municipality at the price, in the sums and in the manner deemed proper;
AND WHEREAS the resolution of council to borrow for was approved by the municipal council on November 10th, 2022.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT under the authority of Section 91 of the Municipal Government Act, the Municipality of the County of Inverness borrow by the issue and sale of debentures a sum or sums not exceeding \$1,787,200, for a period not to exceed 10 years, subject to the approval of the Minister;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Municipality of the County of Inverness in the amount that the mayor or warden and clerk or the person designated by the council deems proper, provided the average interest rate of the debenture does not exceed the rate of 5.5%;

THAT the debenture be arranged with the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation with interest to be paid semi-annually and principal payments made annually;

THAT this resolution remains in force for a period not exceeding twelve months from the passing of this resolution.

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

8. POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

A draft version of the updated Municipal Policy and Procedure Manual was made available for Council prior to the December 15th Committee of the Whole meeting.

MOTION: *That the Municipal Policy and Procedure Manual be adopted as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor MacLennan

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding Construction & Demolition (C&D) Debris Regulation and Guideline Changes. The Province has approved changes to C&D debris management in Nova Scotia. These new measures are designed to ensure that C&D debris management (including disposal, storage, transfer and processing) does not cause adverse environmental impacts. A detailed presentation of the potential impacts of these changes will occur at a future meeting of Council.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

January 26th, 2023 3:00 pm: Committee of the Whole

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 3:58 pm*
MOVED BY: Councillor MacLennan
MOTION CARRIED