

Municipality of the County of Inverness  
Special Meeting of Council  
Thursday, February 16th, 2023  
11:30 am  
Council Chambers

MINUTES

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

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Warden MacIsaac called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** *That the agenda be approved as presented.*

**Moved BY:** Councillor Phillips

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. TBR RENEWAL – HIGHWAY 19 SANITARY SEWER AND WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT**

Amount: \$ 3,563,300.00

Renewal Project: Route 19 - Sanitary Sewer and Water

**MOTION:** 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 and Housing, 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;

WHEREAS pursuant to a resolution passed by Council on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, the Council postponed the issue of debentures and with the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing dated the 29th day of September, 2021, did borrow from a chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia a sum not exceeding three million, five-hundred, sixty-three thousand, three Dollars (\$3,563,300.00) for the purposes set out above and for a period not exceeding twelve months; and

WHEREAS Council has deemed it expedient that the period of borrowing be further extended;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**

THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the authorized period of borrowing in the amount not exceeding **three million, five-hundred, sixty-three thousand, three Dollars (\$3,563,300)** be extended for a further period not exceeding Twelve (12) months from the date of the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

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

**RESOLUTION FOR PRE-APPROVAL OF DEBENTURE ISSUANCE SUBJECT TO INTEREST RATE**

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 and Housing (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 *Finance 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 **Route 19 Sanitary Sewer & Water** was approved by the municipal council on **February 16<sup>th</sup> 2023**.

**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 **\$3,563,300.00**, for a period not to exceed **25** 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 Province of Nova Scotia 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:**  
**SECONDED BY:**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Deputy Warden Gillis  
Councillor MacLennan

## **BRIDGE FINANCING**

**MOTION:** *That the Municipality of the County of Inverness seek bridge financing in the amount of \$901,812.00 for the Inverness County Water Utility Route 19 Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Replacement project until the debenture approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing reference # 08-2021-0067 is issued in the Spring of 2023.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Phillips

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **4. COMMUNITY GENERATOR PROGRAM**

The Province of Nova Scotia has announced the Community Generator Program. The goal of the Community Generator Program is to provide assistance for community centres for the purchase and installation of generators, so when the need arises, they are able to serve as a gathering space for community members. At this time, only applications from organizations that manage facilities which have been designated by their municipalities as Comfort Centres are eligible to apply.

All 16 applications received in phase 1 were approved. Due to great interest in the program, a second phase of applications was initiated with a deadline to apply of February 14<sup>th</sup> 2023. 9 additional applications were received via phase 2.

Municipal staff suggest 1) recognizing the 9 organizations that applied in phase 2 can be designated as Comfort Centres so that when the need arises they are able to serve as a gathering space for community members and 2) the possibility of increasing the Emergency Measures Grant by \$325,000.00. This is proposed to be funded by reallocating capital budget allocation of \$325,000 for a Pumper Truck as staff have been unable to source one this fiscal year.

*Consensus of Council to further review the suggested request before arriving at a decision.*

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** *That Council adjourn at 11:57 am*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Poirier

**MOTION CARRIED**