

**Municipality of the County of Inverness  
Regular Council Meeting  
Thursday, September 7th, 2023  
Council Chambers  
3:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

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

Staff:             Keith MacDonald, CAO  
                      Brian Luciano, Director of Finance  
                      Jason Calder, Acting Recreation and Community Wellness Manager  
                      Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO  
                      Jenna Beaton, Chief of Staff  
                      Melanie Beaton, Special Projects Facilitator

**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:**       Councillor Chisholm  
**SECONDED BY:**   Councillor Gillis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:**           *That the Regular Council meeting minutes of July 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 be approved as presented.*  
**MOVED BY:**       Councillor MacLennan  
**SECONDED BY:**   Councillor Poirier  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** *That the Special Council meeting minutes of July 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 be approved as presented.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Chisholm

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Phillips

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** *That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of July 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 be approved as presented.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Poirier

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **4. SECOND READING; MARKETING LEVY BY-LAW AMENDMENTS**

**MOTION:** *That the amendments to the Marketing Levy By-Law (as included in the Council package) be given Second Reading.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Chisholm

**SECONDED BY:** Deputy Warden Gillis

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **5. EASTERN DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

A hard copy of the Eastern District Planning Commission (EDPC) annual report was provided to Council during the summer. EDPC Director John Bain will be present at an October meeting of Council to answer any questions or concerns with this annual plan. Bi-monthly staff reports from EDPC will be presented to Council going forward.

#### **6. J CLASS SUBDIVISION ROAD SUBMISSION 2024-25**

The Department of Public Works expects to fund, subject to budget approval, the paving, repaving, and double chipping of Subdivision streets during the 2024-25 construction year. Cost sharing will be fifty per cent for eligible streets. The Municipality will provide notice to the Province by October 31, 2023 of the priorities Council wishes to see addressed by this cost share agreement.

#### **7. WIND TURBINE BY-LAW UPDATE**

A Public Hearing originally scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss updates to the current wind turbine by-law was postponed to a later date to allow EDPC to conduct community consultations on the issue. EDPC staff will be present at the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of Council to provide an update on revisions to the current wind turbine by-law. Certain areas of the Municipality could be more favourable to wind turbine projects, especially locations in northern Inverness County. Council can provide feedback to the province in support of these initiatives in more remote, less populated areas of the Municipality.

## 8. STAFF DAY

Planning is underway to schedule a day focused on health and safety and training for Municipal staff. A day in late September or early October would be ideal. Notification would be provided to the public stating that Municipal services would not be available during that day.

## 9. NOISE BY-LAW

Councillor Chisholm noted that there is new legislation being introduced in Nova Scotia that aims to provide off-highway vehicle operators (ATVs) improved connections. Old East Street Road is one such connection. Councillor Chisholm would like to explore the idea of a municipal noise by-law for the hours of 10 pm- 6 am.

Direction to staff to explore updating the municipal noise by-law in light of new legislation regarding off-road vehicle operators.

## 10. RECOMMENDATIONS

### a) Mabou and District Community Development Association – Streetscape and Beautification

The Request of Council is \$5,000.00

**MOTION:** *That Council fund this initiative in full with funds coming from District 5 CDC funds.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Chisholm

**SECONDED BY:** Deputy Warden Gillis

**MOTION CARRIED**

### b) Dr. John Waters Community Health Centre and Port Hood and Area Resting Place – Accessibility Improvements

The Request of Council is \$4,353.30

**MOTION:** *That Council fund this initiative in full with funds coming from District 5 CDC funds*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Chisholm

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Poirier

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 11. CORRESPONDENCE

### 1. Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage – 2023 Community Challenge

The Municipality received notification from the province that Inverness County was named Nova Scotia's Most Active Community in the 2023 Community Challenge

### 2. Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities - Service Exchange Agreement

Council is being asked for feedback on the service exchange agreement between the province and municipality. There are multiple components to this agreement including roads, infrastructure,

housing and mandatory payments. Staff will communicate more broadly with the province about this issue after getting feedback from Council.

### **3. Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board – Municipal Boundary Review**

The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSURB) approved the application by the Municipality regarding the Boundary Review. The number of polling districts remains at six and there is a small change in the boundary of district 4 and 6.

## **12. NEXT MEETING DATE**

September 21st, 2023 9:30 am: Committee of the Whole

## **13. IN CAMERA**

**MOTION:** *That Council move to “In Camera” at 4:04 pm to discuss matters related to human resources*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Chisholm

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Poirier

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** *That Council move out of “In Camera” at 4:15 pm*

**MOVED BY:** Deputy Warden Gillis

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** *That Council adjourn at 4:15 pm*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor MacLennan

**MOTION CARRIED**