

Municipality of the County of Inverness
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, May 2, 2024
Council Chambers
3:00 pm

MINUTES

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

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO
Brian Luciano, CFO
Melanie Beaton, Deputy CAO
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO
Jason Calder, Acting Manager of Recreation and Community Wellness
Morgan Murray, Director of Culture and Community Engagement

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: item number 5.iii. Inverness Volleyball Club – this request has been withdrawn and is removed from today's agenda.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *That the Regular Council meeting minutes of April 8th, 2024 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Phillips

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 18th 2024 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Nominating Committee meeting minutes of April 25th 2024 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Phillips

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

4. PRESENTATION: ABO Wind; Sean Flemming and Heidi Kirby

The Nova Scotia Green Choice Program is an initiative that allows large corporate and institutional customers in Nova Scotia to procure renewable energy. ABO Wind is currently developing Rhodena Wind farm to submit into the Green Choice Program procurement round. This project is part of a large and collective effort to meet provincial and federal goals to reach 80% renewable energy and transition from coal by 2030. The new layout of the Rhodena Wind Farm proposes 6 turbines in a 42 Megawatt project, all located on private land. Consultation and engagement with Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, local government representatives and residents, community groups, community liaison committee, and businesses/suppliers in region, is ongoing. On June 14, 2024 this project will be submitted into Green Choice Program for evaluation and potential approval.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Inverness/Victoria Federation of Agriculture

MOTION: *To fund this \$5,000.00 request in full with funds coming from the Regional Community Development Funds.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

II. Association of the Health and Wellbeing of Veterans

MOTION: *To table this \$10,000.00 request at this time. Additional information will be requested of the Trails Federation.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

III. Port Hood Private Roads

MOTION: *That the Eastern District Planning Commission review the Port Hood Private Roads portion of the Port Hood Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Phillips

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

IV. Subdivision By-Law

MOTION: *That the Eastern District Planning Commission review the specifications for subdivision roads in the Inverness County Subdivision By-Law.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

6. 2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Council was presented with the various options available for voting methods for the 2024 Municipal Election and the costs involved.

MOTION: *That the Municipality engage in Electronic voting, along with one kiosk per district on voting day for the 2024 Municipal election.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier
Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Poirier, Councillor Phillips, and Deputy Warden Gillis voted in favour. Councillor MacLennan voted against.

MOTION CARRIED

7. J CLASS ROADS

Cost Share Program for Paving of Subdivision (J Class) Streets for fiscal year 2024-24

MOTION: *That Council accept the cost estimates of the following four projects for fiscal year 2024-25 and wishes to proceed with construction as per the terms of the Agreement 2023-013.*

| Road Name | Description | KMs | Total Cost Estimate (excludes HST) | Cost Share Estimate (excludes HST) |
|--------------------|--|-----|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Collie Sandys Lane | From Cenotaph Road to end of listing at turning circle, paving | 0.2 | \$165,000.00 | \$82,500.00 |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|--|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Chemin Muisse | From Cabot Trail (north of laundromat) to end of listing, repaving | 0.152 | \$105,000.00 | \$52,500.00 |
| River Street | From Trunk 19 to River Extension, repaving | 0.194 | \$125,000.00 | \$62,500.00 |
| Chemin Bichoure Road | From Cabot Trail (north of Acadian Pharmacy) to end of listing, repaving | 0.143 | \$90,000.00 | \$45,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 0.69 | \$485,000.00 | \$242,500.00 |

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from Municipal resident G. Haverstock regarding a request for tax relief.

Direction to staff to provide feedback to Mr. Haverstock and outline a proposed payment arrangement.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

May 16th, 2024 9:30 am: Committee of the Whole

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - GAELIC AWARENESS MONTH

The following proclamation was read by Municipal Engineer Lauren MacDonnell:

SEACH GUN COMHARRAICH 2024 an t-ochdamh ceann bliadhna air fhichead do Mhìos nan Gàidheal, tha e 'na àm gus eachdraidh, cultur, cànan, is àrd-ghnìomharan nan Gàidheal thar na mòr-roinneadh is na chuir iad rithe, a dhlùth-ghabhail, onorachadh is a ghléidheadh; agus

SEACH GU BHEIL cultur nan Gàidheal 'na phàirt bhunaiteach do dh'fhéin-aithne na h-Albann Nuaidhe is iad, na Gàidheil té dhe na buidhnean culturail neo-thùsanach na bu tràithe a thuinich ann an tìr nam Mìogmac; agus

SEACH GUM BI ginealaich ùra do luchd-ionnsachaidh a' chànain, agus suinn culturail, a' cumail orra is iad a' leantainn gu dlùth ri dìleab na feadhach a dh'ionnsaich a' Ghàidhlig o 'n ghlùin an Albainn Nuaidh; agus

SEACH GU BHEIL an Cathrachd againn an geall air a bhith a' co-obrachadh le coimhearsnachdan Gàidhealach gus taic a thoirt do leasachadh na Gàidhlig mar phàirt do léirsinn cànanach na h-Albann Nuaidhe thro chothroman gus cànan agus comas 's na coimhearsnachdan a thogail, a' dèanadh cinnteach gun soirbhich leis a' Ghàidhlig is le a cultur ann an Cathrachd.

The following proclamation was read by Municipal Warden Bonny MacIsaac:

WHEREAS 2024 marks the 28th anniversary of Gaelic Nova Scotia Month which is a time to embrace, honour and celebrate the history, culture, language, contributions, and achievements of Gaels across the province; and

WHEREAS Gaelic culture is an integral part of the identity of Nova Scotia and Gaels represent one of the earliest non-indigenous cultural groups to settle in Mi'kma'ki; and

WHEREAS new generations of language learners and cultural champions are carrying on and building upon the legacy of Gaelic Nova Scotia's tradition bearers; and

WHEREAS our Municipality is committed to collaborating with Gaelic communities to support the growth of Gaelic as a part of the linguistic landscape of Nova Scotia through opportunities for language acquisition and capacity building within communities to ensure Gaelic language and culture will thrive in Inverness County.

11. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Students participating in the Nova Scotia International Student program (NSISP) were given a warm welcome by Council. Countries represented include Brazil, Spain, Vietnam, Germany, Italy, China, France, Mexico, Turkey and Belgium. The students along with some Strait Regional Centre for Education teachers and host families were eager to share their experiences since choosing to participate in the program and live in Inverness County.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 5:08 pm*
MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis
MOTION CARRIED