

Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, October 3rd, 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
Chestley Carr, Director of Public Works
Lauren MacDonnell, Municipal Engineer
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO

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 Poirier
SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *That the Regular Council meeting minutes of September 5th, 2024 be approved as presented.*
MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm
SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of September 19th, 2024 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

4. SOURCE WATER PROTECTION UPDATE (Lauren MacDonnell)

The Municipality owns and operates 7 water distribution systems. Source water is untreated water from streams, rivers, lakes, or underground aquifers that is used to supply private wells and public drinking water. Source water protection is the practice of maintaining or improving the quality of source water before it reaches the water treatment plant. Various contaminants can threaten source water such as industrial discharges, landfill sites, on-site septic systems, agricultural activities and runoff. A plan for Source Water Protection may involve the following:

- From a Source Water Protection Advisory Committee
- Delineate the Source Water Protection Area Boundary
- Identify Potential Contaminants and Assess Risks
- Develop and Adopt a Source Water Protection Management Plan
- Monitor and Evaluate the Plan

5. MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – NEW SEWER LINE

MOTION: *That the sewer line at the Port Hood Municipal building be replaced. The estimate of replacement is \$53,000.00 with funds coming from the Capital Budget.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Community Grant Application – Creignish Recreation Centre, Energy Efficient Kitchen Upgrades

MOTION: *That Council fund this \$3,500.00 request in full with funds coming from District 6 CDC funds.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

II. Strait IT – Intermunicipal Agreement

MOTION: *That Council approve the proposed changes to the Strait IT Intermunicipal Agreement as presented in the September 5th Council package.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips

MOTION CARRIED

III. HR and Personnel Policy Update- Council Benefits

MOTION: *That the following amendments are made to the Municipal benefits plan:*

- *Group Insurance - The Municipality shall cover 100% of the contributions for members of Council for the following coverage: life insurance, health and dental. Councillors are eligible for coverage while in the elected position of Councillor for the Municipality and must meet all eligibility requirements and terms of the plan.*
- *Employee and Family Assistance Program - Members of Council shall have access to an Employee and Family Assistance Program ("EFAP") through the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Phillips

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

7. MEAT COVE LANDLINE SERVICE

An interruption in land line telephone service in the community of Meat Cove occurred on September 16th, 2024. This issue was not rectified until the week of September 22nd, 2024. Cell service is not reliable in this community therefore residents were left without any type of emergency communication during this outage.

Direction to staff to reach out to Bell to determine why such a lengthy delay in addressing this issue and what plans are in place to ensure that future response times are more timely.

8. CORRESPONDENCE: Nova Scotia Public Works, J Class Road Overestimate memos:

COLLIE SANDYS LANE

MOTION: *That Council approve the new cost share amount for Collie Sandys Lane for J Class Road improvements.*

Original estimate - \$165,000 (50 % for MOCI is \$82,500)

New Estimate - \$209,000 (50% for MOCI is \$104,500)

Increase is \$22,000 or 26.7 %.

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm
MOTION CARRIED

RIVER STREET

MOTION: *That Council approve the new cost share amount for River Street for J Class Road improvements.
Original estimate - \$125,000 (50% for MOCI is \$62,500)
New Estimate - \$148,000 (50% for MOCI is \$74,000)
Increase is \$11,500 or 18.4 %*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

October 17th, 2024 9:30 am: Committee of the Whole

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 3:59 pm.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Gillis

MOTION CARRIED