

Regular Council Meeting  
Thursday, January 9th, 2025  
Council Chambers  
9:30 am

## MINUTES

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

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO  
Melanie Beaton, Deputy CAO  
Brian Luciano, CFO  
Erin Gillis, COO  
Chestley Carr, Director of Public Works  
Jason Calder, Acting Manager of Recreation and Community Wellness  
Morgan Murray, Director of Culture and Community Development  
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO  
Maggie MacDonald, Accessibility and Seniors Safety Coordinator

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Warden MacIsaac called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken.

### 2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Warden MacIsaac acknowledged that the land on which we gather is located in the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

**MOVED BY:** Deputy Warden Chisholm

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Poirier

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 4. PROCLAMTION: ALZHEIMER AWARENESS MONTH

The enclosed proclamation was read by Warden MacIsaac:

*WHEREAS: There are an estimated 16,000 people living with dementia in Nova Scotia; and*

*WHEREAS: It is projected that the number of people living with dementia in Nova Scotia will increase by 87% with nearly 30,000 people likely to be living with dementia by 2050; and*

*WHEREAS: The Alzheimer Society of NS is committed to alleviating the personal and social consequences of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and to promoting the search for the causes and cures.*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Warden, Bonny MacIsaac on behalf of Council do hereby declare January as Alzheimer Awareness Month in the Municipality of the County of Inverness.*

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** *That the Regular Council meeting minutes of December 5<sup>th</sup> 2024 be approved as presented.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Phillips

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Gillis

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** *That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes December 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 be approved as presented.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Poirier

**SECONDED BY:** Deputy Warden Chisholm

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **6. HEALTHCARE NAVIGATION PROJECT (Morgan Murray on behalf of Lynn Carter)**

Healthcare Professional Attraction and Retention is a strategy for healthcare professionals that promotes Inverness County as a great place to live and work; welcomes and helps settle incoming healthcare professionals; and celebrates healthcare excellence in the county. The three strategic goals of this initiative are:

**Attract:** Promote Inverness County as a great place to live and work as a healthcare professional.

- i. Develop and distribute print, video, and online welcome materials.
- ii. Host prospective healthcare professionals on site visits and tours.
- iii. Promote healthcare careers to county youth.

**Retain:** Welcome, settle, and celebrate healthcare professionals in Inverness County.

- i. Help newcomers settle in Inverness County.
- ii. Celebrate healthcare excellence in Inverness County.

**Plan:** Expand the impact of attraction and retention work through collaboration and planning.

- i. Collaborate with key healthcare and newcomer support partners.
- ii. Develop and implement a healthcare professional attraction and retention strategy.

**7. A BY-LAW TO AMEND THE INVERNESS COUNTY LAND USE BY-LAW CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF WIND TURBINE DEVELOPMENT**

**MOTION:** *That the Public Hearing regarding adopting amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw for the County of Inverness Concerning the Regulation of Wind Turbine Development be held on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Port Hood Municipal Building.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Poirier

**SECONDED BY:** Deputy Warden Chisholm

**MOTION CARRIED**

**8. PREGNANCY AND PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY**

**MOTION:** *That the Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy be accepted as presented in today's Council package, retro to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.*

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gillis

**SECONDED BY:** Deputy Warden Chisholm

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9. MUNICIPAL CODE OF CONDUCT IN-PERSON TRAINING SESSION**

Correspondence was received from the Nova Scotia federation of Municipalities regarding upcoming training sessions for members of Council regarding the recently adopted Code of Conduct. In-person training will be held on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre. Details for the mandatory February online module will be shared with all members and village commissioners by mid-January.

**10. SANTA FOR SENIORS PROJECT (Maggie MacDonald)**

The goal of this initiative was to help spread joy and happiness to the lives of older adults at a time that can sometimes feel isolating and lonely. The municipality partnered with local schools including Bayview Education Centre, Inverness Education Centre/Academy, and Whycocomagh Education Centre. Students created handmade Christmas cards and ornaments that were hand delivered on December 19<sup>th</sup>. 110 County residents participated in this initiative.

**11. HEROIC ACTION AWARD**

Correspondence was received from a county resident asking if a recognition program could be initiated to acknowledge the efforts of county residents who go above and beyond to assist someone in an emergency.

*Direction to staff to research this request and provide potential options to Council.*

**12. NEXT MEETING DATE**

January 23rd, 2025 9:30 am: Committee of the Whole.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** *That Council adjourn at 10:15 am.*

**MOVED BY:** Deputy Warden Chisholm

**MOTION CARRIED**