

Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, April 3rd, 2025
Council Chambers
10:15 am

MINUTES

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

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO
Melanie Beaton, Deputy CAO
Brian Luciano, CFO
Erin Gillis, COO
Michelle Coffin, Governance and Bylaw Researcher
Megan Wludyka, Chief Communications Officer
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Warden MacIsaac called the meeting to order at 10:15 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 Phillips
MOTION CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *That the Regular Council meeting minutes of March 6th 2025 be approved as presented.*
MOVED BY: Councillor Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: That the Nominating Committee meeting minutes of March 6th 2025 be approved as presented.

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

MOTION: *That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes March 20th 2025 be approved as amended: Recommendation that the Municipality borrow by the issue and sale of debentures a sum or sums not exceeding \$525,967, for a period not to exceed 5 years, subject to the approval of the Minister.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Chisholm
SECONDED BY: Councillor MacLennan
MOTION CARRIED

5. PRESENTATION: Efficiency NS; Dan McAfee (New Home Research Project)

Efficiency NS is collecting essential home performance data to identify knowledge gaps within the new homes industry that could be used to educate and help prepare homebuilders for National Building Code adoption in Nova Scotia. Eligible new homes located outside of the core HRM catchment area can receive an EnerGuide assessment at no cost. Single-family homes within 6 months of the occupancy permit date and located outside of a designated Halifax catchment area are eligible. Participants and builders obtain knowledge on where they stand in relation to the 2020 National Building Code. The end goal of the project is that all new buildings will be built to net-zero energy ready standards by 2030. Eligibility, requirements & partner contact info to enroll: www.energycns.ca/programs-rebates/new-home-research-project.

6. ROAD NAME CHANGE: 6201 Road, Margaree Forks

MOTION: *That Council approve of the Road Name Change from 6201 Road in Margaree Forks to Gabriel's Loop.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Phillips
SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier
MOTION CARRIED

7. REPEAL OF CAPITAL GRANTS TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS POLICY

MOTION: *That the Capital Grants to Fire Departments Policy passed by the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness on May 5, 2008, is repealed.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Phillips
SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier
MOTION CARRIED

8. HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MOTION: *That Council approve of the proposed alterations, as reviewed by the Heritage Advisory Committee on March 20, 2025, to the municipally registered heritage building located at 175 Main Street, Port Hood.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips

MOTION CARRIED

9. PUBLIC HEARING DATE: MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY AND LAND USE BYLAW

The Public Hearing Date for the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land use Bylaw is:
Wednesday, May 7th, 2025 6:00 pm

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- The Department of Municipal Affairs – Mandatory Code of Conduct Training
- The Department of Public Works – Cost Share Program for J Class Roads approval for 2025-26.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

April 24th, 2025 9:30 am: Committee of the Whole.

12. IN CAMERA

MOTION: *That Council move to “In Camera” at 11:26 am to discuss three land issues.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips

MOTION CARRIED

*Councillor Gillis declared a conflict and left Council Chambers.
Councillor Gillis returned to Council Chambers at 11:39 am.*

MOTION: *That Council move out of “In Camera” at 11:52 am.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 11:13 am.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED