

# **MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH**

## **Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 6:30 pm  
Council Chambers  
Municipal Administration Building  
285 Beech Hill Road  
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron  
Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart  
Councillor Mary MacLellan  
Councillor Donnie MacDonald  
Councillor Vaughan Chisholm  
Councillor Remi Deveau  
Councillor John Dunbar  
Councillor Neil Corbett  
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor Gary Mattie

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer  
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk  
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

1. **Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron**

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden McCarron, at 7:00 pm.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the minutes. One addition was requested: a discussion regarding the federal election boundaries.

**Moved By** Councillor MacFarlane

**Seconded By** Councillor Corbett

*That the agenda be approved as amended.*

**Motion Carried**

3. **Approval of October 15, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes.

**Moved By** Councillor MacDonald

**Seconded By** Deputy Warden Stewart

*That the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 15, 2019 be approved as presented.*

**Motion Carried**

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. **Delegations**

There were no delegations.

6. **Continuing Business**

a. **Consideration of a Hospitality Policy**

The item was brought forward for final consideration by the Committee, and any questions or concerns were invited. Brief discussion followed.

**Moved By** Deputy Warden Stewart

**Seconded By** Councillor Chisholm

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council adopt the Hospitality Policy as presented.*

**Motion Carried**

b. **Physician Recruitment Discussion**

Mr. Horne provided an update to the Committee regarding the efforts made to date to help with physician recruitment in the community. While the Municipality's role has been relatively passive to date, a request has recently been received to assist with funding a position for a community navigator to help with the recruitment process. The level of involvement in communities across the province is varied; the request was brought to the Committee for their consideration. Discussion followed, with examples of what similar staffed positions in neighbouring municipalities were shared.

7. **New Business**

a. **Assessment Concerns - Church Street**

Mrs. Duggan provided a summary of a recently discovered duplicate assessment that dates to the early 1990s for a property on Church Street. A recent sale of the

land revealed that historical consolidation error by the Land Registry Office resulted in a double-assessment on the property owner. The property owner has followed up with PVSC and the Land Registry Office but hasn't had success to date with recouping any of the amount overpaid. An update was provided regarding efforts of staff and the AMANS Board efforts to meet with PVSC and the Land Registry Office to address concerns like this that have come up through the Municipality.

A suggestion was made to provide formal written correspondence to the affected property owner. Discussion followed about contacting municipal neighbours to undertake further public awareness campaigns in the local media to highlight the importance of checking assessments when they are sent out by PVSC early in the year.

**8. Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions**

**a. Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

The last meeting was cancelled; the next meeting is scheduled for the end of November.

**b. Antigonish Arena Association**

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on November 13th.

**c. Antigonish Crime Prevention**

There were no updates.

**d. Eastern District Planning Commission**

The County of Richmond has rescinded their notice to leave the Commission.

**e. Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee**

Councillor MacDonald provided a summary of the business reviewed at the October meeting. Highlights of the Regional Chairs Workshop, Mobius Environmental Awards of Excellence, Business Waste Reduction Tools, the Used Oil Management Association Program, and the Electronic Products Recycling Association Program. The next meeting will take place on November 28th.

**f. County – Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee**

No updates were available, but updates were provided on staff meetings with representatives from Paqtnkek about emergency management, as well as their participation in staffing a regional onsite energy manager position.

**g. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library**

There were no updates.



h. **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**

There were no updates.

9. **Community Events**

The following community events were noted:

- Arisaig Christmas Bazaar on November 3rd.
- November 3rd Havre Boucher Remembrance Day ceremony

10. **Staff Reports**

There were no further staff reports.

11. **Additions to the Agenda**

a. **Discussion Regarding Federal Election Boundaries**

Councillor Dunbar brought forward a concern raised by several of his constituents regarding the location of the federal boundaries and the representation of the eastern part of the county in their riding which is significantly composed of Cape Breton. The boundaries are based on the results of the Census, and a commission is struck to review and establish the boundaries in the provinces. Councillor Dunbar provided further information regarding the process, and what involvement the municipality could have in promoting public attendance at future boundary reviews.

Councillor MacFarlane flagged that a polling station in his district was inaccessible and requested that a letter be sent to Elections Canada to make them aware of that concerns.

12. **In Camera Items**

**Moved By** Councillor Dunbar

**Seconded By** Councillor Deveau

*That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss the Acquisition, Sale, Lease, and Security of Municipal Property at 8:06 pm.*

**Motion Carried**

**Moved By** Councillor MacFarlane

**Seconded By** Councillor Deveau

*That the in-camera session be adjourned at 8:20 pm.*

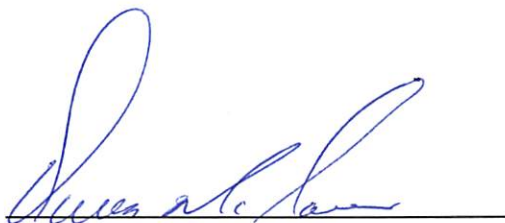
**Motion Carried**

13. **Adjournment**

**Moved By** Deputy Warden Stewart

*That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:20 pm.*

**Motion Carried**



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer