

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Municipal Council Meeting- Minutes

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

7:30 pm

Council Chambers

Municipal Administration Building

285 Beech Hill Road

Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Councillors Present:

Warden Owen McCarron

Councillor Mary MacLellan

Councillor Donnie MacDonald

Deputy Warden Stewart

Councillor Remi Deveau

Councillor Gary Mattie

Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Councillor Harris McNamara

Councillor John Dunbar

Councillor Shawn Brophy

Regrets:

None

Staff Present:

Glenn Horne, CAO

Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk

Also Present:

Gallery

Dr. Chiasson, Positive Action for Keppoch

Media Present:

Drake Lowthers, The Reporter

Matt Draper, XFM (by Zoom)

Call to Order- Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron

Warden McCarron called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. A moment of silence was held in memory of those affected by the Westray Mining Disaster.

Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda.

Min # 2023-053

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Approval of April 18, 2023 Municipal Council Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in minutes.

Min # 2023-054

Moved and Seconded

That the Municipal Council Minutes of April 18, 2023 be approved.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Presentations

Positive Action for Keppoch – Rebuilding After Fiona

Dr. Chiasson provided a presentation outlining the growth of the facility and showing the impact of hurricane Fiona in September 2022. The Keppoch was also impacted by the flooding that took place in late 2021 but is looking to continue to work to rebuild the facility given its importance in the community as a recreation facility and tourism destination. The work done by volunteers in the community was highlighted. Positive Action for Keppoch is asking the Town and County for an emergency grant, to be matched by a community fundraising program as well as funds raised by the Board of Directors. Discussion followed.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Committee Reports

April 20, 2023 Antigonish Regional EMO Advisory Committee Report

Min # 2023-055

Moved and Seconded

That a letter be sent to Minister Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, regarding Back-Up Power for Fuel and Groceries.

Motion Carried

April 25, 2023 Asset Management Committee report

Min # 2023-056

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve the 2023/24 Capital Plan as presented.

Motion Carried

April 25, 2023 Committee of the Whole Report

Min # 2023-057

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council installs a streetlight on Chisholm Road at the curve just west of Civic 295.

Motion Carried

April 28, 2023 e-Poll Report

Min # 2023-058

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council awards the St. Josephs Waterline Extension to Ron Chisholm Hydro Seeding Ltd for a bid price of \$1,631,597.00 +HST.

Motion Carried

Min # 2023-059

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council awards the Highway 337 Waterline Extension project to Zutphen Contractors Inc. for a bid price of \$1,249,423.00 +HST.

Motion Carried

May 9, 2023 Committee of the Whole Report

Min # 2023-060

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council awards the contract for the 2023 Bulky Waste Collection to GFL Environmental Inc at a bid price of \$67,500 + HST.

Motion Carried

Min # 2023-061

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve the Partnership Agreement between the Municipality and the Wingspan Fund.

Motion Carried

(9 in favour, 1 opposed)

Min # 2023-062

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council increase the value of the combined household income threshold from \$33,000 to \$36,000 for the Low-Income Tax Exemption Policy for the Fiscal 2023/24 budget and maintain the maximum \$300 tax reduction amount noted in that policy.

Motion Carried

Min # 2023-063

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve the March 30, 2023, amendments to the RK MacDonald Nursing Home Corporation Bylaws as amended with the proposed changes to Articles III and IV related to Conflict of Interest.

Motion Carried

Reports from Individual Council Members on Outside Boards, Conferences, and Community Activities

- Councillor Dunbar reported the following:
 - That the Antigonish Heritage Museum Board met on May 1, 2023 and a number of items were discussed. The Museum is being featured on Eastlink TV, in a series about museums across the province. The next meeting will be held on the first Monday in June.
 - The Arena Board will meet later in the month.
 - In Heatherton, a Mother's Day Tea will be held this weekend, and the Community Centre has been selected for the location of the community mural and are looking for committee members.
 - That he attended the NSFM Conference in Digby, which was a good conference, but expressed concern at the inaccessibility of the conference location.
- Councillor MacFarlane shared that he attended the St. FX Graduation. He also attended the NSFM Conference in Digby earlier in the month, and suggested sending Mayor MacDougall from CBRM a card to express what a great job she is doing in her role with NSFM.
- Councillor McNamara shared that a walk supporting fundraising for Dementia Research is planned for the Havre Boucher area. He also attended the NSFM conference in Digby, and had challenges with the accessibility of the facility, but made good connections with other participants at the event.

- Councillor MacLellan shared that the Make Your Move Antigonish event in Maryvale was a great success earlier in the day and asked that staff be congratulated on their planning of the event.
- Councillor MacDonald shared that he attended the 2021 St. FX Convocation held on Saturday May 6th. He also attended the NSFM conference in Digby.
- Warden McCarron shared the following:
 - That he attended the Convocation events that were held at St. FX over the weekend.
 - He also attended the Nova Scotia Main Street Ideas Exchange, hosted by NSFM in Antigonish, which provided discussions about streetscapes with Planning professionals.
 - He also attended the raising of the Gaelic Flag also took place in Town at the beginning of the month.
 - Interviews for the Physician Recruitment Navigator position are underway.
 - Jeux L'Acadie will be taking place in the community later in the month.
 - That he attended the NSFM conference in Digby.

Motions

There were no additional motions.

Miscellaneous Business

There was no miscellaneous business.

Adjournment

Min # 2023-064

Moved

That the Council meeting adjourns at 8:06pm.

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, CAO