

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Municipal Council Meeting- Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

7:30pm

Council Chambers

Municipal Administration Building

285 Beech Hill Road

Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Councillors Present:

Warden Owen McCarron

Deputy Warden Bill MacFarlane

Councillor Mary MacLellan

Councillor Donnie MacDonald

Councillor Shawn Brophy

Councillor Remi Deveau

Councillor John Dunbar

Councillor Gary Mattie

Councillor Harris McNamara

Regrets:

Councillor Hugh Stewart

Staff Present:

Glenn Horne, CAO

Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives
Coordinator

Also Present:

Gallery

Mark Stewart, RES Group

Andrew Arbuckle, RES Group

Call to Order- Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron

Warden McCarron called the meeting to order at 7:34pm.

Approval of Agenda

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

Additions:

Committee Report Asset Management Committee e-poll

Motions: Proclamation of Gaelic NS Month.

Min # 2024-043

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of April 9, 2024 Municipal Council Minutes

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

Min # 2024-044

Moved and Seconded

That the Municipal Council Minutes of April 9, 2024 be approved.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Delegations

Mark Stewart & Andrew Arbuckle, RES Group – EIGG Mountain Wind Project

Mark Stewart and Andrew Arbuckle presented on behalf of the EIGG Mountain Wind Project. Renewable Energy Systems has operated throughout the globe and has 40 years of experience in the renewable energy field. They work in wind, solar, battery storage and green hydrogen projects. They develop, construct, and operate sites.

They are aiming to develop a 150 MW wind farm, 22-26 machines. Some would be in the southern arena up Connors Mountain Road to northern area near Highfield Road.

Councillor Brophy asked about if the land has been secured for the wind turbines and the transmission line. Most of the land has been secured and they are still working on some agreements. Councillor Dunbar asked why there hasn't been any windfarms built in NS since 2015. They are not sure, it is costing the province about \$10M per month to import coal from Columbia. Councillor MacDonald asked about the noise with the increase in size. Mr. Arbuckle said they would be comparable to current wind mills and there are noise thresholds in the province. Councillor MacLellan said many people are pleased and excited about the project in the area.

They will be hosting a family event, open house style, May 26th 3-6pm at the Arisaig Parish Hall.

They will be looking for a letter of support from the Municipality for their bid and their project.

Warden McCarron thanked Mr. Stewart and Mr. Arbuckle for the presentation.

Warden McCarron asked for a moment of silence for the 32nd anniversary of the Westray Mine Disaster which happened on May 9th 1992.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Committee Reports

April 23, 2024 Asset Management Committee Report

Min # 2024-045

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve the 2024/25 Capital Plan.

Motion Carried

Min # 2024-046

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve the installation of a streetlight at 81 Pomquet River Road.

Motion Carried

April 23, 2024 Committee of the Whole Report

Min # 2024-047

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council endorse the Tourism Strategy be endorsed with the exception of the marketing levy.

Motion Carried

Min # 2024-048

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council make an application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board to approve a status quo municipal boundary application for the 2024 municipal election and defer the ongoing boundary review until after that election.

Motion Carried

Min # 2024-049

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council proclaim May 26-June 1, 2024 as Access Awareness Week in Antigonish County.

Motion Carried

April 26, 2024 Asset Management Committee e-Poll Report

Min # 2024-050

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council award the Appleseed Drive Watermain Extension project to Ron Chisholm Hydro-Seeding for a contract price of \$104,839.98 + HST.

Motion Carried

May 14, 2024 Committee of the Whole Report

Min # 2024-051

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve the Community Partnership Grants as presented.

Motion Carried

Min # 2024-052

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve the \$50,000 grant to the SJLCC to be reallocated as requested.

Motion Carried

Min # 2024-053

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council send a letter to the Minister, local MLAs and Basil Pitts requesting that the street lights at Exit 37 and Exit 38 be replaced.

Motion Carried

Min # 2024-054

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council reappoint Fran Haley as the County Representative on the RK MacDonald Board.

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous Business

There was no miscellaneous business.

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

- Councillor Dunbar shared that the Heritage Museum met last Monday and held their AGM. Town Councillor Andrew Murray
- Councillor Dunbar attended the UNSM Conference in Baddeck. There are some concerns around accessibility of the venue.
- Deputy Warden reminded everyone that Canada Day is coming up and encourages people to fly their Canadian flag.
- Deputy Warden shared that Sam Gero will be recognized by his hometown of Amherst for his athletic accomplishments in Baseball. He also attended the UNSM conference and said it was a very good conference.
- Councillor McNamara attended the UNSM and agrees there were some major accessibility challenges.
- Warden McCarron noted that he attended the UNSM conference as well. He enjoyed the speaker, Olympic Gold Medalist Brad Gushue.

Motions

There were no motions.

Additions to the Agenda

May 13, 2024 Asset Management Committee e-Poll Report

Min # 2024-055

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council award the Keating Court Curb and Gutter project to B.D. Clifton Contracting Limited for a contract price of \$948,826 +HST.

Motion Carried

Proclamation for Gaelic Awareness Month

Min # 2024-056

Moved and Seconded

Municipal Council proclaims May 2024 Gaelic Awareness Month in the Municipality of the County of Antigonish.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Min # 2024-057

Moved

That the Council meeting adjourns at 8:20pm.

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, CAO