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MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

**Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday February 26, 2025, following Asset Management Committee  
Council Chambers  
Municipal Administration Building  
285 Beech Hill Road  
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were:           Warden Nicholas MacInnis  
                              Deputy Warden John Dunbar  
                              Councillor Mary MacLellan  
                              Councillor Adam Baden-Clay  
                              Councillor Richelle MacLaughlin  
                              Councillor Shawn Brophy  
                              Councillor Wayne Melanson (by Zoom)  
                              Councillor Gary Mattie  
                              Councillor Harris McNamara  
                              Councillor Sterling Garvie

Regrets:                 None

Staff Present:           Shirlyn Donovan, CAO  
                              Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk

Others Present:         Gallery (by Zoom)

**Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Nicholas MacInnis**

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden MacInnis, at 6:45pm.

**Approval of Agenda**

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

Moved and Seconded

*That the agenda be approved as presented.*

**Motion Carried**

**Approval of February 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

Warden MacInnis called for any errors or omissions in the Committee of the Whole minutes of February 11, 2025. Hearing none, the minutes were considered approved.

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **Delegations**

There were no delegations.

### **Continuing Business**

#### **2025 Boundary Review**

Ms. Schumacher spoke to the staff report outlining the actions taken by staff based on the direction given by the committee at their meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup>. She noted that staff had provided background information to the committee via email and had contacted several mapping contractors to obtain a range of pricing. Staff reviewed a preliminary outline of how staff thought that the boundary review process might proceed, and how they could utilize as much of the information gathered during the 2023/24 review if at all possible. The option of looking to carry forward with applying the first phase of the review done in 2023/24, confirming status quo of ten districts, was suggested due to how overwhelming the public support was for that option when that phase of the review took place.

The floor was then opened for questions from the committee. Councillors asked for clarification regarding the use of information from the previous review, staff workplans to handle the expected workload vs. utilizing a consultant to undertake the review, and comments were shared by several councillors regarding their experiences during the 2023/24 boundary review process. Discussion followed regarding the Warden or Mayor system, and the committee felt that could be reviewed and discussed later in their term separate from this boundary review process.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council utilize the results of the first phase of the 2023/24 boundary review and proceed with ten districts for the second phase of the review.

**Motion Carried**

### **New Business**

#### **2025 Football Canada Cup & Eastern Regional Challenge Sponsorship Request**

Mrs. Donovan reviewed the request for sponsorship submitted for the 2025 Football Canada Cup & Eastern Regional Challenge. Where the sponsorship amounts are higher than what are typically higher than what is usually approved internally, the request is being brought forward to the Committee. Mrs. Donovan noted that the Town approved a donation for the same event following a presentation to their council. Discussion followed.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve a sponsorship for the 2025 Football Canada Cup & Eastern Regional Challenge in the amount of \$5,000.

**Motion Carried**

### **Meeting Recess for Council**

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole meeting recess at 7:37pm and resume following the Special Municipal Council meeting.

**Motion Carried**

The Committee of the Whole was reconvened at 8:26pm.

### **Community Events**

- Councillor MacLaughlin shared that a breakfast was recently held in St. Joseph's and shared details about a number of other events taking place on a regular basis at the community centres.
- Councillor Melanson gave updates about Carnivale in Pomquet and the Coldest Night of the Year Fundraiser
- Councillor McNamara shared that March Break activities are planned at the Havre Boucher Community Centre. The Havre Boucher Fire Hall will also be holding a breakfast.
- Councillor Mattie noted that Fire Hall event details will be shared at the next meeting.
- Councillor MacLellan shared that pickleball activities are underway in Arisaig.
- Deputy Warden Dunbar shared that on February 15<sup>th</sup> a volunteer appreciation night was held at the Heatherton Community Centre. He also attended the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser and expressed his thanks to staff that organized the municipal team's participation.
- Warden MacInnis also attended the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser.

### **Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees, and Commissions**

#### Heritage Museum

- Next meeting will be on Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. February meeting was cancelled.

#### Antigonish Arena Association

- Next meeting will be on March 4<sup>th</sup>.



Eastern District Planning Commission

- The personnel committee will be meeting to address a complaint.

Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management

- An online session didn't take place as planned, but a meeting is planned on February 27<sup>th</sup> to learn more about Extended Producer Responsibility.

Pictou Antigonish Regional Library

- Meeting was held by Zoom because of weather. Budget information is resulting in a number of cuts to libraries and a letter is expected to come to the next Council meeting.

RK MacDonald Nursing Home

- Next meeting will be on February 27<sup>th</sup>

County Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee

- Nothing to report.

Community Navigation & Physician Retention Services Association

- Meeting was held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Susie Doucet will be leaving for a maternity leave in a few weeks, and her replacement has been hired and attended the last meeting.

PARC

- The committee has met and is working on identifying priorities for their requests to come before the municipalities. The group is looking to reach out to Paqtnkek.

AREMO

- Nothing to Report

Antigonish Community Transit

- Two of the buses for the fixed route have broken down, and a new vehicle is being obtained. The fixed route service has not been operable for the past few weeks because of this. Councillor Mattie explained how the different buses in the fleet are limited in what runs they can be used for because of the funding for the vehicles.

Deputy Warden Dunbar shared information about the upcoming NSFM Spring Conference scheduled to take place in Truro.

**Additions to the Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**Adjournment**

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:42pm.

**Motion Carried**



Warden Nicholas MacInnis



Shirlyn Donovan, CAO