

2022-01-18 Municipal Council Summary of Motions

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Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., via Zoom Teleconference, in accordance with the Direction of the Minister under a Declared State of Emergency (*see attached*).

Roll Call

District 1 – Bruce Prout, present

District 2 - Brian “Fuzzy” Connell

MOTION 220118.01 Excuse Absence – Councillor Connell

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc, to excuse Councillor Connell from meeting attendance requirements. Motion carried unanimously.

District 3 – Alan Parish, present

District 4 – Clyde Barteaux, present

District 5 – Lynn Longmire, present

District 6 – Alex Morrison, present

District 7 – David Hudson, present

District 8 – Michael Gunn, present

District 9 – Wendy Sheridan, present

District 10 – Brad Redden, present

District 11 – Diane LeBlanc, present

Also Present: CAO David Dick; Municipal Clerk Carolyn Young; other staff including W. Atwell, D. Campbell, and C. Mason.

Disclosure of Interest

None.

Agenda Approval

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc, to approve the agenda as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

MOTION 220118.02 Minutes 2021-12-14 Municipal Council

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Sheridan, that the minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on December 14, 2021, be approved as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Re: A1 Dog Bylaw Final Reading

MOTION 220118.03 A1 Dog Bylaw Amend Final Reading

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Prout, that municipal council give Final Reading to amend A1 Dog Bylaw by increasing minimum fines, in accordance with First Reading given at December 14, 2021 regular council session. Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Prout wished all a Happy New Year and sent a ‘thank you’ to NS Power crews and TIR snow plow operators who put in such great work over the past 10 days to restore power and keep the roads safe. Hopes all can maintain efforts with COVID as it is really testing Nova Scotia right now and do our best to limit its spread. Hopes it is the beginning of the end.

District 3 – Warden Parish echoed comments regarding the NS Power crew work. Seems to be weekly storms, first one was the most difficult here in Annapolis county. Large parts of the county, the most populated areas were out for up to 20+ hours. He received a number of complaints re clearing of sidewalks in Bridgetown and passed those along to staff. They acknowledge the big storms and large amounts of snow.

District 4 – Councillor Barteaux noted it’s been a busy new year cleaning up after storms. He hopes all have a safe winter season, and with daylight hours lengthening, dig out skis and snowshoes. Continue to be aware of COVID conditions. He also expressed appreciation to utility and clean-up crews.

District 5 – Councillor Longmire reported that the Holiday season has been packed up and in this new year, facing the on-going pandemic, her wish is for a wonderful 2022. Blessed in District 5 with families affected in devastating ways and community pulling together to help them. Thankful for plows, Nova Scotia Power, Bellaliant, and all who come out to restore utilities. During storms emergencies can arise, be prepared. Continue to check on the most vulnerable who may not have heat or water. Reach out to them.

District 6 – Councillor Morrison (*as submitted*)

Hope all had a merry Christmas season, celebrated the start of 2022 and are ready to contribute to the defeat of covid-19

I enjoy municipal politics immensely, I am proud to be a politician

I have functioned within international, federal, provincial and municipal political environments for the vast majority of my life

I take pleasure in being part of a county team of politicians, working with our competent and capable staff within an attitude of being caring and compassionate about and to the needs of our citizens

I have recently heard municipal politics described as being a ‘racket’, heard it twice, in fact, in the same day

My disagreement with that view is foundational to my whole being and I will continue to do all I can for the good of Annapolis county residents

District 7 – Councillor Hudson echoed comments on crews working to clean up after the recent storms. Plowing and sidewalk cleaning in Bridgetown – there is still a lot of work to be done.

District 8 – Deputy Warden Gunn (*as submitted*)

Good morning and happy new year. I received calls and letters on my usual 3 topics this month, and they would be opposition to the vaccine mandate, garbage not collected and roads not plowed. But this morning I received a letter outlining the detrimental effect of the Provincial government’s decision on the new regulations of the operation of daycares, and private owners are being asked to make hasty decisions without all the information. They have been told, in some cases, that the information will be provided after the deadline by which they need to make their decisions. I suspect this will be the first of many letters I or others will receive on this topic.

District 9 – Councillor Sheridan echoed remarks thanking staff and utilities. Would like to say there was an event coming up – but there isn’t, so please continue to support local fire departments, SMH Foundation, purchase local. Important to communities right now.

District 10 – Councillor Redden noted the Fire Fighters ongoing 50/50 draw and encouraged all to support local. Community Hall in Brickton is undergoing a revitalization. Enjoys noticing this. Strangers pitch in and the good deed goes noticed. Random acts of kindness are common. A maritime, Canadian thing. Fantastic to be part of this community.

District 11 – Councillor LeBlanc noted there was no snow in 2021 to talk about and now we have had two great storms so far this year. There have been a lot of problems with clearing snow but crews have done what they could – thank you to them, and utilities. Hopes there are not a few more storms coming in a row because there is no place to put more snow! Power outages have added to COVID and trying to get around and stay warm can cause problems. In this new year, let's hope COVID moves out – had enough of it. Causes grief and stress. On to a better 2022!

New Business

None.

Reports and Recommendations

Re: Committee of the Whole (2021-12-14)

- ***AM-2.2.1 Interim Staff Appointments Policy Repeal***

MOTION 220118.04 AM-2.2.1 Interim Staff Appointments Policy Repeal

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Longmire, that municipal council repeal AM-2.2.1 Interim Staff Appointments Policy, pursuant to seven-day notice given at December 14, 2021 Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

- ***AM-1.4.2.1 Fire Response Services Policy Amend***

MOTION 220118.05 AM-1.4.2.1 Fire Response Services Policy Amend

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc, that municipal council amend AM-1.4.2.1 Fire Response Services Policy to read Fire and Emergency Services Policy with amendments as reviewed in accordance with seven-day notice given at December 14, 2021 Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: Committee of the Whole (2022-01-11)

- ***East End Area MPS LUB Review***

MOTION 220118.06 East End Area MPS LUB Review

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Sheridan, that municipal council commence a review of the Annapolis County East End Area Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw and adopt a public participation program that would refer the review applications to the East End Area Advisory Committee and the Annapolis County Planning Advisory Committee for their review and recommendation along with applicable public meetings and advertisements, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

- ***Cornwallis Park MPS LUB Review***

MOTION 220118.07 Cornwallis Park MPS LUB Review

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that municipal council commence a review of the Cornwallis Park Municipal Planning strategy and Land Use Bylaw

and adopt a public participation program that would refer the review applications to the Cornwallis Park Area Advisory Committee and the Annapolis County Planning Advisory Committee for their review and recommendation along with applicable public meetings and advertisements, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

• ***TBR Renewal Annapolis County Water Line Addition Hillside \$102,556***

MOTION 220118.08 TBR Renewal Annapolis County Water Line Addition Hillside \$102,556

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Barteaux, that municipal council authorize the period of borrowing in the amount not exceeding One Hundred Two Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty-Six Dollars (\$102,556) be extended for a further period not exceeding Twelve (12) months from the date of the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs for the Temporary Borrowing Resolution Annapolis County Water Line Addition Hillside, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

• ***TBR Renewal Municipal Land and Buildings \$7,200,000***

MOTION 220118.09 TBR Renewal Municipal Land and Buildings \$7,200,000

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Barteaux, that municipal council authorize the period of borrowing in the amount not exceeding Seven Million, Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$7,200,000) be extended for a further period not exceeding Twelve (12) months from the date of the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs for the Temporary Borrowing Resolution Municipal Land and Buildings, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

• ***AM-1.4.14 Low Income Tax Exemption Policy Amend***

MOTION 220118.10 AM-1.4.14 Low Income Tax Exemption Policy Amend

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Morrison, that municipal council amend AM-1.4.14 Low Income Tax Exemption Policy by increasing the exemption amount to \$350 and increasing the allowable income amount to \$27,000, in accordance with seven-day notice given at Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

• ***Community Grants Program Current Applications***

MOTION 220118.11 Community Grants Program Current Applications

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Barteaux, that municipal council approve the allocation of grants from the 2021-22 Community Grants Program, in accordance with AM-1.4.9 Community Grants Policy for a total of \$9,200 as follows:

- \$1,200 Granville Centre Community Hall Association; and
- \$8,000 Lawrencetown Exhibition Youth Arena;

Subject to a review of the HST, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Re: 2021-12-15 Annapolis Community Health Board – inviting municipal council to join in calling for a universal healthy school food program. It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Longmire, to receive for information.

Councillor Morrison moved, seconded by Deputy Warden Gunn, to amend the motion by adding: ‘that having considered the letter under discussion, that municipal council ask staff how we might approach answering in the positive to join this endeavor.’ Motion carried unanimously.

The question was called on the motion as amended to read

MOTION 220118.12 2021-12-15 Annapolis Community Health Board Request Staff to Recommend a Positive Response

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Longmire, to receive for information, and having considered the letter under discussion, that municipal council ask staff how we might approach answering in the positive to join this endeavor. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: 2021-12-22 Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services – in response to the November 17, 2021 letter to Minister Lohr, noting this is one of government’s top priorities. Minister Colton LeBlanc outlined several of the strategies in place to help address the issue of housing and homelessness and improving the housing situation across the province.

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Longmire, to receive for information. After discussion, the Question was called on the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

In-Camera

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Sheridan, to meet in-camera from 11:02 a.m. until 11:52 a.m. in accordance with Sections 22(2)(e) contract negotiations and (f) litigation or potential litigation of the *Municipal Government Act*. Motion carried unanimously.

The Clerk noted the upcoming Special Committee of the Whole meetings on January 25th regarding Fire Services Funding, Accessibility, and Raven Haven, and January 26th regarding the Bridgetown Area Community Rate.

Adjournment

Upon motion of Deputy Warden Gunn and Councillor Sheridan, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Warden

Municipal Clerk

Direction of the Minister
under a Declared State of Emergency
(Section 14 of the *Emergency Management Act*)
20-008

Under my authority in Section 14 of the Emergency Management Act, I order that this Direction (20-008) repeal and replace the Direction regarding municipal meetings issued on March 22, 2020.

During the Provincial State of Emergency declared on March 22, 2020, and under the authority provided to me in Section 14 of the Emergency Management Act, in addition to any other directives I have issued and not repealed or otherwise terminated, I direct that all municipalities and villages in the Province:

1. **Effective at 8am on July 29, 2020**, may hold meetings exclusively in person if all the following conditions are met:

- i) the total number of persons present does not exceed a gathering limitation imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order;
- ii) all physical distancing requirements or other requirements imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order are met.

2. If the conditions set out in (1) cannot be met, the municipality or village must not hold meetings exclusively in person and must instead hold the meeting partly or wholly as a virtual meeting by video or telephone, and ensure that all of the following conditions are met:

- i) the total number of persons present for any in person portion of the meeting does not exceed a gathering limitation imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order; and
- ii) for any in person portion of the meeting, all physical distancing requirements or other requirements imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order are met.

For clarity, this direction does not apply to statutorily required meetings of electors for a village commission which are covered under Direction 20-007 issued on May 20, 2020.

Despite this direction, municipalities and villages are still authorized to continue making other operational decisions especially those required for service delivery.

Please note that these directions are in addition to any requirements established in a Medical Officer's order under the *Health Protection Act*.

A failure to comply with this direction could result in a summary conviction with fines between \$500 to \$10,000 for individuals and up to \$100,000 for a corporation per incident.

This direction will remain in place for the duration of the Provincial State of Emergency unless it is terminated in writing by me earlier.

Dated July 29, 2020.

Original signed by

Hon. Chuck Porter
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing