

Minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 11:04 a.m., (following Planning Advisory Committee) at Champlain Hall, 178 Haida Street, Cornwallis Park, NS, 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, present  
District 3 – Alan Parish, Warden, 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, Deputy Warden, present  
District 9 – Wendy Sheridan, present  
District 10 – Brad Redden, present  
District 11 – Diane Le Blanc, present

**Also Present:** CAO David Dick; Municipal Clerk Carolyn Young; other staff A. Dunphy, D Hopkins, C. Mason, and H. Orde.

### **Amendments to Agenda**

The Warden requested to remove from New business item 5Div Recommendation Report – Physician / Nurse Practitioner Relocation Grant and 5Dv Recommendation Report – Community Grants Program – Medway Community Forest Co-operative Ltd. Grant Application in order to get a legal opinion; Deputy Warden Gunn requested to add Former Upper Clements Theme Park under Late Additions; and Councillor Hudson requested to add Staff Vaccination Policy under Late Additions.

### **Approval of the Agenda (Order of the Day)**

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Longmire, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Minutes**

Re: 2021-07-13 Regular

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Hudson, to approve the minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole held on July 13, 2021, as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

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

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **New Business**

Re: Adhoc Bridgetown Community Rate Review Committee Composition and Duration (from February 16 Council) – the CAO reported that has been working with staff and the 2022/23 budget should show it reconciled since the Letter of Intent money ended in 2020. He intends to come up with a rate to be presented to the committee and to COTW in October. The report will show what is included, what shouldn't be included in area rates across the county.

**It was the consensus of those present that a committee is not required at this time.**

**LUNCH**

The Warden declared a lunch break from 12:00 p.m. – 12:44 p.m. with all returning as previously stated.

Re: CAO Review Committee

The Warden had circulated a possible framework for this committee, for discussion purposes. The intent is for this committee to act as a conduit between the CAO and Council. After discussion, it was decided that the committee will have three people with both male and female representation. The CAO will send the possible framework to staff to prepare a policy.

Re: Proposed Interim Inter-Municipal Service Agreement Pilot

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Hudson, to recommend that municipal council authorize the CAO to work with the other CAOs and the IMSA Working Group Solicitor in the preparation of a draft Pilot IMSA with Annapolis County's participation in both the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority and the Kings Transit Authority components, as described in the September 14, 2021 Committee of the Whole agenda subject to the draft Agreement being ratified by municipal council at a future date. After discussion, the Question was called on the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: RR Road Naming Process for Snow Lake Keep Homesteading Community Arlington West

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc, to recommend that municipal council initiate the road-naming review process to name the road providing access to the Snow Lake Keep Homesteading Community in Arlington West. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: RR AM-1.3.8 Letters of Support & Acknowledgement Policy Amend

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Longmire, to recommend that seven-day notice be given for municipal council to amend AM-1.3.8 Letters of Support & Acknowledgement Policy by updating Section 3.1 and removing Section 3.2. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: RR Annapolis County Ground Search and Rescue Request for Registration

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Sheridan, to recommend that municipal council accept the request from Annapolis County Ground Search and Rescue to be registered as an Emergency Services Provide for the County of Annapolis. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: RR Physician / Nurse Practitioner Recruitment Relocation Grant – this item was removed from the agenda.

Re: RR Community Grants Program Medway Community Forest Cooperative Ltd. Grant Application – this item was removed from the agenda.

Re: RR Capital Projects Basinview – These four projects had been introduced as part of the budget discussions. Staff has been informed that they are not eligible for Gas Tax.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Morrison, to recommend that municipal council approve funding the following capital projects for work at the Basinview Centre from the Operating Reserve, totaling \$147,002.57:

- Pool and Building Assessment
- Geotech Investigation of Soils
- East Wall Investigation, and

- Roof and Harness Guarding  
Motion carried unanimously.

Re: IR Identify Possible Bylaw Infractions on County-Owned Forest Lands

Councillor Redden moved, seconded by Deputy Warden Gunn, that Identify Possible Bylaw Infractions on County-Owned Forest Lands be referred to staff to bring a recommendation report with details on annually monitoring lands greater than 20 acres for bylaw infractions. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: Community Development Update Reports (July and August) – it was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc to receive for information. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: 2021-2022 Budget Variance Report – The CAO gave a brief overview to explain the document that was circulated. Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Prout, to receive for information. Motion carried unanimously.

**Recess**

A brief recess was held from 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**Committee, & Organizational Reports**

Re: Warden’s Report – The Warden gave a verbal report highlighting the following:

- Daily communications with CAO
- Regular communications with council
- Sign cheques weekly
- Communication with lawyers
- Met with CAO , Deputy Warden and John Welch in Bear River re Water to Commercial District
- Met with RCMP S/Sgt Buckle, CAO and Councillor Prout, re protective services provided to county
- With CAO in Halifax met with Seaside and Rogers
- With CAO in Halifax met with lawyers

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc, to receive for information. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: CAO’s Report – The CAO gave a verbal report highlighting the following:

- Met with Seaside/Rogers
- Met in Bear River re water service and also discussed water issues at Hillside Drive. Engineers will be here this week.
- Met with Lawyers
- Met with Councillor Morrison and Norma Vascotti in District 6
- Met with new Minister of Municipal Affairs, with Dep CAO Dawn Campbell. Invited him to address council. Talked about Gordonstoun, Letter of Intent money for Bridgetown, equalization, physician recruitment, former Bridgetown Regional Elementary School, changes to MGA, and regionalization.

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc, to receive for information. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: Heritage Advisory Committee – Recommendations (from 2021-07-30)

- ***West Paradise Community Hall***

In accordance with the recommendation of the Heritage Advisory Committee, it was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Hudson, to recommend that municipal Council consider for registration as a municipal heritage property the entire West Paradise Community Hall property (identified as the deed referenced as Book 85 at Page 39 – being approximately 18,190.61 sq. ft. in area) located in the community of West Paradise. Motion carried unanimously.

- ***Easson House:***

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Heritage Advisory Committee, Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Barteaux, to recommend that municipal council recognize the automatic designation of the Easson property and that the entire Easson House property (identified as Document No. 84823344 – being approximately 2.53 acres in area) located in the community of Lequille be registered as a municipal heritage property. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: Cornwallis Park and Area Asset Review Committee Report (from 2021-06-29) – submitted by Councillor Morrison.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Sheridan, to receive for information. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: Economic Development Committee Report (from 2021-7-23) – submitted by Councillor Redden.

Deputy Warden Gunn moved, seconded by Councillor Longmire, to receive for information. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Late Additions**

Re: Former Upper Clements Theme Park – Deputy Warden Gunn reported that this past weekend, he saw many cars at the former theme park, and heard the sound of mini-bikes. Remnants of park-related items were strewn along the trail. All gates were missing, lots of people were on site. Horrified at the condition of the site. Every building, doors were off, windows smashed, some the stuff was thrown about. Everything is destroyed. People are walking away with stuff. This property that was paid for by our governments and tax payers. What do we do?

Picnic park, county owns that. Middle parcel (35 acres) where the rides are located is owned by EA Farren. East of that, 35 acres is leased to Mr. Farren. The upcoming Court proceeding will clarify those land status. Currently, the county owns the chattels (rides) and Farren owns the land and fixtures to the land (buildings). Our lawyer has written for permission to enter the lands to remove the rides but we have not received an answer. Will send the Administrator of Dangerous or Unsightly Premises (DUP) to determine if indeed it is DUP. if she finds it so, she will issue a notice to the owner to clean it up.

Councillor Connell related a similar experience. He was in total awe that someone would go in and destroy so much stuff, and leave the mess that is there. It is unbelievable. The roller coaster is the least of the problems on the site. Glass, broken buildings. Haligoniac.ca has a video. CBC news should film the area to show the disrespect of citizens in and near to us. We need to show the citizens what has been done to this asset in our county. Devastating. An area we were hoping to do something with. A beautiful piece of land to develop. It is unbelievable.

Councillor Longmire has seen a lot of videos and photos. Has been going on for months. Why are RCMP not being contacted? Are there No Trespassing signs posted? Totally agrees it is an embarrassing disgrace.

So much destroyed. It will continue, how do we move on it? Things in storage, expensive equipment, are trashed. Court hearing is in the fall, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Warden Parish noted the RCMP have been notified. They can't send someone to be there all day. They do regular patrols.

Re: Staff Vaccination Policy – Councillor Hudson inquired if there is a policy that we should consider. We have employees who meet with people and would be good for us to be able to say our staff are vaccinated and don't present a risk to the public. Would suggest a recommendation report on that at next COTW.

The CAO noted staff are finalizing a draft policy for council's review. We have only 1 employee that is not vaccinated. Proof is kept on file. Next steps, are to be vaccinated or tested twice a week on your own time and money. This includes council members as well.

**In-Camera**

It was moved by Deputy Warden Gunn, seconded by Councillor Longmire, to meet in-camera from 4:01 p.m. until 4:53 p.m. in accordance with Section 22(2) (f) litigation or potential litigation of the *Municipal Government Act*. Motion carried unanimously.

**Amend the Order of the Day**

Councillor Longmire moved, seconded by Deputy Warden Gunn to amend the Order of the Day by adding Public Statement re Gordonstoun Project.

Re: Public Statement re Gordonstoun Project

The Warden read the following statement:

“The residents of Annapolis County have an understandable interest in the status of the Gordonstoun School Project. As the County publicly stated earlier this year, its legal advice is that the motions of the past council approving the conveyance of land and a lease to the developer of the project were invalid. A court application to clarify that issue is scheduled to be heard on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Any further statement by the County regarding the project will have to wait until that issue is resolved.”

**Adjournment**

Upon motion of Deputy Warden Gunn and Councillor Barteaux, the meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

**Warden**

**Municipal Clerk**

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**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

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