

**2023-10-17 Municipal Council
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Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Municipal Administration Building, 752 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal, NS.

Also Present: CAO Chris McNeill, Municipal Clerk Carolyn Young; other staff including A. Barr, L. Bent, S. Hudson, N. Kearnes, A. LeBlanc, P. MacLean, N. McCormick, D. Ryan, and S. Wallace.

Words of Remembrance

Warden Morrison shared some words of remembrance and opened the floor for others to share as moved, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call

District 1 – Bruce Prout, present
District 2 - Brian “Fuzzy” Connell, present
District 3 – Dustin Enslow, 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, absent

To excuse Councillor LeBlanc from meeting attendance requirements.

Moved: Councillor Sheridan

Seconded: Longmire

Motion carried.

Disclosure of Interest

Councillor Connell disclosed an interest in Item 5.7 SR2023-79 2023-24 Community Grants Applications Port George Regional Recreation Centre as he is the Chair of the committee.

Order of the Day

Adopted as circulated.

Minutes

Re: 2023-09-19 Regular Minutes - approved with no errors or omissions.

Committee of the Whole Recommendations 2023-10-10

Re: SR2023-75 Hospital Parking Fees Letter to NS Minister of Health

Motion 231017.01 SR2023-75 Hospital Parking Fees Letter to NS Minister of Health

That Municipal Council send a letter to the Nova Scotia Minister of Health and Wellness requesting that parking fees be removed from all public hospital facilities in Nova Scotia immediately, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Gunn

Motion carried.

SR2023-77 Policy 101 Community Grants New

Motion 231017.02 SR2023-77 Policy 101 Community Grants New

That Municipal Council approve *Policy 101 – Community Grants*, and repeal policies *1.4.9 Community Grants*, *1.4.3 Harbour Authorities & Societies Capital Assistance Program*, and *1.4.11 Community Contributions*, in accordance with seven-day notice given on October 10, 2023.

Moved: Deputy Warden Redden

Seconded: Councillor Hudson

Motion carried.

SR2023-78 Policy 103 Asset Retirement Obligations New

Motion 231017.03 SR2023-78 Policy 103 Asset Retirement Obligations New

That Municipal Council approve *Policy 103 – Asset Retirement Obligations*, pursuant to seven-day notice given on October 10, 2023.

Moved: Deputy Warden Redden

Seconded: Councillor Enslow

Motion carried.

SR2023-79 2023-24 Community Grants Applications - Springfield & Dist Volunteer Fire Dept

Motion 231017.04 SR2023-79 2023/24 Community Grants Applications – Springfield & District Volunteer FD

That Municipal Council approve a grant to the Springfield & District Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$2,400 to support upgrades to the kitchen and bathroom in accordance with *AM 1.4.9 Community Grants, Community Halls and Centres Assistance Program*, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Deputy Warden Redden

Seconded: Councillor Sheridan

Motion carried.

SR2023-79 2023-24 Community Grants Applications Cornwallis Park Community Association

Motion 231017.05 SR2023-79 2023/24 Community Grants Applications – Cornwallis Park Community Association

That Municipal Council approve a grant to the Cornwallis Park Community Association in the amount of \$2,400 to support upgrades to the community hall in accordance with *AM 1.4.9 Community Grants, Community Halls and Centres Assistance Program*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Gunn
Motion carried.

SR2023-79 2023-24 Community Grants Applications Royal Canadian Legion Branch 33, Bridgetown

Motion 231017.06 SR2023-79 2023/24 Community Grants Applications Royal Canadian Legion Branch 33, Bridgetown

That Municipal Council approve a grant to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 33, Bridgetown, in the amount of \$5,000 to support heating upgrades in accordance with *AM 1.4.9 Community Grants, Capital Projects Assistance Program, Small Project Matching Grants*, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Enslow
Seconded: Councillor Hudson
Motion carried.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Connell declared an interest in the following item as he is the Chair of the committee. He left his chair at 10:27 a.m. and did not participate in any discussion or subsequent motion.

SR2023-79 2023-24 Community Grants Applications Port George Regional Recreation Centre

Motion 231017.07 SR2023-79 2023/24 Community Grants Applications Port George Regional Recreation Centre

That Municipal Council approve a grant to the Port George Regional Recreation Centre in the amount of \$5,000 to support the cost of replacing their furnace and hot water tank in accordance with *AM 1.4.9 Community Grants, Capital Projects Assistance Program, Small Project Matching Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Prout
Seconded: Councillor Sheridan
Motion carried.

Councillor Connell returned to his chair at 10:29 a.m.

2023-09-25 Annapolis REMO Intermunicipal Emergency Services Agreement

Motion 231017.08 Annapolis REMO Intermunicipal Emergency Services Agreement

That Municipal Council approve the “Annapolis REMO – Intermunicipal Emergency Services Agreement” between the Town of Annapolis Royal, Town of Middleton, and the Municipality of the County of Annapolis, as recommended to all Annapolis County REMO councils by the Annapolis REMO Advisory Committee, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire
Seconded: Councillor Hudson
Motion carried.

MCOA Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended March 31, 2022

Motion 231017.09 MCOA Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended March 31, 2022

That Municipal Council adopt the consolidated financial statements for Municipality of the County of Annapolis for the year ended March 31, 2022, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Sheridan

Seconded: Councillor Enslow

Motion carried.

New Business

Re: Wardens Update - October

Re: SR2023-66 S1 Solid Waste-Resource Bylaw New – Final Reading

Motion 231017.10 SR2023-66 S1 Solid Waste-Resource Bylaw New – Final Reading

That municipal council give final reading to enact S1 Solid Waste-Resource Bylaw.

Moved: Deputy Warden Redden

Seconded: Councillor Longmire

Motion carried.

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Prout (as submitted)

It has been a very busy time from mid-September to mid-October with a number of Committee and Board Meetings. In addition, there have been a number of Community Meetings to discuss the Draft County-Wide Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use Bylaw (LUB).

The County held a very successful Volunteer Expo along with a Volunteer Recognition Ceremony in Bridgetown on September 23rd.

I would like to extend my Best Wishes for a Happy Retirement to long-term Staff members Wanda Atwell and Russell Mackintosh.

Recently, one of our local businesses, Spurr Brothers was the recipient of two Valleys Best Awards from the Annapolis Valley Chamber of Commerce. They were named Best Agricultural Business and Best Beverage Business.

Finally, everyone be safe as you celebrate Halloween with the “trick or treaters” on Tuesday, October 31st and remember to set your clocks back to Standard Time on the evening of Saturday, November 4th.

On behalf of District 11 Councillor LeBlanc, Councillor Prout noted the Three Rivers Community Centre is having their annual Take Away Turkey Supper on October 26th from 430-6 pm, and on October 28th from 6-8 they are hosting a kids Halloween Party. Please check their Facebook page for more details.

District 2 – Councillor Connell added congratulations to Spurr Brothers, an ambitious family who opened their new facility a year ago. They continuously work with the community holding events for young and old with new weekend entertainment. The Port George Comfort Centre generator has arrived, hope to have up and running by end of November. The REMO Coordinator met with the comfort centre group and they appreciated his help and willingness to answer questions. Tonight is the county-wide plan meeting in Margaretsville, 6-9.

District 3 – Councillor Enslow reminded that not only is Remembrance Day on November 11, but Veterans Week is November 5-11. A good time to reflect and to ask anyone in your family or anyone you know about their experiences – have a conversation with them and hear their stories. A busy month: attended NS Volunteer Award ceremony in Halifax to witness John Smith receive the provincial award; attended the volunteer exhibition and awards ceremony – nice to see the amount of volunteerism in our county; attended the Bridgetown and Area Sports Hall of Fame and was surprised with the amount of talent in our area – world records holders, Team Canada members, phenomenal. Glad to live here to give his children this opportunity. Thanked the citizens of district 3 for their extreme honesty – it is respected and appreciated. If there is an issue, bring it up! Pleasure to attend the Lions monthly breakfast, and was able to serve – meeting lots of people. Have a safe and happy Halloween – he'll be out with his kids and hopes it doesn't rain!

District 4 – Councillor Barteaux – changing seasons – watch out for kids at Halloween – costumes don't always have reflectors on them so keep an eye open. County planning meetings in progress – still three left - one tonight and two tomorrow. Community halls are active – nice to see that – support them because they support the community with pot lucks, music activities – keep an eye on their signs. Local farms – get your squash, apples, pears – pick out your pumpkin and carve something nice!

District 5 – Councillor Longmire (*as submitted*)

Throughout my district this Fall there have been many events hosted in the community halls. From bake sales to raffles on beautifully handcrafted quilts to musical events and yard sales. It is so exciting to see these halls thriving. It doesn't come easy. It takes an enormous amount of fundraising and generous volunteer time to make these halls a success. I encourage each one that when you see signs at local halls advertising an event, see posters hanging in a store about a sale or see social media ads about a pancake breakfast, maybe a dinner, or tickets sales for fundraising efforts in support of a hall that you consider taking the time to stop by. Our halls are the very heart of our communities. I am so grateful to see the halls in my district filled with generous people who are endless with their commitment. Thanksgiving 2023 was a beautiful weekend. My family and I celebrated in a very different way this year. My daughter raced in the 2023 Chicago Marathon on Oct 8th. It was an amazing time. I want to thank my district for understanding my absence at Committee of the Whole on Oct 10th. I do hope families were able to come together in a time of sharing and were able to enjoy a festive meal. We do have so much to be grateful for.

There have been many MPS and LUB County-Wide Plan Review presentations happening throughout our County. I was able to attend several presentations beginning with the Habitation Area PAC. I wasn't able to attend the presentation yesterday afternoon at the Fundy Thread and Thimble Club in Parker's Cove due to work. However, so grateful to hear that Warden Alex Morrison and Deputy Warden Brad Redden along with Councillor Barteaux and Councillor Gunn were able to be present. Thank you to each one of you. Last evening I was able to attend the presentation that was held at the Lawrencetown Fire Hall. There was a very good turnout and lots of great questions.

Now here we are with Halloween right around the corner. It is a very exciting time for our youth. Let's make it a safe one. Watch out for our youth walking about house to house as they go trick or treating.

District 6 – Warden Morrison

With the lovely turn of summer into autumn and the ever-increasing spread of red in the leaves, it is time to pause to reflect on a great summer. Many regretted all the rain, but as a great friend and colleague of mine, the late Sandi Innis, used to say, "but Alex, think of the wells!". And we do.

Frank and Dora's splendid food establishment – eat in, eat in your car, take home, in Deep Brook has closed for the autumn and winter months but will be with us again in the spring. There is now a growing relationship between Karen and Brad Hewey, the co-owners and operators of Frank and Dora's and our new Tidal View Park in Cornwallis Park. Just the type of friendship and mutual respect and friendship we wish to foster.

Annual General Meetings are the order of the day: with the Clementsport branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, Cornwallis Park Condominium Association, and the Cornwallis Park Community Association completing or soon to complete these important gatherings.

Speaking of the Clementsport Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, I absolutely must mention its recent thanksgiving dinner. Absolutely the best dinner Elizabeth and I have ever eaten there. The bi-weekly Friday evening suppers are attended by folks from Bridgetown, Digby County, as well as local community members. As with other successful community gathering places, the Legion is blessed with volunteers who offer their existing talents, who learn on the job, and who are eager to serve the broader community.

The Wednesday afternoon farmers' market at the Deep Brook Lions club hall continues – to the appreciation of an ever-increasing number of patrons.

District 7 – Councillor Hudson hopes all had a good Thanksgiving. A lot to be thankful for. Many people in Annapolis County and the province, that are not as fortunate as we are relying on foodbanks and community kitchens. Many are homeless or living in substandard conditions. During the last month attended, Audit Committee, County Wide MPS and LUB meetings, Habitation PAC meeting. One event to mention – St James Anglican church – lunchtime chowders – take out and delivery. Cost \$12 on the 20th and 27th of October. About the Bridgetown Legion – very important, a lot of legions are suffering financially and have had to close. Encourages people to step up and become a member – you don't have to be military or retired military to become a member. Have a safe Halloween.

District 8 – Councillor Gunn (*as submitted*)

Happy Mi'kmaw Heritage Month to all.

I couldn't find anywhere in our municipality recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, so I attended events in Queens County. It was a powerful time for all to listen, learn and reflect.

Congratulations to the Clementsvalle District Recreation Commission on the creation of the playground equipment for the Forester's Hall. It's being installed right now, and there is a lot of excitement in the community in anticipation. Also upcoming is the Monster Ball on Saturday October 28th, which promises a lot of Halloween fun for all.

The Milford House hosted a very successful Harvestfest on the weekend and raised over \$1000 towards the Milford Hall. A big congratulations to all the volunteers, contributors and workers before and at the event.

We've had excellent news that the objective of the Forestry Committee – having the aim to lead by example with ecological forest management - is finally coming to be. I'd like to thank Patricia Amero of the Western Woodlot Services Cooperative for paving the way for us to reach our goal. We look forward to the upcoming site visits and the start of the ecological harvesting process.

In Bear River, there will be a very important meeting tomorrow at the Oakdene Centre from 1-4 pm, hosted by the County. This will be the second public meeting for residents to give feedback about the planning and land use strategy across the County. Please come out Wednesday afternoon and listen to the presentation. Your responses and critique will help fine-tune the document to best reflect the needs of citizens.

Also in Bear River, there was a well-attended meeting assessing interest in Bear River being included in the Kings Transit run between Cornwallis Park and Digby. There seems to be great interest from the residents, and hopefully their needs can be met by the Transportation service.

Communications this month have included updates about the Oakdene Centre upgrades, interest in the Bear River Water progress, concern about how worried parents are negatively and inaccurately represented by communications posted on behalf of Council, and speeding signage required to slow traffic that has resulted in a traffic collision in Bear River.

I hope everyone had a productive garden season, and happy fall to all.

District 9 – Councillor Sheridan noted the Christmas Market on November 4th, 10-2 at the church hall. Also at the church hall every Wednesday at 9 – a social with cards and games and snacks. Regular bingo – next one is October 30. Support 50/50 for the firefighters.

District 10 – Deputy Warden Redden - Eat What You Can dinners are returning to the Farm Café at Nova Scotia Community College Middleton Campus, dates are being finalized. The Annapolis Valley Exhibition Fundraiser and Auction is Friday, October 27th there are a very few tickets still available. I wanted to echo the Warden's comments around Atlantic Mayor's and Warden's Congress. There is excellent discussion around large issues like health care and housing but also Municipal - Provincial, as well as Municipal – Federal relations.

Warden Morrison read a note of thanks for the grant received from the from Farm Café.

Adjournment

The Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.