

2025-04-15 Municipal Council

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Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the Municipal Administration Building, 752 St. George St. Annapolis Royal, NS.

Roll Call

District 1 – Karie-Ann Parsons-Saltzman, excused
District 2 – Jesse Hare, present
District 3 – Dustin Enslow, Deputy Warden, present
District 4 – Charles “Chuck” Cranton, present
District 5 – Lynn Longmire, present
District 6 – Jon Welch, present
District 7 – Ted Agombar, present
District 8 – Nile Harding, present
District 9 – Gail “Gidget” Oxner, present
District 10 – Brian “Fuzzy” Connell, present
District 11 – Diane Le Blanc, Warden, present

Also Present: CAO Chris McNeill; Administrative Clerk – Municipal Clerk Office Kelly Kempton; Director of Finance Angela Bohaker; Director of Planning and Inspection Services Linda Bent; Strategic Initiatives Coordinator Alyssa Blais; Director of Corporate Services / Deputy CAO Dawn Campbell; Accounts Receivable Manager Shelly Hudson; Communications Coordinator Nadine McCormick; Manager of Information and Technology Ben Olsen; Director of Community Development Debra Ryan; and Director of Municipal Operations Jim Young.

Disclosure of Interest

Councillor Harding disclosed a conflict of interest in item 6.6 Community Grants – Port Royal Legion Branch 21 as he sits on the executive as vice Ppresident.

Order of the Day

To add under In-Camera item 10.2 and item 10.3 in accordance with Section 22(2)(e) contract negotiations of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Minutes

Re: 2025-03-18 Regular Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-03-18 Public Hearing Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-03-18 Public Hearing #2 Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

COMMITTEE of the WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

Re: SR2025-43 Repeal of *Mobile Home Park Bylaw (P1)*

Motion 250415.01 Repeal of *Mobile Home Park Bylaw (P1)*

To give first reading to *Bylaw 4 Repeal of Mobile Home Park Bylaw (P1)*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-44 Approve *Policy 102 Personnel*

Motion 250415.02 Approve *Policy 102 Personnel*

To approve *Policy 102 Personnel*, seven-day notice given on April 08, 2025.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Longmire

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-45 Approve *Policy 109 Tax Exemption and Reduction*

Motion 250415.03 Approve *Policy 109 Tax Exemption and Reduction*

To approve *Policy 109 Tax Exemption and Reduction*, seven-day notice given on April 08, 2025.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-48 Road Naming Process for Shared Access Road

Motion 250415.04 Road Naming Process for Shared Access Road

To approve the road name "Voyager Lane" for the shared access road in Granville Ferry, on PID 05131842, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Bridgetown & Area Historical Society – James House Museum

Motion 250415.05 Community Grants - Bridgetown & Area Historical Society – James House Museum

To approve a grant to Bridgetown & Area Historical Society – James House Museum in the amount of \$20,000 to do an electrical upgrade for the James House Museum to be used safely in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Agombar

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Port Royal Legion Branch 21

Having previously disclosed an interest in this item, Councillor Harding left the table at 10:09 a.m. and did not participate in any discussion or subsequent decision.

Motion 250415.06 Community Grants – Port Royal Legion Branch 21

To approve a grant to Port Royal Legion Branch 21 in the amount of \$5,000 to help support the purchase and installation of heat pumps in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Annapolis Valley Exhibition Society

Motion 250415.07 Community Grants - Annapolis Valley Exhibition Society

To approve a grant to the Annapolis Valley Exhibition Society in the amount of \$20,000 to help support electrical upgrades and repairs in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Connell

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Paradise Historical Society

Motion 250415.08 Community Grants – Paradise Historical Society

To approve a grant to Paradise Historical Society in the amount of \$9,800 to help create an accessible washroom in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Agombar

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Maitland Bridge Community Hall

Motion 250415.09 Community Grants - Maitland Bridge Community Hall

To approve a grant to Maitland Bridge Community Hall in the amount of \$18,644.68 to help install a new electrical panel and heat pumps in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – South Shore Annapolis Valley Recreational Trail Association

Motion 250415.10 Community Grants - South Shore Annapolis Valley Recreational Trail Association

To approve a grant to South Shore Annapolis Valley Recreational Trail Association in the amount of \$10,000 to help support trail and upgrades to improve trail users' safety in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Hare
Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow
Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – West Dalhousie Community Hall Association

Motion 250415.11 Community Grants – West Dalhousie Community Hall Association

To approve a grant to West Dalhousie Community Hall Association in the amount of \$15,257.62 to improve the heating system, emergency exit and roof in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Agombar
Seconded: Councillor Wech
Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Bear River Board of Trade

Motion 250415.12 Community Grants – Bear River Board of Trade

To approve a grant to Bear River Board of Trade in the amount of \$10,000 to improve the Bear River Waterfront Park in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch
Seconded: Councillor Harding
Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Valley Regional Hospital Foundation

Motion 250415.13 Community Grants - Valley Regional Hospital Foundation

To approve a grant to Valley Regional Hospital Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 to help reduce financial barriers and burdens for financially compromised patients receiving treatment in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Oxner
Seconded: Councillor Harding
Motion carried

Re: SR2025-49 Community Grants – Cats for Keeps Rescue Society

Motion 250415.14 Community Grants – Cats for Keeps Rescue Society

To approve a grant to Cats for Keeps Rescue Society in the amount of \$5,000 to help with veterinary care and medication in accordance with *Policy 101 Community Grants*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire
Seconded: Councillor Agombar
Motion carried

New Business

Re: SR2025-47 Approve Bylaw 6 Commercial Activity on Municipal Property (final reading)

Motion 250415.15 Approve Bylaw 6 Commercial Activity on Municipal Property (final reading)

To recommend that Municipal Council give final reading to approve *Bylaw 6 Commercial Activity on Municipal Property*. (First Reading – March 18, 2025).

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Hare

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-51 Granville Street Roadway Upgrades

Motion 250415.16 Granville Street Roadway Upgrades

That Municipal Council authorize staff to proceed with the detailed design for Granville Street in accordance with scope outlined in Option 2.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

That Municipal Council authorize staff to proceed with the detailed design for Granville Street in accordance with scope outlined in Option 1(A)

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Recess

A recess was called at 11:04 a.m. to hold the previously scheduled public hearing.

The meeting resumed at 11:47 a.m. with all councillors present as prior to the public hearing.

Re: SR2025-51 Granville Street Roadway Upgrades (cont.)

Question was called on the amendment

Motion defeated, 5 in favor and 5 opposed

Question was called on the original motion

Motion carried, 4 opposed

Order of the Day

To amend the order of the day by adding Development Agreement Application for PID 05187471, Ben Phinney Road, Margaretsville as 7.4 under New Business.

Moved: Deputy Warden

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Recess

A recess was called at 11:48 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:58 a.m. with all councillors present as prior to the public hearing.

Re: SR2025-52 Request for Leave of Absence

Motion 250415.17 Request for Leave of Absence

That Council authorize a paid leave of absence for up to three months for Councillor Karie-Ann Parsons-Saltzman for personal reasons.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Longmire

Motion carried

Re: Development Agreement Application – Ben Phinney Road, Margaretsville

Motion 250415.18 Development Agreement Application – Ben Phinney Road, Margaretsville

That pursuant to the first reading given on March 18, 2025, in accordance with the recommendation for approval from the Planning Advisory Committee and after holding a Public Hearing thereon, Municipal Council give second and final reading to consider the Development Agreement application submitted by Mr. Jason Milner to erect a single-family dwelling on PID 05187471, Ben Phinney Road, Margaretsville, in the Groundwater Supply (GW3) Zone of the Annapolis County Land Use Bylaw.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Hare

Motion carried

Council Motion Tracking List (January, February, March)

Reviewed for information

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Parsons-Saltzman sent her regrets.

District 2 – Councillor Hare stated that the planning in the East End is going well. He noted that as Spring arrives lots of events and recreation will be taking place. Councillor Hare attended the breakfast at the Port George Hall. He noted that residents can expect to see him enjoying the trails throughout the County.

District 3 – Deputy Warden Enslow commented on the number of false spring weather we have been experiencing and on the unpredictability of planting. Deputy Warden Enslow mentioned the following upcoming events:

- Bridgetown Area Chamber of Commerce AGM to be held on April 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. This event will be held at Junction 16.
- Housing Meeting to be held at the Bridgetown Legion on April 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
- SOOF AGM will be held April 24, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Centrelea Community Hall.
- Clarence Pork Supper is starting again. This event will be held at the Clarence Church.

Deputy Warden Enslow encouraged everyone to check The Reader for other upcoming events. He gave a shout out to the Port Lorne Firehall. He noted that they have been working hard to raise funds for their new fire truck. He also mentioned that the Port Lorne Community Hall would be holding a yard sale on April 27, 2025.

District 4 – Councillor Cranton extended greetings from District 4. He noted that he has been busy with phone calls, emails and community meetings on a variety of topics. Councillor Cranton mentioned he is looking forward to the upcoming public meetings on the boundary review. He thanked staff for arranging these 22 meetings in a short time frame. Councillor Cranton participated in the volunteer spring clean-up day at Bishop Park. He hosted his first “Coffee with your Councillor” event. He noted that 13 residents showed up and all were very positive. He mentioned that they were especially pleased with the Community Events Guide and the updated County website. Councillor Cranton wished everyone a happy and safe long weekend.

District 5 – Councillor Longmire extended greetings from District 5. She gave a shout out to the endless volunteers who make the community halls and recreation centers in district 5 a success. She noted that herself and Brian Orde have met with the Parker’s Cove Baptist Church Recreation Center to discuss the possibility of considering becoming a comfort station. She mentioned that the Young’s Cove Hall and Recreation Center has purchased an AED unit. Councillor Longmire noted the following upcoming events in District 5:

Young’s Cove Hall

- Jam Session April 18, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
- Exercise classes each Monday morning at 9:30 a.m.
- Coffee mornings each Monday at 10:30 a.m.
- Ukrainian Easter egg painting April 19, 2025.
- Community Safety meeting with Sharon Elliot April 24, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.
- First aid course May 3, 2025.
- Young’s Cove Hall has partnered with Food for Share to deliver home cooked meals once a week to community members from Delaps Cove to Port Lorne at no charge.

Parker’s Cove Belle’s Blessing Pantry

- Fundraiser to stock the pantry will be held May 17, 2025, from 9:00 – 2:00

Lower Granville Hall

- Clothing Exchange April 26, 2025, from 10:00 – 2:00
- Steve Skaft talks on Abandoned Roads of Nova Scotia May 1, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
- Seed saving talk with Dr. Niki Clark May 3, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.
- Mad Hatter Tea May 11, 2025, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Parker’s Cover Fundy Thread and Thimble Club

- Meet and greet with Ronnie LeBlanc April 26, 2025, at 11:30 a.m.

Councillor Longmire mentioned Bayside Farm on McKenzie Mountain Road as a great place to stop for your in-season fruit and vegetables. She thanked staff for their support and guidance. She wished everyone a Happy Easter.

District 6 – Councillor Welch stated the importance of supporting initiatives that foster sustainability, enhance local economies and strengthen the bonds within our neighborhoods. He explained the critical role community pantries, farmer’s markets and community gardens each place in this vision. Councillor Welch encouraged everyone to get involved with donating to a pantry, shopping at a local market or digging into the soil at a community garden.

District 7 – Councillor Agombar extended greeting from District 7. He mentioned that he hoped Spring would soon arrive. Councillor Agombar noted that the Annapolis County Sports Hub is a buzz with active getting ready a very busy spring. He noted that they would be hosting district, regional and provincial track and field meets. ACOSS has partnered with the Bridgetown Area Chamber of Commerce to ensure that local businesses and accommodations are prepared for the thousands of athletes, guests and media that will be attending. He mentioned that they are seeking volunteers for clean up day on May 3, 2025. Councillor Agombar stated that the Hub would also host the U12 Flag Football League and will be the home venue for the Yarmouth Consolidated High School Boys & Girls Rugby teams. Councillor Agombar noted that the Bridgetown Lawn Bowling Club is holding an online auction until May 2, 2025. The Bridgetown Legion will be holding an online auction beginning May 3, 2025. Councillor Agombar attended the Centrelea Community Hall AGM. He noted that the Paradise Community Mailboxes are scheduled to be installed this week.

District 8 – Councillor Harding wished everyone an enjoyable long weekend. He mentioned the upcoming Easter events in Annapolis County and thanked the many volunteers. Councillor Harding attended a meeting with the Bear River Economic Development Society and the AGM at Foresters Hall in Clementsvale. Councillor Harding rescheduled his Coffee with your Councillor session in Maitland Bridge to May 10, 2025. This event is to be held at the Maitland Bridge Hall from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. He encouraged everyone from the area to attend. Councillor Harding noted that the Spring Festival would be held May 10, 2025, at the Forester’s Hall in Clementsvale. He also mentioned that on April 26, 2025, Maple Fest would take place at the Milford Community Hall. Councillor Harding has been invited to attend the Bear River Fire Hall’s Award Banquet on April 26, 2025.

District 9 – Councillor Oxner extended greetings from District 9. She noted that she sat on the Volunteer Selection Committee and was amazed at all the wonderful volunteers in the County. Councillor Oxner attended the Annapolis County Housing Association meeting in Nictaux on April 10, 2025. She expressed the importance of getting involved in this not-for-profit association. Council Oxner noted she is available at the satellite office in Middleton the last Thursday of each month. She encouraged everyone to enjoy the long weekend.

District 10 – Councillor Connell extended greetings from District 10. He attended the Lawrencetown meeting on April 14, 2025. He noted the community engagement meeting regarding housing will be held on April 22 at the Lawrencetown Fire Hall at 7:00 p.m. Councillor Connell helped with registering the deed for the old school property in Springfield. He is working on a streetlight issue in Springfield. Councillor Connell mentioned that as a councillor you get asked questions concerning all levels of government. Currently the condition of dirt roads in district 10 is a big concern.

District 11 – Warden LeBlanc spoke of the breakfast on April 12, 2025, with the Easter Bunny. This event was enjoyed by both kids and adults. She noted that the Three Rivers Community Centre is hosting a paint night on May 6, 2025. Warden LeBlanc encouraged everyone to check out the activities on the Three Rivers Community Hall Facebook page. Warden LeBlanc participated in the Volunteer Selection committee and attended the Housing meeting in Nictaux. Warden LeBlanc will be attending the Bear River Fire Department Banquet on April 26, 2025. She wished everyone a Happy Easter weekend.

Recess

Warden LeBlanc called a recessed at 1:00 pm for a lunch break. Meeting resumed at 1:39 p.m. with all Councillors present except Councillor Cranton as prior to the recess.

Presentations

Re: Annapolis County Housing Association

Heather McCormick gave an overview of the Annapolis County Housing Association. This non-profit organization has been working with government, developers, and other housing groups since 2023 to explore how to increase affordable, accessible, and sustainable housing in Annapolis County.

Re: Annapolis River Festival

Katie McLean gave an overview of the Annapolis River Festival. The festival will be held at Jubilee Park in Bridgetown on July 12, 2025.

In-Camera (2:12 p.m.)

To meet in-camera in accordance with Section 22(2)(f) of the *Municipal Government Act* litigation or potential litigation and Section 22(2)(e) of the *Municipal Government Act* contract negotiations.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

The meeting resumed at 4: 45 p.m. will all councillors present.

Adjournment

The Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Warden

Recording Secretary, Administrative Clerk
Municipal Clerk Office