

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 6:30 pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron
Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart
Councillor Mary MacLellan
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Councillor Remi Deveau
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Councillor Harris McNamara

Regrets: Councillor Shawn Brophy

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator
Tammy Feltmate, Director of Sustainable Communities

Others Present: Blake Priddle, 101.5 The Hawk

Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden McCarron, at 6:31pm.

Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. One item was added:

- Municipal Boards and Committees Mid-Term Appointment Review

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of October 11, 2022 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes.

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 11, 2022 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Delegations

There were no delegations.

Continuing Business

There was no continuing business.

New Business

Winter Parking Regulations

Mrs. Schumacher introduced the winter parking ban regulations, which are passed each year to facilitate snow clearing on municipal roadways during the winter months and during storm events.

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approves the signing of the Order for Winter Parking Regulations for 2022-23, setting out the period from December 1, 2022 to April 15, 2023 as the time in which Winter Parking Regulations will be in effect on roads/streets under the jurisdiction of the County of Antigonish.

Motion Carried

Notice of Proposed MGA Amendment - Bill 204 Enabling Marketing Levies

Mrs. Donovan introduced the proposed MGA Amendment - Bill 204, which would enable municipalities to set marketing levies. The proposed legislation has received first reading and is expected to be passed during the fall sitting of Legislature. Municipalities would be able to set the rate of their levy up to a maximum of 3%, and the funds would be utilized by municipalities for events and tourism programming. Discussion followed. Staff was asked to look at what rates are being charged by other municipal units that already use marketing levies.

Notice of Proposed Housing Services and Supply Act - Bill 222

Mr. Horne provided an overview of the changes being proposed in Bill 222 - Proposed Housing Services and Supply Act, including the restructuring of the housing boards, for the Committee's information.

Keppoch Community Partnership Grant - Request to Re-Allocate Funds

Mr. Horne reviewed the request received from the Keppoch to reallocate the community partnership funding to assist with the cleanups from the November 2021 flood and Hurricane Fiona. They have applied for disaster funding from the Province but have not yet received those funds. They are hoping to use the community partnership grant funds granted to assist with the cleanup.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the request from the Positive Action for Keppoch to reallocate their 2022/2023 Community Partnership Grant to assist with hurricane cleanup.

Motion Carried

Community Events

- Mrs. Donovan provided some information about the upcoming Jazz Festival taking place November 17-19th.
- Councillor MacDonald shared that Antigonish Affordable Housing will be holding a fundraiser on November 19th at CACL.
- Councillor McNamara shared that a Remembrance Day ceremony was held in Havre Boucher. He also shared that the Havre Boucher Christmas Tour Event will be held on December 9 & 10th. Twenty floats are already registered for the parade that will be part of those celebrations.

- Councillor Deveau shared that on Friday November 11th there will be a Remembrance Day ceremony in Pomquet. In early December there will be seniors' Christmas dinner delivery.
- Councillor Mattie will be attending the Remembrance Day ceremony at the East Antigonish Education Centre, Councillor MacDonald will be attending the ceremony at Antigonish Education Centre, and Councillor Deveau will be at the ceremony at Ecole acadienne de Pomquet.
- Mr. Horne shared that seats are available to attend the Business Ability Banquet on Thursday the 10th.

Staff Reports

Mr. Horne shared that Sarah O'Toole has taken a new role as Physician Recruiter for the Province and will be transitioning out of her role as Physician Retention Coordinator. Members of Council commented on the positive feedback received during the Physician Retention event held earlier in the month and asked that staff send a letter of thanks to Ms. O'Toole.

Additions to the Agenda

Municipal Boards and Committees Mid-Term Appointment Review

Mr. Horne noted that it is mid-way through the current Council term, and that Council would be given the opportunity to revisit the appointments to boards and committees to determine whether any changes are appropriate. Staff will send out a list of the current board and committee appointments for consideration in advance of the item being scheduled for an upcoming meeting.

In Camera Items

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss legal advice eligible for solicitor-client privilege at 7:04pm.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

That the in-camera session adjourns at 7:11pm.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:11pm.

Motion Carried

Warden Owen McCarron

Glenn Horne, CAO

DRAFT