

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Municipal Council Meeting- Minutes

Thursday, October 20, 2022

7:30 pm

Council Chambers

Municipal Administration Building

285 Beech Hill Road

Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Councillors Present:

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

Councillor Shawn Brophy

Staff Present:

Glenn Horne, CAO

Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives
Coordinator

Tammy Feltmate, Director of Sustainable
Communities

Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Marlene Melanson, Director of Recreation

Also Present:

Ken Kingston, XFM

Drake Lowthers, The Reporter

Blake Priddle, 101.5 the Hawk

Aaron Beswick, Saltwire

Gallery (in person and by Zoom)

Call to Order- Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron

Warden McCarron called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for the approval of the agenda. Councillor McNamara requested an addition to the agenda.

Min # 2022-120

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended by adding a discussion about a legal opinion.

Motion Defeated

Min # 2022-121
Moved and Seconded

That Council approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried

Decision on Consolidation with the Town of Antigonish

Councillor Brophy and Councillor McNamara declared a conflict at 7:38pm and removed themselves from the Council table and joined the gallery.

Mr. Horne read out the motion that was put forward for consideration by Municipal Council.

Min # 2022-122
Moved and Seconded

Municipal Council requests the provincial government consolidate the Municipality of the County of Antigonish and the Town of Antigonish into one municipal unit through special legislation.

Councillor Mattie requested to add an amendment to the motion to add "In accordance with September 12, 2022 Joint Council Town and County press release that the Town will dissolve and the County acquires the Town."

Min # 2022-123
Moved and Seconded

That Council make an amendment to the motion to add "In accordance with September 12, 2022 Joint Council Town and County press release that the Town will dissolve and the County acquires the Town."

Motion to Amend Min#2022-122 Defeated

Warden McCarron called for discussion on the original motion.

Councillor Dunbar stated he would be voting against this motion tonight, noting that when the exploration process started, he did not have an opinion. After discussions with the constituents in his district, he feels confident that the majority of the residents in his district are against consolidation and would like a plebiscite to be held.

Councillor MacLellan stated she would be voting no on the motion. She promised the people in her district that she would take a tally of what people in her district wanted and

she has heard from many who were not against consolidation but were against the process. For that reason, she will be voting against the motion, but will support whatever Council votes for and will do her best to support those her in district and all of the other districts moving forward.

Councillor Mattie stated that he would be voting no on the motion. He had concerns with how information was shared by the consultants and with Council. He feels that District 8 is strongly against the motion and wants to represent the residents in his district.

Councillor MacFarlane made the comment that he truly believes that the community will be stronger together and noted that he is ready to vote on the motion.

Motion Carried
5 in favour, 3 against

Adjournment

Min # 2022-124

Moved

That the Council meeting adjourns at 7:49pm.

Motion Carried



Warden Owen McCarron



Glenn Horne, CAO