

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a Meeting of
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Held in Council Chamber, 210 Aberdeen Road, Bridgewater, NS
Tuesday, September 3, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Councillor Claudette Garland, District 6, Chair
Councillor Eric Hustvedt, District 1, Vice Chair
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson
Deputy Mayor Cathy Moore, District 5
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2
Councillor Lee Nauss, District 3
Councillor John Veinot, District 4
Councillor Wade Carver, District 7
Councillor Michael Ernst, District 8
Councillor Errol Knickle, District 10

Regrets: Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9

Staff: Alex Dumaresq, Acting CAO
Elana Wentzell, Director of Financial Services
Angela Veinot, Manager of Accounting
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk
Dave Waters, Director of Business Development, Tourism & Infrastructure
Rachel Hiltz, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Garland called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/RECOGNITIONS:

Councillor Hustvedt advised that the Greater Petite Area Community Association will receive the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award on Friday, September 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Councillor Carver thanked staff for their work at the Corn Boil in Parkdale/Maplewood on August 29, 2019.

3. PUBLIC INPUT: (Nil)

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 2, 2019:

Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Carver that the Minutes of the July 2, 2019 Finance Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

A question arose regarding the amendments to the Street Improvement Bylaw. Mr. Dumaresq advised that the Engineering Department is working on the amendments and is looking to complete them this Fall.

7. AWARDING OF TENDERS/RFPs: (Nil)**8. PRESENTATIONS/SCHEDULED TIMES:****8.1 South Shore Work Activity Program – Sharon LeBlanc**

Sharon LeBlanc, Work Centre Manager, South Shore Work Activity Program, was in attendance and gave a presentation (circulated with Agenda) on the SS Work Activity Program which serves individuals from Lunenburg & Queens Counties.

Ms. LeBlanc provided the following information:

- The Program has been running for 30 years and she does these presentations to enhance awareness of the Program.
- The Program provides a 14-passenger bus, which picks up people from Liverpool to Chester at designated areas.
- Reasons people apply to the program include: they can't find a job, they don't know what they want to do, they have difficulty maintaining a job, they need skills training.
- Some people self-refer to the program, while others are referred by Community Services or their peers. The Program also works very closely with local high schools to determine if there are students that could benefit from the Program.
- The Program receives Federal and Provincial funding.

A question arose regarding whether the Program provides training in the Forestry and Agriculture industries, as these industries are in need of employees. Ms. LeBlanc advised that if someone in the program is able-bodied and has transportation, they could work with local farms to get people working there. They have done job placements at a farm in Chester in the past.

Ms. LeBlanc was thanked for her presentation and left the meeting at this time.

9. CONSIDERATION OF CORRESPONDENCE (Nil)**10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES & BOARDS: (Nil)****11. STAFF REPORTS:****11.1 Finance Department****11.1.1 Property Tax Exemption Applications**

Ms. Wentzell reviewed the report titled "Property Tax Exemption Applications" (circulated with Agenda). She noted that this year the budget was increased to \$88,400. There were 353 applications received, and 349 qualified for an exemption. The qualifying properties totaled \$84,886.81, which is under the budget amount, therefore all the qualifying applications will be approved.

11.2 Recreation Department

Tissy Bolivar, Program Coordinator, and Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation Services, were in attendance at this time.

11.2.1 Sponsorship Ad Grant – Ground Search & Rescue

A question arose regarding whether the Municipality receives an HST rebate for the HST paid for these types of ads. Ms. Wentzell advised that MODL receives the rebate on all HST paid.

Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Moore that the Finance Committee recommend to Council that Municipal Council approve the Sponsorship Ad request of the Nova Scotia Ground Search and Rescue for a ¼ page black and white ad for \$269.57 plus HST to support their FREE Wilderness Survival Guide.

A question arose regarding whether the Lunenburg County Ground Search & Rescue receives the funding. There were organizations in the past that offered advertising to groups, but they kept most of the profits. Ms. Bolivar advised that it was her understanding that the Ground Search & Rescue would receive any profits. This will be confirmed.

The motion on the floor was voted on and carried unanimously.

It was clarified later in the meeting that Ground Search and Rescue would receive 90% of funds.

11.2.2 Remembrance Day Grants

Ms. Bolivar advised that the Lunenburg Legion did not submit an application for the Remembrance Day grant.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Carver that the Finance Committee recommend to Council that Municipal Council approve the award of \$1,000 from the Remembrance Day Grants to support community Remembrance Day Events on November 11, 2019 as follows:

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #24 (Bridgewater)	\$250
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #49 (Mahone Bay)	\$250
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #102 (New Germany)	\$250
Parkdale/Maplewood Remembrance Day Committee	\$250

Carried unanimously.

11.3 Economic Development Department

11.3.1 Highway 103 Signage

Mr. Waters was in attendance and presented Council with two images for the Highway 103 signage, a beach theme and agricultural image. Councillors were satisfied with the new images.

12. MAYOR'S/DEPUTY MAYOR'S/COUNCILLORS' MATTERS:

12.1 Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre (LCLC) Update

Councillors Ernst and Hustvedt provided the following update on the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre (LCLC):

- Ed Pavao is now the Acting Manager of the LCLC. He has met with all Board members.
- The frosting on the pool windows has been installed.
- A new contract was signed with the Lumberjacks.
- The membership information is being updated. Corporate sponsorship information needs to be included.
- The next meeting will be held on September 19, 2019.
- It is requested that two Joint Council Meetings be held each year.
- The Financial Statements to June 30 have been circulated. The financials are on track, but are behind from last year due to the repairs and facility maintenance issues.
- The Audited Financial Statements were approved and will be circulated to Council.
- The Washboard Union concert will be held in October and promotion of the concert will be starting soon.
- It has been requested that Mr. Pavao and Ms. Payne present to Council during the September Policy & Strategy Committee meeting.
- Nustadia will be dealing with the Board directly for operations, and for matters such as governance and model changes, these items will come to the Councils.

13. IN CAMERA:

13.2 Legal Advice under Section 22(2)(g) of the MGA

At 9:30 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Nauss that the Finance Committee go In Camera to discuss item 13.2 Legal Advice under Section 22(2)(g) of the *Municipal Government Act*. Carried.

Finance Committee In Camera in session.

At 10:00 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Finance Committee come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.

Finance Committee in session.

The Committee broke from 10:10 – 10:40 a.m.

13.1 Land Negotiations re Osprey Village under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA

At 10:40 a.m., it was moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Nauss that the Finance Committee go In Camera to discuss item 13.1 Land Negotiations re Osprey Village under Section 22(2)(a) of the *Municipal Government Act*. Carried.

Finance Committee In Camera in session.

At 11:58 a.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Carver that the Finance Committee come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.

Finance Committee in session.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business at 11:58 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Knickle, seconded by Deputy Mayor Moore that the meeting adjourn. Carried.