

## **Municipality of the District of Lunenburg Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee**

Held in Council Chamber, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, NS  
**Tuesday, December 5, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.**

### **Attendance**

Councillor Leitha Haysom, District 1, Chair  
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2, Vice Chair  
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson  
Deputy Mayor Wendy Oickle, District 3  
Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4  
Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5  
Councillor Sandra Statton, District 6  
Councillor Kacy DeLong, District 8  
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9  
Councillor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10

### **Regrets**

Councillor Michelle Greek, District 7

### **Staff**

Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO  
Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance  
April Whynot-Lohnes, Municipal Clerk (via Teams)  
Joanne Powers, Executive Assistant

### **1. Call to Order**

1.1 Councillor Haysom called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and began by acknowledging that the meeting was held in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

### **2. Announcements/Acknowledgements/Recognition**

2.1 Day of Remembrance and Declaration on Gender-based Violence

Mayor Bolivar-Getson recognised December 6<sup>th</sup> as a day of remembrance and action on violence against women and declared that gender-based violence is an epidemic.

Councillor Kacy DeLong acknowledged the hard work of the Ecology Action Centre who recently offered a workshop in District 8 on kelp farming.

### **3. Public Input – Nil**

### **4. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Veinotte that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

**5. Approval of Minutes – November 21, 2023**

**Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Minutes of the November 21, 2023, Finance Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

**6. Business Arising from Minutes - Nil**

**7. Presentations/Scheduled Times - Nil**

**8. Consideration of Correspondence - Nil**

**9. Recommendations from Council – Nil**

**10. Staff Reports**

**10.1 Finance Department**

**10.1.1 Decision on Tax Sale by Tender for the March 6, 2024 Tax Sale**

Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance, reviewed the report entitled, “2024 Tax Sale” (included in the agenda package). She explained that prior to the COVID pandemic, all tax sales were held as a public auction per Section 141(1) of the Municipal Government Act (MGA). For the past three years, the Tax Sales were held through a tender call as per Section 141(2) of the MGA. Most properties that went into these Tax Sales received bids and were sold.

Staff recommended that because of the past three years of Tax Sales being successful, that the upcoming Tax Sale on March 6, 2024, proceed by tender.

**Moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Finance Committee recommend to Council that Municipal Council authorize the Treasurer to proceed with a tender call for the March 6, 2024, Tax Sale. Opposed: Councillors Haysom, DeLong, Veinotte and Statton. Motion carried.**

**10.2 Recreation Department**

**10.2.1 New Germany Legion Capital Grant Request**

Clive Gibson, on behalf of the New Germany Legion, reviewed the presentation entitled, “New Germany Legion Branch 102” (included in the agenda package). The following items were included in the presentation:

- About Branch 102
- The Challenges
- Efforts Being Made to Meet Challenges

- Events at the Legion
- The Ask of MODL
- Typical Commercial Kitchen
- Picture 1 – Existing Range Hood

Mr. Gibson explained that he was requesting funds through a capital grant to provide upgrades to the kitchen of the New Germany Legion to meet the newest codes and regulations. Without the upgrades, they are in jeopardy of losing their existing tenant, Sizzle Stick, who operates from their kitchen and provides meals on a regular basis and for special events.

The New Germany Legion is a community facility that is used by many organizations, including: July 1<sup>st</sup> Celebrations, community breakfasts and suppers, and parking.

### **10.3 Administration Department**

#### **10.3.1 Funding for Food Banks & Homeless Shelters**

Mr. Dumaresq, Deputy CAO, reviewed the report entitled, “Funding for Foodbanks and Shelters” (included in the agenda package). He noted that the prevalence of housing and food insecurity in the Municipality due to post-pandemic inflation and the housing crisis currently is being experienced by many. The MODL Wellness Committee is organizing a cash-based food drive for this holiday season and have inquired whether Council would consider matching some of the funds raised through the Council Approved Contingency Fund.

**Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the Finance Committee recommend to Council that Municipal Council approve matching funds for the Wellness Committee Food Drive up to a maximum of \$1,000 per each of the 4 food banks, and further, that Council approve funding in the amount of \$3,000 for Souls Harbour Warming Centre and \$3,000 for the overnight shelter operated by the South Shore Open Doors Association, with the funds coming from the Council Approved Contingency Fund. Carried unanimously.**

### **11. Mayor’s/Deputy Mayor’s/Councillors’ Matters**

#### **11.1 Bathroom Building at Lake Mush-a-Mush (Councillor Statton)**

Councillor Statton brought forward her concern over the lack of washroom facilities at MODL parks, especially Mush-a-Mush park. She would like to see a building erected that has two washrooms, sinks and a changing area. Councillor Statton requested that this, along with the cost of installing a sewer system, be included in the MODL 2024/25 budget deliberations.

Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, and Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering & Publics Works, were in attendance at the meeting and advised that they just received a copy of the recent parks audit and would be bringing a report back to council in the new year.

**Moved by Councillor Statton, seconded by Councillor Veinotte that the Finance Committee recommend to Council that Municipal Council approve the inclusion of Mush-a-Mush beach park washroom building in the 2024/25 capital budget deliberations and direct staff to prepare cost estimates for the project. Carried unanimously.**

**12. Added Items - Nil**

**13. In Camera – Nil**

**14. Adjournment**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.**