

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a Meeting of
POLICY & STRATEGY COMMITTEE
Held in Conquerall Bank Fire Hall, Conquerall Bank, NS
Tuesday, November 19, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson
Deputy Mayor Eric Hustvedt, District 1
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2
Councillor Lee Nauss, District 3
Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5
Councillor Claudette Garland, District 6
Councillor Wade Carver, District 7
Councillor Michael Ernst, District 8
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9
Councillor Errol Knickle, District 10

Regrets: Councillor John Veinot, District 4

Staff: Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer
Joanne Powers, Executive Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bolivar-Getson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and began by acknowledging that the meeting was held in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

**2. NOMINATION & ELECTION BY BALLOT – VICE CHAIR
[MDL-02 – Committee Policy, Section 3.4]**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson called for nominations, by ballot, for the position of Vice Chair. Those nominated were: Councillors Ernst, Garland, Moore, Bell, and Veinot.

Councillors Ernst and Moore declined their nominations.

On the second ballot there was a tie between Councillors Bell and Garland, therefore, Councillor Veinot was dropped from the election and Councillor Bell removed his name from the nominations.

Councillor Garland was elected as Vice Chair.

**Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Carver that the ballots be destroyed.
Carried unanimously.**

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, RECOGNITION

3.1 Proclamation – Municipal Awareness Week – November 17 to 23, 2019

Mayor Bolivar-Getson read and signed the following proclamation:

WHEREAS municipal government is responsible for the provision of services that enhance the quality of life of its citizens;

and

WHEREAS dedicated mayors, wardens, councillors and staff are essential for the effective governance of their municipalities;

and

WHEREAS citizen involvement is essential for an active community;

and

WHEREAS it is fitting and proper to recognize and encourage the contribution of all who work diligently for the improvement of municipalities;

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED:

That the week of November 17th to the 23rd 2019 be known as Municipal Awareness Week in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg in recognition of the vital role of municipal government and in recognition of all whose efforts support it.

Mayor Bolivar-Getson presented Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation Services, with her 10-year service award which would have been presented in December, but she is leaving the Municipality of Lunenburg to take on the Chief Administrative Officer position for the Municipality of the District of Shelburne at the end of November.

Councillor Garland made mention of the Lunenburg Lyme Association's Lyme Conference, which was held November 16 and 17, 2019, at the Bridgewater Cineplex. The first day was for medical and health professionals where over 200 attended. The second day was for the general public and three theatres were required to hold the 500+ individuals in attendance. It was a very successful event.

Councillor Bell recognized Norma Corkum from Pleasantville. Ms. Corkum was celebrating her 93rd birthday that day. She still drives her own car, lives by herself and bakes delicious cookies.

Deputy Mayor Hustvedt praised the Lunenburg Lyme Association for the successful Lyme Conference and recognized the efforts of Councillor Garland in assisting in bringing the conference to the area.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There were no members of the public in attendance to address the Committee.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Nauss that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Minutes of the October 15, 2019 Policy & Strategy Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – NIL

8. PRESENTATIONS

The Mayor had each person around the table introduce themselves to the public in the gallery.

Shanna Fredericks, Assistant Director of Coastal Action was present at the meeting.

8.1 Lyme Project Update

Ms. Fredericks provided an update on the Lyme Project, mainly the Deer Bait Station Maintenance. She explained that Coastal Action was contracted by the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg (MODL) for a three-year project, whose aim was to reduce the tick population and, therefore, the threat of Lyme disease in Lunenburg County.

Ms. Fredericks reported that there were 18 deer bait stations first established in September 2018, and are located in Garden Lots, Blue Rocks, and Heckman's Island. The idea behind the feeding stations is that when the deer feed from the trough of corn their head, neck and ears rub against the vertical rollers that are treated with permethrin, a pesticide known for killing ticks.

Some common issues include rodents and other wildlife eating the corn, broken rollers, clogging from rotting corn, and landowners and hunters setting up too close to the bait stations. Local landowners have reported that the noise from deer kicking the bait stations can be annoying especially throughout the evening hours.

Ms. Fredericks closed by reporting that the Dr. Robbin Lindsay with the Public Health Agency of Canada has not issued an official update but is predicting they will see the greatest reduction of the tick population starting in 2020.

Ms. Kucharski provided an update on the Lyme disease educational awareness campaign. She and some municipal Councillors spent a great deal of time attending various events speaking to the public and educating them on tick awareness. Radio and newspaper ads were prepared and there was an interactive display located at the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre that attracted a great deal of attention. The display is already booked for next summer as well.

Ms. Kucharski reported that MODL sponsored the recent Lyme Conference by providing \$10,000 towards the event and advised that the conference presentations will soon be available on the MODL website.

Ms. Fredericks left the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

9. REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL - NIL

10. STAFF REPORTS

Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance; Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation; and Dave Waters, Director of Business Development, Tourism and Infrastructure; were in attendance at the meeting.

10.1 Finance Department

10.1.1 Establishment of a Video Surveillance Policy MDL-89

Ms. Wentzell stated that the new municipal building will be equipped with video surveillance as one of its security measures. In order to protect the privacy of both staff and the public, a policy needs to be developed that is in compliance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA) and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPOP).

Staff developed a policy based on guidelines from the Office of Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nova Scotia. As well, the policy covers the five best practices in video surveillance:

1. A privacy impact assessment for new video surveillance systems;
2. Public consultation with stakeholders;
3. Development and implementation of Policies and Procedures that meet legislative requirements;
4. Educating employees on their roles and responsibilities; and
5. Monitoring of the effectiveness of the Policy.

The policy applies to the video surveillance system and video records administered by the Municipality, it does not apply to video recordings gathered in other circumstances such as recorded Council meetings.

Ms. Wentzell provided a detailed summary of the proposed policy.

It was noted that the policy is before legal counsel for review prior to it being approved by Municipal Council.

Several suggestions were made regarding the language used in the policy including:

- Section 5.2.1 – Municipal rather than “Municipality”
- Using the term “their” rather than “his/her” throughout the policy

Ms. Wentzell advised that the suggested changes would be updated into the final copy of the policy.

10.2 Administration Department

10.2.1 Your Government Your Ideas Engagement Summary

Ms. Kucharski presented the Your Government Your Ideas report (included in the agenda package). She reported that six meetings were held across the Municipality in October and November 2019. These meetings provided the public to speak directly to Council Members regarding any issues they may have.

Ms. Kucharski explained that the meetings are well advertised through newspaper articles and ads, radio ads, posters, the Municipal Matters newsletter and the MODL website. Attendance numbers have increased over the past three years but considering the cost and staff time involved, there may be a different option to provide information to the public. She advised she is working with Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development, to bring in engagement software to create an online platform. They will be bringing the proposal to Council sometime in the future.

According to the survey that was completed by 174 residents the top six concerns were: roads, lyme disease, environmental protection, climate change and high-speed internet. The topic of doctor recruitment also came up at each of the public meetings.

10.3 Recreation Development

10.3.1 Nature Trust re Exploring Conservation Options for Cape LaHave

Ms. Payne provided a background

- Sept 24/19 nature trust made a presentation to Council – a request to place a conservation easement on Cape LaHave Island
- Jeff and Trudy met with Nature Trust
- Trudy read the report (42 and 43)
- Monitor and enforce – these words come up quite frequently
- Budget affected
- 2 recommendations on page 42
- Eric – does Trudy see public consultation as part of development?
- Trudy – yes its part of the research
- Eric – he is supportive of this – concerned that must go slow with this
- Trudy – has to be a thoughtful process
- Martin – interested in exploring this – majority of MODL residents have never visited it but of those that do visit – they are very respectful to the island – he contacted people in the area and they are happy with the status quo – but stewardship could become a problem in future; a small amount of wood being cut for lobster traps and etc.; tourism ventures seemed to have picked up speed (being advertised in NY); concerned with tourist visits and the garage being collected; people in the area have worked well with MODL (eg, Petite School)
- Martin – would like a committee set up to look into this – include partners like Friends of Crescent Beach; Coastal Action; advertise for members-at-large
- Martin – don't rush but has to have public input
- Michael – his district has a number of islands with stewardships – if not protected
- Michael – large number of properties that MODL owns
- Michael – Sept 18/19 – outside magazine – where Cape LaHave Island was advertised as public land – Instagram tourism
- Trudy – there are great templates to form committees – not in report – doesn't mean that all of the island would have restricted areas
- Errol – 14,000 acres in total
- Trudy – Cape LaHave island 2,600 acres
- Errol – why would MODL sell it
- Trudy – just in case
- Errol – better to do the easement

- Lee – mid 70's real estate people wanted to buy it – US residents – fed govt wanted to tie onto Keji adjunct – need the support of the local people
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Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Policy and Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council direct staff to develop a Conservation Agreement with the Nova Scotia Nature Trust for Cape LaHave Island and to bring the Agreement back to a Council meeting for consideration; and further the agreement development to include a community consultation process.

Councillor Nauss moved, Councillor Carver seconded that the motion on the table be suspended to allow public input. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Garland, seconded by Councillor Ernst to suspend the meeting to open to the public.

Brennan Dailey of Petite. – why Nature Trust and not other options? He feels there are other options. Trudy – benefit of Nature Trust is they have the staff

Jessica Brantford– Nature Trust – spoke to benefits of Nature Trust – there are other organizations but Nature Trust works extensively on coastal areas in NS and also they have the staff resources

Tom Dailey – Crousetown – wants to speak to comments made by Eric, Martin, and Lee – important is the original grant – grantee of the grant was Dublin Township – the crown withheld mineral rights and claimed all the white pines for the British Navy – there was cravet that shores and beaches reserved for the fishermen. The grantee was the people but the title was not held by the people it was held in trust. There were 6 trustees that held responsibility. This remained until the 70's – was a federal park out west being decommissioned. From Pentz School to Petite School was to be the park. Gross Morne was formed because they wouldn't let them do it here. Was not the intent of the people that MODL become the owner. What was the intent of the people 40 years ago not the interpretation of the legal staff today. It's a trust not an ownership.

Lee – when townships in 1880 – research that MODL was suggested that MODL be the manager of Cape LaHave. The municipality was asked in the 70s. MODL was meant to be the caretaker NOT the owner.

Tom Daily – YGYI – communication strategy for MODL sucks – make an announcement that MODL is going to support the closing of Petite School. The conceptualization is that MODL is not .

Nassar xxxx – Lawrentown – not a local resident but lived in NS for 35 year and have paddled the islands for 30 years. – sometimes it takes someone from outside the area to make us realize the natural gem we have. We monitors xxxbirds – last summer successful breeding – 10 piping plummers on that beach – we need protection on this beach – doesn't want misuse of Cape LaHave. Nature Trust is a local group.

Harry Beach – Hebbville – worked for 30 yers in Parks Canada – this is a delicate item and the public needs to have their say – encourage to move forward with motion with a robust Nature Trust and complete.

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Nauss to come back to meeting. Carried unanimously.

Motion on the floor carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Hustvedt

and further, that Municipal Council sign the Letter of Intent, as presented, to be sent to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust pertaining to Cape LaHave Island and Council's intentions of donating a conservation easement. Carried unanimously.

10.4 Economic Development

10.4.1 Investment Attraction Strategy Update

Mr. Waters presented his Investment Attraction Strategy.

Dave -

Small scale

- Looked at 70 videos
- Markets/audiences
- Website Updates
- Entrepreneur Booklet
- Advertising/Media Plan – focused on digital campaign
- Campaign Creative
- Campaign Targeting
- Campaign Results – total clicks 19,734
- Moving Forward – side-affect is people attraction
- Moving Forward – long-term
- Moving Forward – continue digital campaign
- New position – Business Development Officer
- Michael – we are the book available?
- Dave – only a few left

11. MAYOR'S/DEPUTY MAYOR'S/COUNCILLORS' MATTERS

11.1 Report of Provincial Library Conference (Councillor Hustvedt)

Deputy Mayor Hustvedt reported on Prov Library Conference

- Went to prov conference at White Point in October
- 200 people
- Good mix of presentations – one library card for all of NS
- Open library project in Guysborough – an open library – from Denmark – not staffed
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- Presentation on writing groups – people from writing groups local – local librarian gave a talk
- Minister mentioned that the increase in funding from mun has been delayed to 21/22

11.2 Point of Sale Straight Pipe Legislation (Councillor Ernst)

Councillor Ernst presented his report.

Michael – YGYI MODL is a leader in straight pipe legislation

- Point of sale legislation
- Could create a lot of hardship for buyers – counter argument
- Typo sail not sale
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12. **ADDED ITEMS** - NIL
13. **IN CAMERA** - NIL
14. **NEXT MEETING** – December 17, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.
15. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business at 9:10 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Bell that the meeting adjourn. Carried.