

## **Municipality of the District of Lunenburg**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of Policy & Strategy Committee**

Via Microsoft Teams and In-Person at 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville

**Tuesday, December 15, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.**

#### **Attendance:**

Deputy Mayor Martin Bell, District 2, Chair

Councillor Kacy DeLong, District 8, Vice-Chair

Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson

Councillor Leitha Haysom, District 1

Councillor Wendy Oickle, District 3

Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4

Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5 (left the meeting at 11:38 a.m.)

Councillor Sandra Statton, District 6

Councillor Michelle Greek, District 7

Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9

Councillor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10

#### **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**

Deputy Mayor Bell 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 - NIL**

#### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of November 17, 2020**

**Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Oickle that the Minutes of the November 17, 2020 Policy & Strategy Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

#### **5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – NIL**

**6. PRESENTATIONS - NIL****7. REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL - NIL****8. STAFF REPORTS**

Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services; Byung Jun Kang, Planner; Zachary Thompson, Sustainability Planner; Darren Shupe, Senior Planner; Bill Schurman, Director of Recreation Services; Tissy Bolivar, Program Coordinator; Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering & Public Works; and Dave Waters, Director of Business Development, Tourism & Infrastructure; were in attendance at the meeting.

**8.1 Planning Department****8.1.1 PCP Milestone 2**

Mr. Thompson presented the report entitled, “Corporate Reduction Target” (included in the agenda package).

Mr. Thompson explained that in order to achieve Milestone 2 for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP), MODL must set a greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target. He added that the target should reflect the importance of mitigating climate change, but also be realistic and achievable.

Mr. Thompson discussed MODL’s total emissions for 2019 and explained how the new Municipal Services Building will see increases in 2020 due to the use of propane and more electricity but also decreases due to the demolition of Riverport Elementary School and no fuel oil being used in the new building. Also discussed was energy efficiency, operations, renewables, solar power, electric vehicles (EV’s), electric waste trucks, retrofits, and overall operations.

Mr. Thompson advised that he would be bringing recommendations to the January meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee, in hopes that the Committee can set targets.

**8.2 Recreation Department****8.2.1 MODL Recreation Programs Update**

Mr. Schurman and Ms. Bolivar provided an overview of the Recreation Department through a PowerPoint presentation entitled, “MODL Recreation Department” (included in the agenda package) which included the following topics:

- What is Recreation?
- What We Strive to Achieve (Become the Most Active, Healthy Region in the Province)
- Our Guiding Principles

- Nova Scotia Shared Strategy Goals
- Active Living
- Inclusion and Access
- Connecting People and Nature
- Supportive Environments
- Recreation Capacity
- Look Ahead...Challenges and Opportunities

Ms. Bolivar noted that programming was required to change due to COVID-19 and the fact that people were working from home but the virtual programs that were offered were well received. It was suggested that for future events, such as the Easter Egg Hunt, they be offered at River Ridge Commons as well as at the MARC and other programs be offered in outlying areas.

A question was raised as to why the gates are closed to Indian Falls and other parks from Thanksgiving until spring. Mr. Schurman advised that the Recreation Department is working on a plan to keep parks open longer.

## **9. MAYOR'S/DEPUTY MAYOR'S/COUNCILLORS' MATTERS**

Councillor DeLong took over chairing the meeting.

### **9.1 Parking Space for Veterans (Deputy Martin Bell)**

Deputy Mayor Bell proposed that a parking space be designated, in the public parking area of the Municipal Services Building, for veterans (determined by a valid veterans' license plate).

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Bell, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommend to Council that Municipal Council authorize the use of one of the parking spaces in the public parking area of the Municipal Services Building for veterans that have a designated veterans' license plate and, further that, the space be signed for Veterans Parking. Carried unanimously.**

Deputy Mayor Bell resumed chair of the meeting.

### **9.2 Ambulance Shortages (Councillor Cathy Moore)**

Councillor Moore talked about the shortage of ambulances all over Nova Scotia, but specifically in rural areas. Because this is a health and safety concern, she requested that a letter be written to the Minister of Health and Wellness.

**Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Oickle that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter to the Minister of Health and Wellness, with copies to the Premier and the local MLAs, expressing Council's concerns with regard to ambulance services in rural areas.**

It was noted that just in the past week there was a local incident where an ambulance was not available and as a result, an individual died. General consensus was that too many ambulances were being used as taxis and were spending a great deal of time in Emergency Departments off-loading patients.

**Motion on the floor was carried unanimously.**

**10. ADDED ITEMS - NIL**

Mr. Merrill, Mr. Kang, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Shupe, Mr. Schurman, and Ms. Bolivar left the meeting.

**11. IN CAMERA**

**At 10:45 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Statton, seconded by Councillor Veinotte that the Policy & Strategy Committee go In Camera to discuss:**

**11.1 Legal Update under Section 22(2)(g) of the MGA**

**Motion carried.**

Policy & Strategy Committee *In Camera* in session.

Councillor Moore left the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

**At 11:44 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Oickle that the Policy & Strategy Committee come out of *In Camera* and return to open session. Carried.**

Policy & Strategy Committee in session.

**12. NEXT MEETING – January 19, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business at 11:45 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Haysom that the meeting adjourn. Carried.**