

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
Minutes of a Meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee
Held in Council Chambers 10 Allée Champlain Drive Cookville
And via Video/Audio Conferencing
Tuesday, June 21, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Deputy Mayor Cathy Moore, District 5, Chair
Councillor Michelle Greek, District 7, Vice-Chair
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson (via Teams)
Councillor Leitha Haysom, District 1
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2
Councillor Wendy Oickle, District 3
Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4
Councillor Sandra Statton, District 6
Councillor Kacy DeLong, District 8
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9
Councillor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10

Staff

Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
April Whynot-Lohnes, Municipal Clerk
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer (via Teams)
Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance
Dave Waters, Director of Business Development, Tourism & Infrastructure (via Teams)
Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services
Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering & Public Works (via Teams)
Tissy Bolivar, Acting Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Chris Kennedy, Fire Services Coordinator
Abi Jain, Sustainability Planner
Elizabeth Carr, Planner 1
Ella Gindi, Planner 1
Joanne Powers, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Moore 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 Haysom that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes of May 17, 2022 (as circulated)

Moved by Councillor Haysom, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the Minutes of the May 17, 2022, Policy & Strategy Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

5. Business Arising from Minutes - Nil

6. Presentations - Nil

7. Referrals from Council

7.1 Petite Riviere Watershed Wilderness Area

A presentation was recently made to Council on creating a protected area near the Bridgewater Watershed. The report entitled, "Petite Watershed Wilderness Area" was included in the agenda, along with additional information from the presenter which included a request for Council to write a letter of support to the Province.

Mr. MacEwan advised Council that it would be worthwhile to consider the impact that this designation could have on activities and suggested that the Committee refer it back to staff for a report and recommendation on how MODL can assist in moving the request for support forward.

Moved by Councillor Haysom, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Policy and Strategy Committee directs staff to work with staff from the Town of Bridgewater to conduct further research and analysis on the process and implications of designating crown lands in the Petite Riviere Watershed as a Wilderness Area and report back to Committee. Carried unanimously.

8. Staff Reports

8.1 Administration Department

8.1.1 Proposed Amendments to MODL Policy 051 Personnel Policy

Mr. Dumaresq explained that upon moving to the new Municipal Services Building, a staff survey was conducted in an effort to increase communication and engagement with staff. One effort was to create an Employee Engagement Committee, and this is the Committee's first effort at making revisions to policy.

The Committee reviewed three articles:

- The article relating to the Committee
- Article 9 – Acting Pay
- Health and Dental

Moved by Councillor Greek, seconded by Councillor DeLong that the Policy and Strategy Committee recommends to Municipal Council that Municipal Council adopt the proposed amendments to MODL – 051 Personnel Policy, as presented, and hereby gives seven days’ notice of intention to approve the policy at the June 28, 2022, Council meeting. Carried unanimously.

8.1.2 Annual Animal/Dog Control Statistics

Mr. Kennedy reported that himself and the Municipal Clerk have begun a review of the existing Dog By-law 002. Following are some potential areas for revisions:

- Powers to Enforce
- Persistently Barking dogs/Dangerous Dogs
- Dog Tags
- Kennels

Moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Haysom that the Policy and Strategy Committee direct staff to prepare amendments to the Dog Bylaw as discussed and report back to this Committee for recommendation to Council. Carried unanimously.

8.2 Recreation Department

8.2.1 Annual Operating & Major Recreation Capital Grants

Ms. Bolivar noted that due to the significant increase in grant requests, the Recreation Department reviewed the applications on a “needs” basis and scaled the awards percentages based on the projected deficits/profits of each organization.

Staff were requested to look into whether or not grant money provided to church organizations, all stayed with the church, or whether a portion was given to the church diocese.

Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Veinotte that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends to Municipal Council that Municipal Council approve the applications for the 2022-23 Annual Operating Grant Program in the amount of \$48,875, as presented. Opposed – Councillor Greek. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Councillor Oickle that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends to Municipal Council that Municipal Council approve the applications for the 2022-23 Major Recreation Capital Grant Program in the amount of \$36,600, as presented. Opposed – Councillors Statton and Greek. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends to Municipal Council that Municipal Council, under MODL Policy 043, approve the late applications received from Friends of DesBrisay for the 2022-2023 Annual Operating Grant, in the amount of \$2,500, as presented; and Mahone Bay Founders Society, for the 2022-2023 Annual Operating Grant, in the amount of \$1,500, as presented. Opposed – Councillor Statton. Motion carried.

The Committee recessed at 10:08 a.m. and the meeting resumed at 10:16 a.m.

8.3 Economic Development

8.3.1 Economic Strategy Review

Mr. Waters reviewed the report included in the agenda package as information, entitled, “Municipal Economic Development Strategy”.

9. Mayor’s/Deputy Mayor’s/Councillors’ Matters

9.1 Review of MODL Trails (Councillor Statton)

Councillor Statton asked what Councillors’ roles and responsibilities are regarding questions received from residents.

It was pointed out that the MODL website, under “trails”, is a good source of information regarding trails, such as where they are located and the contact information for the various committees.

10. Added Items - Nil

11. In Camera - Nil

12. Next Meeting – July 19, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business at 10:41 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Oickle seconded by Councillor Whynot that the meeting adjourn. Motion Carried.