

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
Minutes of a Meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee
Held in Council Chamber, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, N.S.
Tuesday, September 17, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

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

Regrets

Deputy Mayor Wendy Oickle, District 3, Chair

Staff

Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Tina Robichaud-Bond, Acting Municipal Clerk
Joanne Powers, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Mr. MacEwan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Nominations were called for in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Greek that Councillor Hubley be nominated as Chair of the September 17, 2024, Policy and Strategy Committee meeting. Carried unanimously.

Councillor Hubley accepted the nomination and acknowledged that the meeting was held in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

2.1 Proclamation – Right to Know Week, September 23 to 29, 2024

Mayor Bolivar-Getson proclaimed September 23 to 29, 2024, as Right to Know Week. It is celebrated across Canada each year to raise awareness of the importance of access rights and open, transparent government.

Mayor Bolivar-Getson recognized the MODL staff that organized and ran a successful tree giveaway at the MARC. There were 1000 trees given away, double the amount of last year, and there were still people looking for more.

3. Public Input

Lennis Corkum, Newburne, spoke against providing funds to the Sherbrooke Lake Stewardship Committee for a Water Quality Monitoring Program because municipal taxpayers do not yet have access to the lake.

4. Changes/Approval of Agenda (as circulated)

Moved by Councillor Haysom, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the September 17, 2024, Policy & Strategy Committee agenda be approved. Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes – July 16, 2024

Moved by Councillor Statton, seconded by Councillor DeLong that the Minutes of July 16, 2024, Policy & Strategy Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

6. Business Arising from Minutes – Nil

7. Presentations/Scheduled Times - Nil

8. Referral from Council – Nil

9. Staff Reports

9.1 Recreation Department

9.1.1 Good Neighbour Builders Society Funding Request

Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, reviewed the report titled, “Good Neighbour Builders Society Request” (included in the agenda package) outlining seven asks from the Society. She commented that supporting this project through funding, and in-kind and staff support would aid in getting communities connected or further connected leading to more social connections being made in the Municipality.

Council raised concerns with the dollar amount and whether a smaller amount could be considered.

Moved by Councillor Haysom, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends that Council award \$8,000 to the Good Neighbour Builders Project from the Recreation Budget and that these funds be contingent upon the project receiving

sufficient funding from other partners to enable the project to be implemented in MODL; and further, approve the requested in-kind and staff support.

Opposed: Councillors Veinotte, Greek and Statton. Motion carried.

10. Mayor's/Deputy Mayor's/Councillors' Matters

10.1 Common Lands at Broad Cove Beach

Councillor Haysom addressed the owner unknown common lands located at Broad Cove Beach. The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables (NSDNRR) advised they were not interested in purchasing the property and suggested that MODL acquire the land through the expropriation process.

It was requested that staff write to the Broad Cove Community Association explaining DNRR's rationale for not moving forward with the expropriation.

Mr. MacEwan explained the expropriation process and noted that the title of the property was unclear. He noted that a Management Agreement with the Broad Cove Community Association could be put in place for the Association to manage the land.

Moved by Councillor Haysom, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council initiate the expropriation of the Broad Cove Common Lands, PID #60592581. Opposed: Councillor Moore. Motion carried.

10.2 Fire Service Agreement between Town of Mahone Bay and MODL for Provision of Fire Service to Oakland and Clearland

Councillor DeLong requested clarification on why there was no formalized agreement between the Town of Mahone and MODL, for the provision of fire services to the communities of Oakland and Clearland.

Mr. Dumaresq provided background information and advised that there were no issues with the fire service in Oakland and Clearland. Councillor DeLong requested that a fire commission model be given some thought for those areas.

Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Councillor Greek to direct staff to prepare a report for Council on the governance of fire services in and around Clearland and Oakland. Carried unanimously.

11. Added Items - Nil

12. In Camera

At 10:18 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Policy & Strategy Committee go In Camera to discuss:

12.1 Land Negotiation under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA

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Finance Committee In Camera in session.

At 10:45 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Moore that Policy & Strategy Committee come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried unanimously.

Policy & Strategy Committee in session.

12.2 Land Negotiations re Birch Island

Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council contribute \$75,000, from the Open Space Operating Reserves, towards the purchase of Birch Island in partnership with Mahone Islands Conservation Association (MICA), who will also contribute \$75,000, with the remaining funds to be contributed by the Province in the amount of \$331,000, for a total of \$481,000. Carried unanimously.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.