

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG  
Minutes of a Meeting of  
**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
Held in Council Chamber, 210 Aberdeen Road, Bridgewater, NS  
**Tuesday, October 8, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.**

**ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson  
Deputy Mayor Cathy Moore, District 5  
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2  
Councillor Lee Nauss, District 3  
Councillor John Veinot, District 4  
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 Eric Hustvedt, District 1

Staff: Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO  
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk  
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer  
Tina Robichaud-Bond, Executive Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson 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 Proclamation – October as Mi'kmaq History Month**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson proclaimed October as Mi'kmaq History Month.

Councillor Ernst acknowledged the Be Amazed Art Maze, located in Maitland, for receiving the 2019 Divert Nova Scotia Mobius Award in the Small Business category for their initiative in reducing and recycling waste products.

**3. PUBLIC INPUT**

Janice Coulter, President of the Canada Women's Para Hockey Team of Canada, was in attendance to advise that the women's sledge hockey team would be in the area to practice, train, and provide coaching sessions for young girls and women new to the sport.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Councillor Nauss, seconded by Deputy Mayor Moore that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

Councillor Ernst advised that he would be declaring a Conflict of Interest on Agenda Items 10.1.2 and 10.1.3 as he had initiatives on both matters.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Nil)****6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Nil)****7. AWARDING OF TENDERS/RFPs (Nil)****9. CONSIDERATION OF CORRESPONDENCE (Nil)****10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES & BOARDS****10.1 Finance Committee****10.1.1 Tax Relief – Damaged Property**

**Moved by Councillor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Bell that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve tax relief in the amount of \$1,126.27 as per the submitted application for the property located at 115 Indian Point Road, AA# 01306383, and as per Section 2(b) of Policy MDL-12 Tax Exemption/Reduction. Carried unanimously.**

**10.1.2 Major Recreation Capital Grant Heritage Boat Yard Cooperative Limited**

Councillor Ernst declared a Conflict of Interest and left the meeting for the discussions of Item 10.1.2 and Item 10.1.3.

**Moved by Councillor Knickle, seconded by Councillor Nauss that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and award the Heritage Boat Yard Cooperative Limited a Major Recreation Capital Grant in the amount of \$2,000 to assist them in completing their Boat Yard Shed Project. Carried unanimously.**

**10.1.3 Designated Community Project Fund – Dynamite Trail Association**

**Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Whynot that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve establishing a Designated Community Project Fund, pursuant to Policy MDL-48, for the Dynamite Trail Association to assist them in raising capital funds to cover capital costs to the trail, primarily the capital cost associated with the bridges. Carried unanimously.**

Councillor Ernst returned to the meeting.

## **10.2 Nominating Committee**

### **10.2.1 Appointment to Police Advisory Board**

**Moved by Councillor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Veinot that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and appoint to the Police Advisory Board: David Rafuse to a 1-year term ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 and Wendy Oickle to a 2-year term ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. Carried unanimously.**

## **11. STAFF REPORTS**

### **11.1 Administration Department**

#### **11.1.2 Declaration of Municipal Building Property as Surplus**

Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk, reviewed her report, "Declaration of Municipal Building Property as Surplus" (circulated with the Agenda).

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Whynot that Municipal Council declare the Municipal Building property located at 210 Aberdeen Road as surplus as it is no longer required for municipal purposes; and further, that staff send out a Request for Proposals for a Real Estate Firm to list the property for sale. Carried unanimously.**

It was noted that an environmental assessment of the property was not required and that the broker would provide professional advice on all aspects of the sale of the property.

**The Motion on the floor was voted on and carried unanimously.**

## **8. PRESENTATIONS/SCHEDULED TIMES**

### **8.1 Working Draft Horses in Canada**

Basil Oickle of Garden Lots, owner of Trot In Time Buggy Rides Limited, was in attendance.

Mr. Oickle presented information on the working draft horse to provide awareness on the decline of draft horses in Canada and the banning of the slaughter of these horses (written summary attached to Minutes).

Mr. Oickle asked that Council provide ways of spreading awareness to the public of the possible extinction of the working horse.

Council referred this matter to a future Policy & Strategy Committee meeting for further discussion.

Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering & Public Works, joined the meeting.

## **11.2 Recreation Department**

### **11.2.1 Designated Community Project Fund – Lunenburg Yacht Club**

Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation Services, was in attendance.

**Moved by Councillor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Bell that Municipal Council grant the Lunenburg Yacht Club \$10,125 as per the criteria outlined in the Designated Community Project Fund Policy MDL-48. Carried unanimously.**

It was noted that, to date, over \$113,000 had been raised through this fund for the Lunenburg Yacht Club.

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

### **12.1 MJSB Update**

Councillor Garland reported that there was no update as the MSJB meeting had been cancelled.

### **12.3 Deputy Mayor's Update**

Deputy Mayor Moore reported that she attended agenda briefings; the private road workshop; the launch of the Agri-Futures Nova Scotia Salad Bar project; the CEF recruitment open house; the Town of Lunenburg funding announcement; Northern Pulp's stakeholders update; the Federal Candidates' Debate; and various Your Government Your Ideas meetings throughout the Municipality.

### **12.4 Nominating Committee Appointment by Mayor**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson appointed Deputy Mayor Cathy Moore, Councillor Michael Ernst, and Councillor Martin Bell to the Nominating Committee, effective immediately for 2019-2020.

### **12.5 Mayor's Update**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson reported that she attended the After Glow Festival; the Lunenburg County Christmas Tree Producers fall meeting; the Open House of 143 Construction Engineering Flight; the dedication of the Hillside Cemetery; the Scarecrow Festival; the funding announcement of the PCAP and FRIIP projects; a meeting with Councillor Garland regarding business opportunities; the Tancook School to speak to the class on the role of the Mayor; the Bridgewater Daycare 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration; a get-together to meet with 2<sup>nd</sup> year Dalhousie medical students whom are potential doctors to the area; and various Your Government Your Ideas meetings throughout the Municipality.

### **12.2 Delegation Mission to Norway - Update**

Councillor Garland provided an update on her trip to Trondheim, Norway for the AquaNor Conference. She explained that the main focus of the mission was on agriculture and aquaculture and spoke on the following:

- Salmon fishing industry
- Technology
- Incentive programs for students
- Lump fish
- AquaNor Conference

## **11. STAFF REPORTS**

### **11.1 Administration Department**

#### **11.1.1 Municipal Services Building Update**

Andrew Amos, Senior Partner, Catalyst Consulting Engineers Inc., was in attendance.

Mr. Amos reviewed his report, “Project Update – New Municipal Building Project (Phase 2)” (circulated with the Agenda), providing details on the following points:

- Progress on Site
- Administrative Items
- Project Schedule
- Budget Forecast

It was noted that local sub-trades and labourers were and will be hired whenever possible.

Mr. Amos left the meeting.

## **13. ADDED ITEMS (Nil)**

## **14. IN CAMERA**

**At 10:50 a.m. it was moved by Councillor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Carver that Municipal Council go In Camera to discuss the following items:**

- 14.1 Land Negotiations re Indian Oaks Homeowners Association under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA**
- 14.2 Contract Negotiations re Town of Lunenburg under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA**
- 14.3 Contract Negotiations re Agri-Innovation Park under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA**
- 14.4 Contract Negotiations re Lumberjacks under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA**

**Carried.**

Municipal Council In Camera in session.

Councillor Knickle left the meeting at 12:42 p.m.

**At 12:53 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Carver that Municipal Council come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.**

Municipal Council in session.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business at 12:54 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the meeting adjourn. Carried.**



Basil Oickle &lt;oicklebasil@gmail.com&gt;

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**Draft Horses**

1 message

**Basil Oickle** <oicklebasil@gmail.com>

6 October 2019 at 21:17

To: Basil Oickle &lt;oicklebasil@gmail.com&gt;

## Good morning your Madam Worship and council.

I am here this morning to make an awareness in our Maritime, in our country, in North America wide that how the people are completely oblivious to what is happening to the rapid disappearance of our draft work horses and oxen as we know it.

Let's just talk about the status of horses for now. In 1969 the stats for the draft horse in our three maritime provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island would've have had approximately 750,000 to possibly close to 1 million draft workhorses. Today we are lucky to find 2500 in the Maritimes and in 10 years that'll be down to 15 hundred as a thousands of those will be now of age to die and also possibly the keeper. ( Please keep in mind about the keeper, who was a lifer in committed to keep these horses alive, so the keeper would be able to keep these horses for work at many jobs for most of their entire lives.) Again a dying breed of men and women if something doesn't happen now. It is very clear with the draft horse keepers who use these animals for work such as logging, plowing and competition, Etc. that if the active people for example would shut down the horse pulling competition, I can also guarantee you within a few weeks those 1500 draft horse left would be down to only a few dozen at best. Like they say, what's the point to keep a horse if you can't use it. Only 10 or so years ago you could drove on Prince Edward Island and almost every other house had horses in their backyard, now they tell me they will be hard pressed to find 150 left on the island. If something don't change, the only ones left would be the elite that could actually even afford to keep them or if they're lucky to even find and purchase one. In 1996 a good price for a buggy horse was \$800 to \$1200.00 dollars. I looked 2 years to find my last buggy horse and he cost \$5,000 Dollars. And just recently a buggy horse was sold in the US for \$11,000.00 Dollars US. All due to the declining of the draft horse and the demand for them has drove the prices sky rocking with the rarity of what are left. The only place you will find any amount of draft Horses are with the Amish in the Midwest of Ohio and area. I am told there are approximate 6000 families that still use the work horse in the Amish community, and I can tell you 6000 families with horses are not a lot to go around with Approximate 350 million people in North America. Here in Canada the only place you will find any amount of work horses are with the Mennonites. They two agree that's the decline is going way too fast but they are reluctant to go public to talk about it. And lets not forget about our mighty Oxen as well.

I want to explain the types of draft horses we've always worked with for hundreds of years. The mighty draft horse as we know him is capable of doing some very hard work with ease. Let's take the draft horse that works in the woods and he will do so all day with no effort as long as he or she's is treated fairly. Most of these horses that work in the woods can be a bit high strung and really not suitable for a buggy horse, but certainly awesome for the woods where they love to work hard and fast and he can hit things with the smash. Here in the woods they can't hurt nothing you see, I have worked with these horses for many winters in the woods myself. When I would watch them hook onto a nice big log and take it to where it needs to be and then the teamster, the driver would give him a pat on neck for a job well done. It was so wonderful to hear him blow and snort because he was so happy that he did the job faithfully for his master. Yes horses can show you their expressions of gratitude also. When treated fairly he will also let you know if he is struggling, he would simply just stop. You also now have the same type of horse that will go to the field and can plow all day, again as long as he treated fairly, loving his job of full steam ahead as they plow with great energy and accuracy of a straight line and again very eager to please their master. But now these type of horse would not be suitable for the buggy rides in Lunenburg as well. You see these horses are full of energy and they don't want to do a lazy job as mine do in Lunenburg. I just recently watched a video of a pair of horses pulling off 17,600 pounds on a drag. My wagons weigh only 600 lbs with wheels on them. So now you have what's called the all-around work horse. He would plow the farmers garden for him but he's not wanting to plow all day, or he would go in and haul the farmers firewood out, but not all day. He would even maybe haul a truck load or two of logs throughout the winter, but not haul Logs day in and day out as he is not bred for this. He's bred to be a much calmer horse so that he was safe to be the milk horse. He could go to town and not need to worry about the milk being spilled. He was very eager and willing to stop at each stop while the farmer delivered his milk and no hurry to get to the next stop. This job has been taken away from him now and he became now the buggy horse that we use in different towns and cities throughout North America. This is the last possibly job that he could have, without it, there's no purpose for him.

I belong to an organization called CONA, Carriage operators of North America. When talking to my friends across North America, from California, Oklahoma, Philadelphia, New York, Memphis and all across Canada from British Columbia to Ontario, Québec, Montréal and here in the Maritimes, we all agree on one particular statistic. We would have a difficult time to find 50 Levelheaded Buggy horses / milk horses in the Maritimes, in our country, in North America wide !! When talking to the Association of CONA , Carriage operators of North America and with all our members across North America, we all agree on one thing, at best we might find three or four doesn't that would be level headed horses and safe for this job that are not working and are for sale. If this is not enough of a decline for the draft work horse to be put on the endangered species list, well I think we better think strong and hard about that!

I agree everything on this planet deserves to live and have a purpose just as our whales, turtles, different species of birds, etc. It was not so long ago here in Nova Scotia we run out of gas, and I can tell you the whale will not pull the plow. And If we think that

we can feed millions of people just with a shovel and haul logs out of the woods for shelter and heating fuel, again we better think twice. If the mighty ox and horses becomes no longer available, I hate to think what will we do in the event of a catastrophe. 7y

As I said, these horses and oxen have been a life line for centuries as well as the transportation and to do the work that was needed to survive and prosper North America wide, it's was the oxen and horses that build our two countries and without them I would hate to think what would we do in the event, if these animals are gone from existence. I believe our government needs to look at this strong and hard and to protect these animals and our heritage. Our exhibitions are declining rapidly, I will give you a example of our very own exhibition that's been held here on the south shore for decades. I will tell you what happen this year at our exhibition this year. It wasn't even 10 years ago there would've been between 40 and 50 teams of draft horses competing for the big spot to compete with the Americans. Out of all those teams eight would qualify and then out of those eight only three teams would qualify to go to United States to compete. This year I'm sad to say we only had 10 teams in total and that left the other two teams with nothing really to compete with all week long. I betting if these horses go, so will our exhibitions because they are the backbone of our exhibitions, whether people want to believe it or not. All one needs to do is just look at our history and when you seen the decline of horses, oxen and other livestock, the people started to decline as well. At this rate of decline it's not going to take long and we will no longer have a Exhibition and our heritage will start to disappear as well.

So where do we go from here? Well I have some ideas.

It wasn't so long ago that the NDP government gave Bowater Mersey \$50 million for forest land and an additional \$50 to keep between two and three hundred people working in a mill. Well we all know what happened there, they cashed the tax payers check for the land and then change there mind on the Mill, leaving the tax payers \$50 million short and a peace of wood land that we have no idea what might be left on it to harvest. But in time I suppose it will grow back hopefully.

Now the government is always talking about new Innovations and how we can help people with programs to create jobs. If we had the \$50 million that Bo-waters gave us back, you can hire 200 men with horses and pay them \$25,000 dollars a year seasonal and we could keep them in work for 10 years. During this time people with low income could possibly qualify for these men or women to come and plow a spot so they can have their garden, because who can afford \$2000 for garden tiller. Programs where peoples could have their firewood haul out for them. Possibly enough logs to build somebody a low income housing program. In Germany they have already recognized how the machinery has destroyed the forest. So now let's put the horses back to work to fix what the machinery has destroyed and create a lot of jobs. It's been proven in Germany that over time with the heavy machinery has compacted the Earth's crust and now it does not allow for the forest to rejuvenate as it should. Look at the programs where the men could go to the Woods and hauled the logs roadside and now these

- people with their portable sawmills can go right to the site and have it saw up right there. No machinery in the woods, no large trucks to haul it to the mills. The lumber is right there that can be ready to use for different projects as I am doing one this weekend with all Rough lumber. When we talk about green and cleaning up the environment, I don't think you can get any greener than this. The landowner can now get a better price for his lumber and have it shipped to the mills to be plane down to the size needed. I gentleman told me he went to the hardware store the other day and got a peace of 8' in length of quarter round molding and had to pay over \$16 for it. Plus it was made from odds and ends and it was finger jointed it, no quality at all. What's wrong with this picture. The Government talks about innovations and creating jobs, let's put the molding machines back to work right here in our Providence, Instead of shipping Our quality lumber out somewhere and bringing back low quality lumber and paying a fortune for it. There's no need of it, and most of the people know It.

In the mid west of Ohio and their surrounding area is the only place you will find any amount of horses in the United States, They're they have approximate 6000 families that still use horses and I can tell you 6000 families with horses is not a lot to go around for 350 million people in North America. Our government mandate is to boost tourism to \$4 billion here in Nova Scotia and I am told that the Midwest is blooming with tourism as the people go Go there to watch and see the Amish people work in plow and do things with the horses and purchase their goods that are of high-quality for a reasonable price. Just look at the tourism dollars this could bring for us as well. A person said to me it won't work because of workers compensation. Now we can think of all the excuses you want not to do this because of different problems maybe. Well now we have \$50 million to figure it out now, Don't we.

Now the question is, where is all the horses going. Well I can tell you where they're going, they are going to countries like China and Japan for meat. I am told by the president of CONA that when a horse like mine reaches some of these countries they are auctioned off for tens of thousands of dollars to eat, as money seems to be no problem for food. I don't have confirmation for this, but I've been told by three sources already that somewhere in our country they are raising beautiful Belgian horses to the age of two years old and then shipping them off for meat. While I don't have any problem if somebody wants to eat horses, but not let us sell every last one of them. So at the prices that people can get now for their work horses for meat are incredible and why not sell them, rather than to be condemned for having them and wanting to work with them. We are condemned by people saying that working our horses we are doing such terrible things and we are getting tired of it. Most of us just sell the horses and give up because we just can't take it no more. It's awful to have somebody telling me that I am doing such terrible things when I know I have not. And I don't know how anybody could do anything with these animal if you are constantly condemned for doing something wrong that is not wrong. The government needs to grow a set of balls and stand up to these people and tell them that they are wrong and they need to back off, otherwise we will not have the beautiful horses to admire and use. Just recently a car drove by on the waterfront and what sounded like to be a five-year-old child maybe,

- and he just squeal with excitement of seeing a horse. That will all come to an end very soon if somethings is not done immediately!

Approximately 10 years ago, give or take a few years the United States banned the slaughter of horses and we need to do the same immediately. At this rate they will be pretty much extinct in a short time and all the carriage operated of North America feel that they need to be put on the endangered species list immediately, North America wide.

So today I am here to ask you your worship and Council to start this ball rolling to get the message to our government to stop the slaughter of horses in our country as United States sees the issue and stopped the slaughter of horses in their country.

There is a man who I consider a very wise gentleman who is greatly known in Lunenburg County. Gordon Lohnes of Upper Northfield, who is now I believe in his 90s. I was fortunate to see him at the exhibition this year, and he agrees something needs to be done now. He had what I considered some very wise words to tell me. He said I myself probably won't need a horse to live anymore, and Basil you may never need a horse to live either and maybe your Grandchildren, But somebody will someday.