

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a Special Tele/Video Conference Meeting of
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 12, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

Staff: Tom MacEwan, CAO
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO
Elana Wentzell, Director of Financial Services
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk
Angela Veinot, Manager of Accounting
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer
Dave Waters, Director of Business Development, Tourism & Infrastructure
Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services
Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Tissy Bolivar, Acting Director of Recreation Services
Byung Jun Kang, Planner,
Rachel Hiltz, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bolivar-Getson called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Bolivar-Getson noted that this Council meeting is being held completely virtually due to the current unprecedented times of the pandemic. Throughout the budget process, Council must balance Provincial and Federal legislation, receive feedback from the public through engagement sessions, consider long term initiatives, and take advantage of immediate needs and opportunities. This information helps form Council's strategic priorities, which in turn, helps with the preparation of the Budget.

2. PRESENTATION:

2.1 Draft 2020/2021 MODL Operating and Capital Budget

Ms. Wentzell reviewed the presentation titled “Operating and Capital Budget 2020/2021” (circulated with Agenda).

The following topics were noted as part of the presentation:

- Key Themes & Successes
- Assessment Trends & Issues
- Budget Highlights: Investing in our Community; Protecting the Environment; Making Life Affordable; Building the Local Economy; In the Community, For the Community, By the Community
- Budget Overview – Revenues and Expenses
- Debt Repayment
- Tax and Area Rates
- 5 Year Financial Strategy
- Reserves
- 5 Year Capital Budget & Gas Tax Investment
- Strategic Priorities
- Grants

3. STAFF REPORTS

3.1 Finance Department

3.1.1 Review and Approval of 2020/21 Operating and Capital Budgets and Municipal Tax Rates

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Nauss that Municipal Council approve the 2020/21 Operating Budget in the amount of \$31,176,000. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Carver that Municipal Council approve the 2020/21 Residential Tax Rate of \$0.81 per \$100 of assessment. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Garland, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt that Municipal Council approve the 2020/21 Commercial Tax Rate of \$1.957 per \$100 of assessment. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Knickle, seconded by Councillor Nauss that Municipal Council approve the 2020/21 Seasonal Commercial Tax Rate at \$1.468 per \$100 of assessment. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Veinot, seconded by Councillor Bell that Municipal Council approve the 2020/21 Capital Budget & Gas Tax Investment in the amount of \$14,208,700 and the 5-Year Capital Plan.

The motion on the floor was voted on. Those opposed: Councillor Ernst. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Veinot that Municipal Council approve the 2020/21 Reserves Transfers including interest as noted in the 5-Year Financial Plan. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Whynot that Municipal Council approve the 2020/21 Flat Fee Area Rate of \$10 per residential and commercial property in the Village of Hebbville on behalf of the Village Commission. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Bolivar-Getson stated that the 2020/2021 Budget continues the Municipality's strong financial track record while still meeting the needs of its residents. The Municipality will continue to be debt free by 2021 and maintains stable tax rates and contributions to reserves. Council's strategic priorities include: continuing with high speed internet projects; road improvements; the Lahave River Straight Pipe Replacement Program; and, battling Lyme Disease. Council knows these projects are important to residents and the economy.

To help residents and communities during this pandemic, Council has donated to food banks and has budgeted \$150,000 to help community groups.

Mayor Bolivar-Getson also thanked Councillors and staff for their hard work in preparing this Budget.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at 7:05 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Nauss that the meeting adjourn. Carried.