

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Minutes of a Meeting of Municipal Council

Held in Council Chambers, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, NS

And Via Video/Audio Conferencing

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson

Deputy Mayor Cathy Moore, District 5

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 Michelle Greek, District 7

Councillor Kacy DeLong, District 8

Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9

Councillor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10

Staff

Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO

Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services (via Teams)

Dave Waters, Director of Economic Development (via Teams)

Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance (via Teams)

Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering & Public Works (via Teams)

Bill Schurman, Direction of Recreation, Parks & Tourism (via Teams)

Byung Jun Kang, Planner (via Teams)

Darren Shupe, Senior Planner (via Teams)

Chris Kennedy, Fire & Emergency Services Coordinator (via Teams)

Mark Strickland, Business Development Officer (via Teams)

April Whynot-Lohnes, Municipal Clerk

Sarah Kucharski, Manager, Corporate Services & Communications (via Teams)

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

Mayor Bolivar-Getson extended sympathies to the families and friends who lost loved ones in a recent house fire and asked for a moment of silence in their memory. She also thanked the emergency responders for their efforts.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Bolivar-Getson requested that Item 10.2.2 Alternative Procurement Practices – Electric Vehicles be moved up on the agenda.

Councillor Statton requested that an item be added to the Agenda under Added Items – Update from Police Advisory Board regarding noise by-law.

Moved by Councillor Statton, seconded by Councillor Haysom that the Agenda be approved with the amendments noted above. Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2022

Moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the Minutes of the February 22, 2022 Council meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

5. Business arising from Minutes - Nil

6. Awarding of Tenders/RFPs – Nil

10. Staff Reports

10.2 Building Department

10.2.2 Alternative Procurement Practices – Electric Vehicles

Graham Hopkins, Inspection Services Manager, was in attendance via Teams.

Mr. Hopkins reviewed his report, “Alternative Procurement Practices – Electric Vehicle(s)” (circulated with the agenda) providing details on status of municipal vehicles and information on procuring electric or hybrid vehicles for the municipal fleet.

It was noted that there are electric vehicles on car lots available to purchase.

2022-017 Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council:

- (1) authorize staff to use Section 19 of the Purchase and Tendering Policy – Alternative Procurement Practice and secure quotes from vendors, and direct staff to seek quotes for a new or used electric plug-in hybrid or a hybrid SUV.**
- (2) authorize the CAO, under Section 10 – Procurement Value of more than \$25,000, to make the procurement decision in the purchase of:**
 - an electric or hybrid vehicle(s) for the Planning & Development Services, up to \$80,000 + HST, with the monies coming from the engineering 2021/22 capital budget; and**

- **grant pre-budget approval for the purchase of a second electric or hybrid vehicle up to \$80,000 + HST**

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Hopkins left the meeting.

7. Presentations/Scheduled Times

7.1 LCLC Capital & Operating Budgets

Kent Walsh, LCLC General Manager, was in attendance via TEAMS.

Mr. Walsh gave a presentation on the “Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre 2022/2023 Budget” (circulated with the agenda), providing details on the following:

- LCLC Operating Budget – year over year changes
- Organizational Charts – previous and proposed
- LCLC Operating Budget 2022-2023
- Product
- Capital Budget Detailed Descriptions

It was clarified that the car chargers located at the LCLC were older models that did not have the capability of charging users, and that new ones would have that capability.

Mr. Walsh left the meeting.

9. Recommendations from Committees & Boards

9.2 LCLC Board

9.2.1 2022-2023 LCLC Capital & Operating Budgets

2022-018 Moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Councillor Whynot that Municipal Council:

- (1) approve the LCMPPC 2022-2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$272,472.12, with each Council’s contribution being \$136,236.06;**
- (2) approve the LCMPPC 2022-2023 Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,054,916, with each Council’s contribution being \$527,458.**

Opposed: Councillor Statton. Carried.

8. Consideration of Correspondence

8.1 Big Tancook Island Emergency Response Association

Roy Thomas, Deputy Chief of BTIERA, was in attendance via TEAMS.

The Municipality received a letter from Roy Thomas, Deputy Fire Chief with the Big Tancook Island Emergency Response Association (BTIERA) requesting financial support from the Canadian Community Building Fund (CCBF) (previously the Gas Tax Fund) to complete the construction of a new fire station on Big Tancook Island (circulated with the agenda).

Mr. Dumaresq explained that funds from the CCBF were allocated to projects under the 5-year capital plan and staff recommended that BTIERA's request for access to the Fund be denied.

Mr. Dumaresq further explained that there were other municipal funding opportunities available to BTIERA as well as provincial and federal funding. He advised that staff would be available to help BTIERA source these out.

2022-019 Moved by Councillor Greek, seconded by Councillor Statton that Municipal Council direct staff to respond declining the request for Canadian Community Build Funds and offer assistance in sourcing funding for the Big Tancook Island Emergency Response Association's proposed new fire hall. Opposed: Councillor Veinotte. Carried.

Mr. Thomas left the meeting.

7. Presentations/Scheduled Times

7.2 Brighter Days Capital Campaign, South Shore Regional Hospital

Paul Snow, Chair of the Pace Setting Committee, and Tim O'Regan, Co-Campaign Chair of the Brighter Days Capital Campaign, were in attendance via TEAMS.

Mr. Snow and Mr. O'Regan gave a presentation on the "Brighter Days Capital Campaign" (circulated with the agenda), providing details on the South Shore Regional Hospital's four-year plan for expansion as follows:

- Project Scope
- Project Highlights
- The Campaign
- Community Impact
- Ways to Give

Mr. O'Regan asked that Council consider providing financial support to the project in some way. Mayor Bolivar-Getson advised that the ask would be reviewed during budget discussions.

9. Recommendations from Committees & Boards

9.1 Policy & Strategy Committee

9.1.1 Develop Nova Scotia – Internet Options

2022-020 Moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Veinotte that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Policy & Strategy Committee and request that Develop NS continue to explore additional options for internet service for the remaining 147 MODL addresses. Carried unanimously.

10. Staff Reports

10.2 Planning Department

10.2.1 Boundary Review Committee TOR and Appointment of Members

Mr. Merrill reviewed the report, “Proposed Terms of Reference – 2022, Boundary Review Committee” (circulated with the agenda).

It was noted that an increase in population growth was expected in some districts in the next few years. Councillors who were interested in sitting on the Boundary Review Committee were asked to put their names forward to the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

2022-021 Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council approve the Boundary Review Committee terms of reference, as presented, and further, direct the Nominating Committee to make a recommendation to Council on the membership. Carried unanimously.

10.1 Engineering Department

10.1.1 LaHave River Straight Pipe Replacement Program – Year 4 Update

Maria Butts, Project Coordinator, was in attendance via TEAMS.

Ms. Butts reviewed her report, “LaHave River Straight Pipe Replacement Program – Year 4 Update” (circulated with the agenda) providing a status report on year 4 of the program. She noted that the Program has remained on schedule and under budget with the installation of 292 systems and 882 inspections. Ms. Butts provided further details on the following:

- Installation targets
- Number of straight pipes
- Inspection program
- Expenditures
- Overall Status
- Participant Concerns
- Procurement
- Year 5 expectations and goals

Ms. Butts left the meeting.

10.3 Administration Department

10.3.1 Request for Letter re Federal Ghost Gear Fund

A report from Ms. Whynot-Lohnes, Municipal Clerk, titled “Federal Ghost Gear Fund” reviewing a presentation given to the Policy & Strategy Committee on February 15, 2022 was circulated with the agenda. The presentation detailed the work the Sustainable Fisheries Solutions and Retrieval Support Contribution Programme was doing to remove ghost gear from the surrounding oceans. It also noted that the funding for this work was scheduled to end in March 2022.

2022-022 Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Councillor Bell that Municipal Council write a letter to the Honourable Joyce Murray, Minister of Federal Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, with a copy to the local Member of Parliament, supporting the continuance of the federal ghost gear fund. Carried unanimously.

10.3.2 Establishment of Post Merger Grant – Fire Departments

Chris Kennedy, Fire & Emergency Services Coordinator, was in attendance via TEAMS.

Mr. Kennedy reviewed his report, “Establishment of Post Merger Grant Fire Department Grant” (circulated with the agenda).

It was noted that funding to these departments decreased due to the higher assessment numbers, created when the departments merged.

2022-023 Moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Councillor Greek that Municipal Council establish an annual post-merger grant fund to support amalgamating departments, and that Council award \$11,676.66 from the 2021/2022 budget to Tri-District Fire & Rescue. Carried unanimously.

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

11.1 LCLC Update

Councillor Hubley provided an update on the Lunenburg County Multi-Purpose Lifestyle Community Centre as follows:

- Facility repairs and maintenance completed
- Increased utility expenses
- Decreased traffic in January & February
- Sports teams returning play/practice
- Weather disruptions causing system issues
- Facility used as warming station during weather events
- Connect2Rec stats

- Covid restrictions continue to prohibit events
- Cheerleading Provincials in May confirmed
- Boxing, Triathlon events and Lacrosse camps in the works
- Swimming Lessons switching to Lifesaving Society curriculum
- Unspent capital to be used towards Energy Project

11.2 Deputy Mayor's Update

Deputy Mayor Moore advised that she attended to cheque signings and agenda briefings, and fielded resident calls.

11.3 Mayor's Update

Mayor Bolivar-Getson advised that she attended virtual sessions on local climate change; the Mayors/Wardens meeting; COO search meetings; the NSFM spring session meeting; workshops on Equity and Racism, drinking water, and flood risk; the Power Up Equity session; a meeting with Nick Saunders re physician recruitment; the LCLC meeting; and fielded resident calls regarding flooding issues.

12. Added Items

12.1 Police Advisory Board Update re Noise By-law

Councillor Haysom reported that RCMP follow up on noise complaints when possible. Complaints of this nature are prioritized based on other matters. If the complaint is alcohol related, the complaint is given a higher priority. Without a Noise By-law in place, the police will not lay charges, but will record complaints and repeat offenders are noted.

13. In Camera

At 11:39 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Veinotte that Municipal Council go In Camera to discuss Item 13.1 Contract Negotiations re Straight Pipe Installation Program under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA. Carried.

Municipal Council In Camera in session.

At 12:02 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.

Municipal Council in session.

13.1 Straight Pipe Installation Program

2022-024 Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Haysom that Municipal Council approve a one-year extension of RFP 2019-05-405 2020 On-Site Sewage Disposal

System Installations for LaHave River Properties to Dennis Lively Construction and Backhoe Services Inc. in the amount of \$1,533,000. Opposed: Councillor Statton. Carried.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business at 12:04 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the meeting adjourn. Carried.