

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg Minutes of a Meeting of Municipal Council

Held in Council Chamber, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, NS
Tuesday, November 8, 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 (via Teams)
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO (via Teams)
Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services
Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Dave Waters, Director of Economic Development (via Teams)
Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance (via Teams)
Angela Veinot, Accounting Manager (via Teams)
Reid Sheppard, Senior Planner
Norma Schiefer, Development Officer (via Teams)
Mark Strickland, Business Development Officer (via Teams)
Abhi Jain, Sustainability Planner
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

Councillor Bell reported that Jean I. Fraser passed away at the age of 100 years.

3. Public Input – Nil

4. Approval of Agenda

It was requested that the agenda be amended as follows:

- Removal of Item 8.1 Award of 2022-05-402 Flood Line Mapping for the Herring Cove-Medway Primary Watershed from the agenda.
- Addition of In Camera Item 14.1 Potential Litigation under Section 22(2)(f) of the MGA

Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the Agenda be approved as amended with the removal and addition of the above-noted items. Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes – October 25, 2022

Moved by Councillor Statton, seconded by Councillor Haysom that the Minutes of the October 25, 2022 Council meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

6. Business arising from Minutes - Nil

7. Nomination & Election by Ballot – Deputy Mayor

7.1 MODL Policy 011 – Deputy Mayor

Mayor Bolivar-Getson reviewed the procedure in place under MODL Policy 011 to receive nominations by ballot for the position of Deputy Mayor and asked for nominations for the seat.

Those nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor were:

Councillor Hubley
Councillor DeLong
Councillor Haysom

Councillors DeLong and Haysom declined the nomination for the position of Deputy Mayor. As such, Councillor Hubley was appointed Deputy Mayor.

Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Greek that the ballots be destroyed. Carried unanimously.

10. Consideration of Correspondence

10.1 Letter from Eric Walters, Chair, Trustees of the Lunenburg Common Lands re Management of Common Lands

Councillor Veinotte declared a Conflict of Interest and left the table.

Mr. Dumaresq provided a brief background on the Lunenburg Common Lands and explained that the lands were managed by a Board of Trustees, who were appointed by the Municipality,

the Town of Lunenburg, and the Province. He reported that the Board was considering donating a portion of the lands to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust and it required assistance with the transfer of land.

2022-174 Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council direct staff to support the Trustees in investigating the donation of the Lunenburg Common Lands to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust for its protection, and authorize up to \$5000 in legal expenses.

It was clarified that the staff support required would be to help coordinate public meetings.

It was requested that staff determine whether there was a connector trail on the portion of the land being donated.

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

Councillor Veinotte returned to the table.

11. Recommendations from Committees & Boards

11.1 Finance Committee

11.1.1 Annual Operating Grant Flourish Family Well-Being Society

Councillor Oickle declared a Conflict of Interest and removed herself from the table.

2022-175 Moved by Councillor Haysom, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hubley that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and award an Annual Operating Grant to the Flourish Family Well-Being Society in the amount of \$5,000. Carried unanimously.

Councillor Oickle returned to the table.

11.2 Boundary Review Committee

11.2.1 Electoral District Boundaries

Mr. Merrill reviewed his report, "Electoral District Boundaries" and explained that the Boundary Review Committee was tasked to draft revisions to the district boundaries as per council resolution on October 11, 2022. His report provided information on the following considerations taken by the committee in determining boundaries and recommending options:

- Communities of interest and Geography
- Relative parity of voting power
- Voter Statistics
- Next steps

2022-176 Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Veinotte that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Boundary Review Committee and set the tentative electoral district boundaries to Option 6. Further, that Council hold a public hearing on the tentative electoral district boundaries on Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Services Building. Carried unanimously.

11.3 Nominating Committee

11.3.1 Appointments to Committees and Boards

The list of the 2022/2023 committee appointments was circulated and reviewed at the meeting.

2022-177 Moved by Deputy Mayor Hubley, seconded by Councillor Moore that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and approve the appointments to Committees and Boards for the period of November 2022 to November 2023, as presented. Carried unanimously.

12. Staff Reports

12.1 Planning & Development Department

12.1.1 Renaming of Lakes – Lake Misery and S Lake

Mr. Merrill reviewed the report, “Municipal support for renaming lakes at Upper New Cornwall”. He explained that the request to rename the lakes came from Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services, and as part of their process they ask for municipal support.

He noted that the lakes were mislabeled and that the renaming would correctly assign the names of the lakes as was originally intended.

2022-178 Moved by Councillor Greek, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council support switching the names of “Lake Misery” and “S Lake”, and renaming “S Lake” to “Lake S”, to correctly assign the names of the lakes as was originally intended. Carried unanimously.

12.1.2 Appointment of Building Official – Amanda Esterbrooks

Mr. Merrill reviewed his report, “Appointment of Building Official – Amanda Esterbrooks”. He advised that Ms. Esterbrooks was a Level 1 building official and that Council was required to appoint building officials to enforce the Building Code Act in the Municipality.

It was noted that all the municipal units under the Regional Building Services agreement were required to make the same appointment.

2022-179 Moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Haysom that Municipal Council appoint Amanda Esterbrooks as a Building Official for the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg. Carried unanimously.

12.1.3 Adoption of Local Climate Change Action Plan 2030

Mr. Jain reviewed his report, "Local Climate Change Action Plan 2030 Adoption". He explained that of the five Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) milestones committed to, the adoption of the Plan was milestone 3.

2022-180 Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council adopt the Local Climate Action Plan 2030, as presented. Carried unanimously.

12.1.4 First Reading of By-law to Amend Secondary Planning Strategies & Land Use By-laws re Small Option Housing in Residential Zones in the areas of Blockhouse, Village of Hebbville, Hemford Forest, Oakland, Osprey Village, Princess Inlet & Area, and Riverport & District

2022-181 Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Statton that Municipal Council give notice of its intention to adopt the housekeeping amendments to the Blockhouse, Village of Hebbville, Hemford Forest, Oakland, Osprey Village, Princess Inlet & Area, and Riverport and District Secondary Planning Strategies and Land Use By-laws (2022) and conduct First Reading of the proposed amendments; and further, that Municipal Council set a date and time for a Public Hearing for the amendments on December 13, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. at the Municipal Services Building. Carried unanimously.

12.2 Recreation Department

12.2.1 Visitor Information Centre Lease

Ruth Wawin, Tourism and Event Development Officer, was in attendance.

Ms. Wawin gave a presentation on the "Visitor Information Centre Lease". She advised that the lease between the Municipality, the Town of Bridgewater, and the owners of the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) in Blockhouse was to expire in April 2023. She provided background on the lease agreement, expenses, and statistics on visitor numbers to the VIC.

A hybrid model was suggested which would consist of face-to-face interaction and an improved online presence.

It was noted that the Town of Bridgewater had provided the landlord notice that they would not be renewing their lease. Due to this, requesting an additional 6 months would potentially double MODL's costs. It was suggested that the terms of the costs of snow removal and landscaping be renegotiated to provide for a more economical fee instead of allowing the lease to expire. It was clarified that the terms of the lease could not be renegotiated until the end of

the 10 year term of the lease. It was suggested that having various kiosks throughout the municipality would better service tourists than having only one option.

Staff was directed to bring back options for the 2023 season, including cost implications of extending the lease.

Council recessed at 10:42a.m. and returned at 10:55a.m.

9. Presentations/Scheduled Times

9.1 Laconia Wind Project Update

Councillor Veinotte declared a Conflict of Interest and left the table.

The following presenters from Invenergy were in attendance via Teams:

- Richard Deacon, Project/Land Manager
- Jennifer Ng – Senior Associate
- Maryse Tremblay, Manager, Communications Stakeholder Relations

The following presenters from Strum Consulting were in attendance:

- Courtney Morrison, Community Engagement Coordinator
- Melanie Smith, Vice President, Environmental Assessment & Approvals

Ms. Ng gave a presentation on the Laconia Wind Energy project, which included both background information on the project and an update as follows:

- First RFP resulted in 5 projects selected across the province
- Invenergy plans to participate in the 2023 RFP
- Study area evolving with consultation – currently 50 interested landowners
- 2023 would see more environmental field work
- Discussions with Ministry of Transportation
- Community Benefit Fund
- Land use Zoning and wind energy

The following comments were discussed:

- Acadia First Nations
- Signed lease agreements
- Watershed protection area

The group of presenters left the meeting.

Mr. Sheppard left the meeting.

Councillor Veinotte returned to the table.

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

13.1 MJSB

Councillor Moore reported that the Municipal Joint Services Board approved a contract with BTS Management Consulting Limited to move forward with strategic planning.

13.2 Deputy Mayor's Update

Deputy Mayor Moore advised that she attended the NSFM conference; and the flood risk meeting in Parkdale.

13.3 Mayor's Update

Mayor Bolivar-Getson advised that she attended NSFM meetings; the Scottish Trade Mission meeting; SERMGAR Service Exchange and MGA review meetings; the South Shore Stamp Club meeting; the induction of Lunenburg County Port Heritage members; boundary review meetings; the NSFM Conference; and the Parkdale flood risk meeting.

14. Added Items - Nil

15. In Camera

At 11:17 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Haysom that Municipal Council go In Camera to discuss the following:

15.1 Land Negotiations re Riverport Property under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA

15.2 Potential Litigation under Section 22(2)(f) of the MGA.

Carried.

Municipal Council In Camera in session.

At 12:27 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Oickle that Municipal Council come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.

Municipal Council in session.

16. Adjournment

There being no further business at 12:28 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor DeLong that the meeting adjourn. Carried.