

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Minutes of a Meeting of Municipal Council

Held in Council Chamber, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, N.S.
Tuesday, December 10, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Mayor Elspeth McLean-Wile
Deputy Mayor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10
Councillor Morgen Reinhardt, District 1
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2
Councillor Wendy Oickle, District 3
Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5
Councillor Alison Smith, District 6
Councillor Edgar Burns, District 7
Councillor Kacy DeLong, District 8
Councillor Ben Brooks, District 9

Regrets

Councillor Pam Hubleby, District 4

Staff

Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO
Tina Robichaud-Bond, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Mayor McLean-Wile called the meeting to order at 9:01 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 Brooks recognized staff for a successful Seniors Holiday Lunch event.

Councillor Reinhardt reported that the LaHave Ferry was back in service.

Councillor DeLong recognized the Indian Point 1st Annual Christmas Pet Parade.

Mayor McLean-Wile acknowledged that Friday, December 6 was the Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in recognition of the day that 14 young women were lost in a mass killing at L'Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal in 1989.

2.1 Volunteer Firefighter 50 Year Service Awards

Mayor McLean-Wile recognized the following firefighters for 50+ years of volunteer service to their communities:

- Reid Whynot Bridgewater Fire Department
- Charles Horstman Bridgewater Fire Department

Proclamation – Alzheimer Awareness Month

Mayor McLean-Wile proclaimed January 2025 as Alzheimer Awareness Month in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg.

3. Public Input - Nil

4. Approval of Agenda

It was requested that the following item be added to the In Camera portion of the agenda:

- 14.1 Land Negotiations under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA

Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Bell that Item 14.1 Land Negotiations under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA be added to the agenda. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Smith that the agenda be approved as amended with the addition of Item 14.1 Land Negotiations. Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes – November 26, 2024

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Veinotte that the Minutes of the November 26, 2024 Council meeting be approved. Carried unanimously.

6. Business Arising from Minutes - Nil

7. Awarding of Tenders/RFPs

7.1 Award of Phase III Environmental Site Assessment re Former Centre School and Sewage Treatment Plant

Stephen Pace, Director of Engineering and Public Works, reviewed the report, “Former Centre Consolidated School and Sewage Treatment Plant, Centre, NS – Phase III Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)”, (circulated with the agenda).

Mr. Pace provided background on the scope of the project explaining that there were two scopes of assessment – Environmental Site Assessment which deals with the site contamination

and a Hazardous Materials Screening Assessment which deals with hazardous materials and the removal of the building.

Mr. Pace reported that Phase I ESA and Phase II ESA were complete. He explained that the Phase II report recommended that a Phase III ESA be conducted to define and address the areas of contamination.

2024-213 Moved by Deputy Mayor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council award the Phase III Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for the former Centre Consolidated School (PID 60161999) and Sewage Treatment Plant (Portion of PID 60161957) to Strum Consulting Ltd., in the amount of \$37,494, including a 20% contingency and net HST.

Mr. Pace clarified that the scope or work for Phase III included testing around the identified areas and providing specific assessments of those areas.

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

9. Consideration of Correspondence

9.1 DMAH Response to Funding Support Letter re Oakhill Solar Project

Tom MacEwan, CAO, reported that the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing had responded to the Municipality's request for a Letter of Support regarding the Oakhill Solar Project. He advised that the letter confirmed that as part of the application process there was no requirement to have approval from the Minister to move forward with the application to the Community Solar Program.

10. Recommendations from Committees & Boards

10.1. Finance Committee

10.1.1 Growth & Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program Cookville Wastewater Treatment Plant Update

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO, advised that the recommendation from the Finance Committee on the application process for the "GRID" program be revised slightly to remove the reference to "Phase 3" of the project.

2024-214 Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Burns that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and endorse the Cookville Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades project as the funding priority for the Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program (GRID). Carried unanimously.

11. Staff Reports

11.1 Recreation, Parks & Tourism

11.1.1 55+ Games Financial Request

Tom MacEwan, CAO, reviewed the report from Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism, titled “55+ Games Financial Request” (circulated with the agenda) providing details on the financial request received from the LCLC to support the Nova Scotia 55+ Games scheduled for September 2025.

2024-215 Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council award funding to the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre in the amount of \$10,000 to be used towards the planning and execution of the NS 55+ Games to be held in Lunenburg and Queens Counties in September 2025, from the 2024-2025 Recreation, Parks and Tourism operating budget.

It was clarified that Council was only required to contribute the amount of \$10,000 as stated in the motion, regardless of the decisions of other units.

Ruth Wawin, Tourism and Event Development Officer, explained that there were no budget implications to the Recreation, Parks & Tourism budget as funds were reallocated from a 2025 event that was only in the planning stages.

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

2024-216 Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Smith that Municipal Council consider, during budget deliberations, allocating an additional \$10,000 in the 2025-2026 budget to be used for the planning and execution of the NS 55+ Games. Carried unanimously.

11.2 Planning & Development Services

11.2.1 Appointment of Building Officials

Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning, Building and Development, reviewed the report, “Appointment of Building Officials” (circulated with the agenda) providing details on the requirement for additional Building Officials to comply with the Regional Inspection Services Agreement.

2024-217 Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Deputy Mayor Veinotte that Municipal Council appoint the following qualified individuals as Building Officials for the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg:

- **Myles Harlow**
- **Tim Clattenburg.**

It was clarified that there were no budget implications with the appointment of these building officials.

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

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

12.1 Deputy Mayor's Update

Deputy Mayor Veinotte reported that she attended the REMO and strategic priority session; the Town of Lunenburg Christmas parade; the agenda briefing meeting; the Seniors' Christmas party, and all meetings as assigned.

Council recessed at 10:00 am and resumed at 10:05 a.m.

8. Presentations/Scheduled Times

8.1 South Shore Pickleball Club – Pickleball Park

Jared Uhlman, President, South Shore Pickleball Club, gave a presentation on the proposed pickleball park, providing details on the following:

- What is pickleball?
- Growth and popularity of pickleball
- Why pickleball is perfect for MODL
- Health benefits
- Pickleball on the South Shore
- The South Shore Pickleball Club
- Proposed site of pickleball park

Mr. Uhlman clarified that the Club's ask of Council was to consider entering into a management agreement that would allow the development and construction of pickleball courts on the property located on the Leary Fraser property and for access to the funds that had been set aside for pickleball courts.

The following concerns were raised and discussed:

- Membership fees
- Access for general public (non-members)
- Maintenance and upkeep
- Fundraising efforts
- Outreach
- Federal & Provincial funding
- Decommissioning courts

Mayor McLean-Wile advised that the matter would be discussed at the Policy & Strategy Committee meeting in January 2025.

Mr. Uhlman left the meeting.

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

12.2 Mayor's Update

Mayor McLean-Wile gave an update on her attendance at the NSFIM Fall Conference. She also reported that she attended a meeting with Kathleen Bell regarding the Balsam care facility; the public meeting re Solar Bank; the staff led orientation sessions; and a workshop on meeting management.

13. Added Items

Item 14.1 Land Negotiations was added to the In Camera portion of the agenda.

14. In Camera

At 10:58 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Deputy Mayor Veinotte that Municipal Council go In Camera to discuss Item 14.1 Land Negotiations under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA. Carried.

Municipal Council In Camera in session.

At 11:19 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor DeLong 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, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.