



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, September 18th, 2024

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

Warden Wier called the COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, September 18th, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden Greg Wier

Deputy Warden James Fuller

Councillor Everett Baker

Councillor Courtney Mailman

Councillor Beulah Malloy

Councillor Charlene Zinck

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor James Harpell

Also Attending:

Doug Patterson, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF)

Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk

Mallory Fraser, Director of Community Development and Recreation

Teddy Stevens, Director of Public Works

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- Addition to #7. Correspondence – 50th Year Anniversary: Richie & Kelly Burns
- Addition to #7. Correspondence – Thank You from Lion's Hall
- Addition to #9. Other Matters of Business F. Community First Guysborough Housing

4. Approval of the Agenda:

On the motion of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Baker the Council approved the agenda with the additions.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Minutes:

On the motion of Councillor Zinck and seconded by Councillor Mailman the Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held September 4th, 2024.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Correspondence:

- a. From the Cruiser Report – Natasha Farrell
- See the Agenda/Package for the Correspondence.

- b. North Nova SPCA – Invitation
- See the Agenda/Package for the Correspondence.
- c. 50th Year Anniversary for Richie & Kelly Burns
- See the Agenda/Package for the correspondence.
- d. Thank you from the Lion’s Hall
- See the Agenda/Package for the correspondence.

8. Presentation:

a. The St. Mary’s River (Napu’saqnuq) Ecologically Significant Area (ESA) Case Study – Aimee Gromack, Senior Biologist, Integrated Planning

- See the Agenda/Package for the presentation.
- Aimee Gromack, informed the Council of The St. Mary’s River (Napu’saqnuq) Ecologically Significant Area (ESA) Case Study.
- ESA’s are defined geographic areas with regulations made under Canada’s *Fisheries Act* for the protection of fish and fish habitat. Regulations can set specific project requirements or effectively prohibit activities.

a. RCMP – Natasha Farrell, District Commander

- See the Agenda/Package for the presentation.
- Natasha Farrell informed the Council of the recommendations made in April to update the RCMP training. Some of the changes are; Doubling the number of full-time resources on Nova Scotia’s emergency response team, Expanding the use of the Alert Ready system across Canada, including implementing national and divisional RCMP policies on public alerting, Equipping all partner police agencies in Nova Scotia with capable radio communication encryption and ensuring preparedness through regular testing, Rolling out Blue Force Tracking across Nova Scotia to track the locations of police officers in real-time and enhance situational awareness, and Launching a new course on intimate partner violence.
- Some provincial initiatives are; Managing Crisis, Governance, Gender-based and intimate partner violence, Firearms, information sharing, Culture and Accountability, Training, Partnership and Engagement, Resourcing and Recruitment.
- Natasha asked if staff would be able to share the “From the Cruiser report” on the Municipal Website and Facebook Page.
- Natasha also informed Council that she would like to see a “Police Advisory Committee” start in St. Mary’s.

b. Dana O’Connell & Laura Banks - Sherbrooke Fire Department

- See the Agenda/Package for the presentation.
- Dana O’Connell presented to the Council about the Sherbrooke Fire Department.
- Dana urged the need for a new fire truck for the Sherbrooke Fire Department, the trucks that the Fire Department have are old and unreliable.
- Dana recommended that a fire tax levy could be increased to help with the finances.
- The Sherbrooke Fire Department recommended that the Municipality may be able to help financially with a loan. Currently, there is no policy in place for guaranteed loans.

9. Other Matters of Business:

a. Water Main Leak Repair:

- Doug Patterson, CAO informed Council of the road work that needs to be completed due to the water main leak repairs.
- Some costs to complete the road surface repair are to award Wilson's Cove Excavating to remove the excess gravel and provide safety control services, award SW Weeks Construction Ltd. to complete the re-paving, and a contingency of \$1,500.00 plus HST in case spotters hours increase.

On the recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller and seconded by Councillor Baker Council approve the award of the repaving work to S.W. Weeks Construction Ltd. for a cost of \$6,400.00 plus HST

And

Council approve the award of removal of excess gravel and to provide the safety traffic control services for a total cost of \$1,570.00 plus HST to Wilsons Cove Excavating

And

Approve a cost contingency of \$1,500.00 plus HST.

Recommendation adopted.

b. Recreation Update:

- See the Agenda/Package for the report.
- Mallory Fraser, Director of Community Development & Recreation advised Council of the Upcoming Holiday events that are going to be put on or supported by the Municipality.
- Some events Mallory has planned are The Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony on September 18th, 2024, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th, 2024, Guysborough County 55+ Games on October 2nd into the 3rd, 2024, Fright Night on October 31st, 2024, Volunteer Appreciation Event on November 6th, 2024, and Holiday Socials throughout the community centres for December 2024.

c. Set October Council Date:

- Council discussed setting the October Council date, Thanksgiving falls on the regular scheduled Council date, Council discussed which days work best for them, Council decided on October 9th, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

On the recommendation of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council agree to reschedule the October 14th Council date to October 9th, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. due to the holiday.

Recommendation adopted.

d. Award of Sewer Grating Installation at the Waste-Water Facility:

- See the Agenda/Package for the report.
- Sewer Grating was identified for work before this this fiscal year and a budget line was created for a capital project this year.

On recommendation of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Zinck Council approve the award of the wastewater grating replacement project to DivCon Diversified Construction Inc. for \$72,000.00 plus HST where \$30,000 will come from the Sustainable Service Growth Fund and \$47,677 to be funded by the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) reserve.

Recommendation adopted.

e. Councillor Orientation:

- Council discussed attending the orientation on November 4th to 5th at the Halifax Convention Centre. Council discussed sending all of the new Council and the CAO to the Councillor orientation.

On recommendation of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council agree to send the new elected officials to the Councillor orientation at the Halifax Convention Centre on November 4th to 5th, 2024.

Recommendation adopted.

f. Community First: Guysborough Housing

- Warden Greg Wier, and CAO, Doug Patterson, had the chance in the meeting on Tuesday to clarify the group's request to be a "Community contribution of funding for the purchase of land 10% or (\$8,000.)" for the purchase of the Anderson property in Sherbrooke.
- Council discussed what liability will the Municipality be at risk if they are to move ahead with this recommendation. After discussion Council decided to move forward with the recommendation and if Community First Guysborough Housing does not use the money it will be returned.

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller and seconded by Councillor Malloy Council approve a funding contribution to Community First Guysborough Housing from the Municipality of the District of St Mary's (the municipality) for \$8,000.00. The funds shall come from the municipal operational economic development budget.

The funds shall be made available under the following conditions

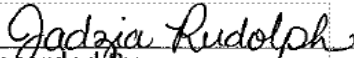
- 1.) *The funds shall be provided for the purpose of assisting Community First Guysborough Housing to purchase the property known as PID 37503422 located on Highway #7, Marine Drive in Sherbrooke Nova Scotia*
- 2.) *The funds are to be used for the purchase of the land and for the development of housing on this property*
- 3.) *The municipality recognizes that Community First Guysborough Housing will manage and control all aspects of the project including the land purchase and housing development*
- 4.) *If the purchase of the land is not completed for any reason, then the funds shall be returned to the municipality unless other use of the funds is approved via written consent by the municipality in the form of a motion approved by council*
- 5.) *That Community First Guysborough Housing shall agree in writing to these terms*

Recommendation adopted.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Mailman there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Motion approved.


Recorded By
Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk


Approved By
Warden Wier