



# Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025,

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

## **1. Meeting, Date & Time:**

Deputy Warden Malloy called the COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

## **2. Attending:**

Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy  
Councillor Dana O'Connell  
Councillor Emma Tibbo

## **Absent with Regrets:**

Warden James Fuller  
Councillor Scott Beaver

## **Also Attending:**

Doug Patterson, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)  
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF)  
Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk

## **3. Additions to the Agenda:**

- There were no additions to the agenda.

## **4. Approval of the Agenda:**

*On the motion of Councillor O'Connell and seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approved the agenda as presented.*

***Motion approved.***

## **5. Approval of Minutes:**

*On the motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.*

***Motion approved.***

## **6. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

## **7. Correspondence:**

- There was no correspondence.

## **8. Presentation:**

- a. St. Mary's ATV Club – Milton Gallant
  - Please see the Agenda/Package for the presentation.

- Milton Gallant from the St. Mary's ATV Club provided Council with a presentation on the current status of the St. Mary's ATV Club. Mr. Gallant informed Council that there was \$417.8 million for trail maintenance and upkeep.
- Mr. Gallant notified council that there are 3 asks for council; written letters of support for the road trail act, approval of the district grant, and council communicating that the St. Mary's ATV Club is an asset to the community and operating businesses within.

**9. Other Matters of Business:**

a. 2025-2026 Low Income Property Tax Exemption

- Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.
- Marian Fraser, Director of Finance provided Council with a report on the 2025-2026 residential low-income tax exemption. Marian presented 4 options; Council may decide which option they deem most efficient for residents.

*On recommendation of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve the 2025/2026 Application for Residential Low Income Property Tax Exemption with the annual household income range threshold as laid out in the table below and the tax exemption credit amount with the corresponding range, all other eligibility requirements to remain the same as outlined in the application.*

Household Income Range	Tax Exemption Amount	Average number of applications based on 2024-2025 municipal data	Cost to Municipality
\$25,001-\$29,000	\$200	60	\$12,000
\$20,001-\$25,000	\$250	31	\$7,750
\$15,001-\$20,000	\$300	5	\$1,500
\$0-\$15,000	\$350	15	\$5,250
<b>Total</b>		111	<b>\$26,500</b>

**Recommendation adopted.**

b. Operating Budget Presentation: First Draft 2025-2026

- Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.
- Marian Fraser, Director of Finance provided Council with a presentation on the 2025-2026 operating budget.

**Adjournment**

*On motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 6:51 p.m.*

**Motion approved.**

*Jadzia Rudolph*  
 Recorded By  
 Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk

*Deputy Warden Malloy*  
 Approved By  
 Deputy Warden Malloy