

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026 @ 4:30 PM
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL
GUYSBOROUGH MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Warden Long called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

ATTENANCE

Warden Paul Long
Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche (via zoom)
Councillor Mary Desmond
Councillor Neil DeCoff
Councillor Dave Hanhams
Councillor Susan Cashin
Councillor Fin Armsworthy

OTHERS PRESENT

Shawn Andrews, Deputy CAO
Deborah Torrey, Development Officer
Christina Bowie, Manager of Special Initiatives & Communications
Carmen Barron, Humanitarian Airlift to Cuba
Randy Berezowski
Jennifer Delorey, Cultural Centre Project – Torbe Region
Jude Avery, Cultural Centre Project – Torbe Region
Media (via zoom)

REGRETS

Councillor Hudson MacLeod
Sean O’Connor, CAO

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

26-04-30944

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy
SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond
MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2026 SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION PUBLIC HEARING

26-04-30945

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond
SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin
MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the minutes of the March 18, 2026 Special Council Session as presented with no noted errors or omissions.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2026 REGULAR COUNCIL

26-04-30946

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff
SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams
MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the minutes of the March 18, 2026 Regular Council Session as presented with no noted errors or omissions.
MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

DELEGATIONS

CARMEN BARRON, HUMANITARIAN AIRLIFT TO CUBA

Ms. Carmen Barron stated that she was here to speak this evening on behalf of the Caribbean Goodwill Tours (Humanitarian Airlift to Cuba) group seeking support to help deliver critical aid to Cuba during their current economic crisis. Ms. Barron briefed Council on their aid efforts for Cuba to date and when they will be travelling. Ms. Barron stated that she is here seeking financial support to cover costs associated with the transportation of bags containing aid noting that number is currently 17.

Warden Paul Long stated that due to the timing of this trip, he will be donating through his District Based Grant and suggested that other Councillors may wish to do the same.

RANDY BEREZOWSKI, ILLEGAL SHIPPING CONTAINER

26-04-30947

Mr. Randy Berezowski stated that he moved from Ontario to Half Island Cove which took him and his wife a year to move into MODG. Mr. Berezowski reported that he received a registered letter in December concerning a container on his property. Mr. Berezowski noted that no one mentioned to him that the bylaw banned shipping containers. He stated that when he received the letter, he came in right away and spoke with Glenn Stirling at length regarding options for shipping containers such as nominal fees, etc. He also stated that in February he received a letter from a lawyer which he felt was threatening. He also noted that he told Mr. Stirling that he was not getting rid of his container and if he had to then he would leave the area. He noted that he also met with Shawn Andrews and had discussions who referred him to Sean O'Connor. Mr. Berezowski also noted that he did meet with Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Torrey.

Warden Paul long stated that right now Mr. Berezowski is contravention of the Bylaw; however, we cannot predict what the new bylaw will look like after the review.

Councillor Dave Hanhams stated that Mr. Berezowski was not targeted, noting others were in the same situation and had their containers removed. Councillor Hanhams stated that a bylaw is a law until it is changed.

Mr. Berezowski stated our bylaw does allow container homes and that is a concern for him.

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough instruct that Staff review the Land Use Bylaw as it relates to shipping containers with the Municipal Solicitor.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Mary Desmond voted nay.

NATASHA FARRELL, RCMP

Sgt. Farrell was not available for today's meeting.

JENNIFER DELOREY, CULTURAL CENTRE PROJECT – TORBE REGION

Ms. Jennifer Delorey thanked Council and presented information on their proposed Cultural Centre Project for the Torbe Region. Ms. Delorey commended Mr. Jude Avery and other notable members of the community on their work that has gotten them to where they are today. Ms. Delorey continued to review their mission, vision and values, their accomplishments, operations and future as well as the many celebrations that take place throughout the year celebrating their heritage, culture and language reclamation. Ms. Delorey also reviewed the establishment of Ecole Belle-Baie.

Ms. Delorey reported that in 2024 they obtained funding for a feasibility study for a cultural centre for their area and they are now ready to take the next steps. Ms. Delorey noted that they have obtained a parcel of land that has been surveyed and subdivided and they have engaged with CSAP noting that this will also be the location for their permanent school. Ms. Delorey state that they will be seeking support under MODG's Capital Grant Program the first step is to access funds for architectural design work. Ms. Delorey stated that the centre will become the hub for the greater Torbe Region and it will be an economic driver for MODG as cultural tourism has become increasingly important. Ms. Delorey reviewed their documented support to date for this project.

Ms. Delorey noted that they will be submitting their application to MODG under the Capital Grant Program by the end of the 2026 calendar year.

NEW BUSINESS

CAMA LONG SERVICE RECOGNITION

Warden Paul Long read correspondence recognizing Mr. Shawn Andrews on his Long Service Recognition Award that he has received this year from CAMA for 15 Years of Service in a municipal government management role.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

RECCOMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECOMMENDATION – WRITE OFF TAXES FOR MULTIPLE INACTIVE ACCOUNTS

26-04-30948

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the write off of the outstanding taxes on the following inactive accounts in the amount of \$3,435.62:

- Account #05911052
- Account #00160105
- Account #03409252
- Account #07105088
- Account #07105584
- Account #11094491
- Account #07104456
- Account #10879892
- Account #10910374
- Account #09020144
- Account #00920746

- Account #03661229
- Account #07107587

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – WRITE OFF TAXES FOR INACTIVE ACCOUNT #05821533

26-04-30949

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the write off of the outstanding taxes on inactive account #05821533 in the amount of \$6,927.23 and interest in the amount of \$17,264.18 for a total of \$24,191.41.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – WRITE OFF TAXES FOR INACTIVE ACCOUNT #11012590

26-04-30950

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the write off of the outstanding taxes on inactive account #11012590 in the amount of \$5,727.61 and interest in the amount of \$1,542.05 for a total of \$7,269.66.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – WRITE OFF FOR INACTIVE WATER 800000.00 ACCOUNTS

26-04-30951

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the write off of the outstanding water charges on the following inactive accounts in the amount of \$3,972.01:

- Account #800001.00
- Account #800002.00
- Account #800003.00
- Account #800004.00
- Account #800005.00
- Account #800006.00
- Account #800007.00
- Account #800010.00
- Account #800011.00
- Account #800012.00
- Account #800014.00
- Account #800015.00
- Account #800016.00
- Account #800017.00
- Account #800021.00
- Account #800022.00
- Account #800024.00

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – PURCHASE OF BOAT (QUEENSPORT LIGHT)

26-04-30952

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the purchase of an 18'

aluminum boat with 3/16" welded aluminum hull and sides, non-slip self-bailing deck, a 25 hp high thrust outboard motor and trailer at a cost of \$50,098 plus tax.

MOTION CARRIED

EASTERN REGION SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Councillor Neil DeCoff reported that a copy of the new recyclable materials was placed in each Councillor's mailbox recently related to circular materials. Councillor DeCoff noted that MODG is still one area that does not have a recycling depot. Councillor DeCoff stated that Divert NS Contracts will soon be completed which involves the Educator and Enforcement Contracts. Councillor DeCoff reported on various presentations that were made in the Region, particularly Antigonish County. Councillor DeCoff also reported on some of the upcoming events noting their next meeting is May 28th.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE COMMITTEE

Councillor Dave Hanhams noted that the next meeting is scheduled for May 20th and reported that funding was approved in the amount of approximately \$191,000 for ATV vehicles for emergency services.

GALA

Councillor Finlay Armsworthy reported that they met yesterday noting that they discussed personnel matters. Councillor Armsworthy stated that they are trying to recruit some more people.

WASTE MANAGEMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

Councillor Neil DeCoff reported that they haven't had a meeting since his last report noting that GFL will be holding some open house information sessions on the expansion of the Waste Management Facility. The next meeting is scheduled for May 7th.

LIBRARY BOARD

Councillor Susan Cashin reported that they haven't met since her last report noting that the next meeting is scheduled for May 21st. Councillor Cashin provided an update on the reported vandalism that took place at the Cyril Ward Memorial Library which was more in the line of mischief. Councillor Cashin noted that there was no major vandalism that took place.

HOME SUPPORT BOARD

Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche reported that their next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD

Councillor Susan Cashin reported that they met last night noting that she had some difficulty joining the meeting through zoom. Councillor Cashin noted that she circulated a copy of the recipients of the Community Health Fund. Councillor Cashin stated that today is the deadline for Wellness Funds noting that they have received 6 applications under this Fund.

Councillor Mary Desmond reported that they held discussions on why the application numbers were low this year and some of the feedback was that the application forms were too long. Councillor Desmond stated that the Community Health Board also does not want groups to receive funding year to year for the same initiative. Councillor Desmond noted that some of their youth will be graduating and leaving them this year and they will be recruiting more youth.

CANSO AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche stated that there was no meeting noting that the group is conducting an internal review.

GUYSBOROUGH AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

Councillor Mary Desmond reported that she was not at the last meeting; however, she was provided with updates from that meeting. Councillor Desmond reported on some of the current vacancies and noted that Dr. Cook and a new Nurse Practitioner will be coming in July. Councillor Desmond also reported on the emergency room closures of the past month.

TRANSIT ASSOCIATION OF GUYSBOROUGH

Councillor Mary Desmond reported that she was away when this meeting was held.

GUYSBOROUGH DISTRICT BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

Warden Paul Long reported that he was away; however, the Executive Director provided an update which he reviewed for the information of Council.

GUYSBOROUGH & AREA BOARD OF TRADE

No report available.

COMMUNITY FIRST GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY HOUSING ASSOC.

Councillor Susan Cashin reported that no meetings have been held since her last report; however, she did meet with Mr. Sean O'Connor, Ms. Debbie Torrey, Ms. Nancy O'Regan and Mr. Keith Towse regarding housing issues.

ANY OTHER COMMITTEE OR BOARD

INTO CLOSED SESSION

26-04-30953

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough proceed into closed session.

MOTION CARRIED

LEGAL

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

26-04-30954

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough return to open session.

MOTION CARRIED

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- May 6th @ 4:30 pm Committee of the Whole
- May 20th @ 3:00 pm Nova Sustainable Fuels
- May 20th @ 4:30 pm Regular Monthly Council Meeting

- May 20th @ 6:00 pm EMO

ADJOURNMENT

26-04-30955

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams
MOTION: **THAT** the Regular Council Meeting of April 15, 2026 stand adjourned.
MOTION CARRIED (6:08 pm)

WARDEN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DATE

DRAFT