

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025 @ 4:30 PM
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL
GUYSBOROUGH MUNICIPAL OFFICE

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

ATTENANCE

Warden Paul Long
Councillor Mary Desmond
Councillor Neil DeCoff
Councillor Dave Hanhams
Councillor Susan Cashin
Councillor Hudson MacLeod

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Carroll, CAO
Deputy CAO, Shawn Andrews
Danita Imlay, Director of Finance
Magdelyn Connolly, Municipal Clerk
Media (via zoom)

REGRETS

Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche
Councillor Fin Armsworthy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

25-07-30835

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams
SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin
MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL

25-07-30836

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond
SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams
MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the minutes of the June 18, 2025 Regular Council Session as presented with no noted errors or omissions.
MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

DELEGATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

BRIEFING NOTE – HIRING OF LOCAL AREA COORDINATOR, GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY

25-07-30837

Warden Long reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package.

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams
SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond
MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough prepare and send a letter to the Honourable Scott Armstrong, Minister of Growth and Social Development, requesting that the province immediately advertise and fill the Local

Area Coordinator position for Guysborough County, emphasizing the importance of equitable representation and support for rural communities in alignment with the Remedy Report.

MOTION CARRIED

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

25-07-30838

Councillor Cashin requested an application extension, due to residents not receiving their tax bills and notice of assessments in a timely manner based on mail disruption.

MOVED: Councillor Susan Cashin

SECONDED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve a tax exemption application extension until the end of September.

MOTION CARRIED

NAY: Councillor Neil Decoff, Councillor Mary Desmond

MELFORD TERMINAL PROJECT

Warden Long stated that this has been added to the agenda as an information item for Council. He reported that a letter of support will be sent on the Municipalities behalf.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

RECCOMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECOMMENDATION – GRANT POLICY G-12

25-07-30839

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Neil Decoff

MOTION: **THAT** as recommended by Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough give Notice of Motion to repeal Policy G-12 Community & Recreation Grants Policy;

AND FURTHER THAT Council also give Notice of Motion to adopt the following:

- Policy G-12A Community Recreation Grant Program
- Policy G-12B Community Recreation Capital Grant Program
- Policy G-12C General Government Grant Program as amended

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – GRANT POLICY G-12C

25-07-30840

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: **THAT** as recommended by Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough provide Year 1 funding of a 4-year funding commitment following adoption of *Policy G-12C General Government Grant Program* to Community First - Guysborough County Housing Association and the Transit Association of Guysborough;

AND FURTHER THAT those funds be taken from the Operating Reserve for the 2025/2026 fiscal year as follows:

- Community First Guysborough County Housing Association: \$20,000
- Transit Association of Guysborough: \$20,000

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – RFP AWARD COMPACT TRACK LOADER

25-07-30841

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** as recommended by the Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough award the purchase of a new compact track loader to Atlantic Coastal Equipment for the tendered amount of \$84,495.00 plus HST.

MOTION CARRIED

RECCOMENDATIONS FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE

2024/2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

25-07-30842

MOVED: Councillor Neil Decoff

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT** as recommended by the Audit Committee the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the 2024/2025 Non-Consolidated Financial Statements and the 2024/2025 Consolidated Financial Statements including Canso-Hazel Hill Water Utility statements to be adopted as presented by Grant Thornton.

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGEMENT LETTER

25-07-30843

MOVED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** as recommended by the Audit Committee the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the Management Letter as presented by Grant Thornton.

MOTION CARRIED

ERSWM

Councillor Decoff reported that the Board met on June 19th. He stated that they were unable to award the Jack Rynolds bursary due to no applications being received. He reported that Ms. Williams is working to get a five-year contract with the alerting system, due to annual price increases. Councillor Decoff stated that both the Town of Antigonish and Municipality of St. Mary's are opting out of the circular materials program, while MODG is opting in and the County of Antigonish is still undecided.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE COMMITTEE

Meeting tonight at 6pm.

GALA

No report.

WASTE MANAGEMENT LIAISON

Councillor Decoff reported that the Committee has not met but that Council had a great site visit with GFL representatives last month.

LIBRARY BOARD

No report.

HOME SUPPORT BOARD

No report.

COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD

No report.

CANSO AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

No report.

GUYSBOROUGH AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

Councillor Desmond reported that the Working Group met. She stated that they advised that the Guysborough Hospital has full administration and LPN compliments. She stated that they have two RN vacancies, with a third vacancy expected. Councillor Desmond stated that there are four shifts in July with no physician. She reported that the Canso Memorial Hospital is currently operating at 50% staff compliment and that they plan to do the best they can during Stan Fest.

TRANSIT ASSOCIATION OF GUYSBOROUGH

Councillor Desmond reported on the updated committee members for the information of Council. She stated that the audit report was successful and that MacDonald Murphy has been re-appointed as the auditor for 2025.

GUYSBOROUGH DISTRICT BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

Warden Long reported that the Board will meet next week, following the Fathom report being presented to the community last week.

GUYSBOROUGH & AREA BOARD OF TRADE

Councillor Hanhams reported that the Board has not met.

COMMUNITY FIRST GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY HOUSING ASSOC.

Councillor Desmond reported that she attended the meeting and that both vacant apartments have been rented by young families.

ANY OTHER COMMITTEE OR BOARD

Councillor Desmond stated that the Emancipation celebrations will be taking place on August 1st and that they will be visiting three communities with the celebrations with the help of the Recreation student staff. Councillor Desmond reported that the Committee is excited to bring the celebrations to various communities, which is made possible with the help of Councillors and staff who have financially contributed to the events.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Monday, July 21st @ 1:00pm – Special Council Meeting
- Wednesday, September 3rd @ 3:30pm – Economic Development Session
- Wednesday, September 3rd @ 4:30pm – COW
- Wednesday, September 17th @ 3:30pm – DOT
- Wednesday, September 17th @ 4:30pm – Regular Monthly Council

ADJOURNMENT

25-07-30844

MOVED: Councillor Neil Decoff

MOTION: THAT the Regular Council Meeting of July 16, 2025 stand adjourned.
MOTION CARRIED (5:15pm)

WARDEN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DATE