

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024 @ 4:30 PM
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL
GUYSBOROUGH MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Warden Pitts called the meeting to order at 4:38 pm.

ATTENANCE

Warden Vernon Pitts
Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche
Councillor Paul Long
Councillor Mary Desmond
Councillor Neil DeCoff
Councillor Dave Hanhams
Councillor Hudson MacLeod
Councillor Fin Armsworthy

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Carroll, CAO
Shawn Andrews, Deputy CAO
Debbie Torrey, Development Officer
Sgt. Natasha Farrell
Media (via zoom)

REGRETS

Magdelyn Connolly, Municipal Clerk

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

24-07-30651

Additions: h (f) Out of the Fog Museum
i (a) v Recommendation - 3 Year Operating Budget for the Canso/Hazel Hill
Water Utility & Capital Budget

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the agenda as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2024 PUBLIC HEARING

24-07-30652

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the minutes of the June 19, 2024 Public Hearing as presented with no noted errors or omissions.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL

24-07-30653

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

MOTION: **THAT** Council approve the minutes of the June 19, 2024 Regular Council as presented with no noted errors or omissions.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

DELEGATIONS

RCMP

24-07-30654

Sgt. Natasha Farrell introduced herself and reviewed the new staffing arrangements for the information of Council. Sgt. Farrell noted that she would like to hold some “town hall” meetings out in the community. She is also hoping to produce a “From the Cruiser” report for this area noting that she brought some samples for the information of Council. They are also hoping to receive some invitations to events held throughout the area to increase their presence; however, they will be attending some of the posted events already scheduled this Summer. Sgt. Farrell reviewed the statistics included in the report that was provided to Council noting that in Guysborough the majority of the cases involve traffic or safety matters.

Councillor Desmond questioned if everyone has mental health training, particularly as it relates to first nations or African Nova Scotian communities, noting that it should be mandatory.

Sgt. Farrell noted that most members do have training but it is not mandatory.

Mr. Shawn Andrews noted that in the future he will be providing the police advisory members with copies of her report.

Councillor Desmond spoke about the event wherein the RCMP will be apologizing to African Nova Scotians and all people of African descent and will be delivering this national apology on September 7th. Councillor Desmond noted that she is hoping that a bus will be available to transport community members that would like to go as it is such an historic event. She stated that if a bus is not provided, then perhaps the Municipality might sponsor a bus for this event.

Councillor DeCoff and Councillor Long discussed issues with off highway vehicles with Sgt. Farrell. Sgt. Farrell noted that she would like to know more about these incidences. Mr. Barry Carroll noted that there is a story in the Guysborough Journal this week about this subject.

Mr. Carroll referred to correspondence regarding the apology to African Nova Scotians which was included in the package from Dennis Daley, Assistant Commissioner and Commanding Office, noting this is an information item.

NEW BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE – GUYSBOROUGH & AREA BOARD OF TRADE 24-07-30655

Mr. Carroll noted that a request was received for a donation from the Guysborough and Area Board of Trade for their Historical Banner Project. Mr. Carroll stated that municipal policy does provide a \$250 for grant for projects of this nature; however, Council could certainly waive policy if the chose to increase the grant amount.

Councillor Paul Long provided information on this project noting that their ultimate goal is to create banners with meaningful historical images from the Buckley collection that would be hung on the light posts which would be seen throughout the sidewalk area in Guysborough.

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: THAT Council waive policy and provide a grant to the Guysborough & Area Board of Trade for the Historical Banners Project up to 50% of the total project cost to a maximum of \$2,000.00.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE – SPCA FUNDING REQUEST

24-07-30656

Mr. Barry Carroll noted that this is a new request for funding from Mr. Steve Smith, Co-Chair of the North Nova SPCA. They are seeking funding for the new SPCA building in New Glasgow that serves Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough. Mr. Carroll noted that this request should be deferred to budget deliberations for next year.

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: THAT Council refer the request from the North Nova SPCA to budget deliberations for the 2025/2026 Budget Year.

MOTION CARRIED

STEEL SHIPPING CONTAINERS – COUNCILLOR ARMSWORTHY

24-07-30657

Councillor Fin Armsworthy stated that he has an issue with the policy on shipping containers noting that Ms. Torrey explained the history on the ban. Councillor Armsworthy stated that this should be reviewed to see what changes could be made, particularly for the fishermen. Councillor Armsworthy questioned if the planning document review could be held in 2025, which is presently scheduled to commence in 2026.

Warden Vernon Pitts stated that this matter could be referred to the Strategic Planning Session in January 2025.

CANSO DAYCARE FUNDRAISING – COUNCILLOR ARMSWORTHY

24-07-30658

Mr. Barry Carroll referred to an email from the Canso Childcare Association that was included in the package wherein they were looking for the \$360 rental fee to be waived for their fundraising event.

Councillor Armsworthy stated he would like to see a donation in the amount of \$500.

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: THAT Council waive policy and provide a grant in the amount of \$500.00 to the Canso Childcare Association to assist with their fundraising events.

MOTION CARRIED

SALSMAN MARINA – COUNCILLOR MACLEOD

24-07-30659

Councillor Hudson MacLeod stated that he had some discussions and emails with Staff regarding washroom facilities at the Country Harbour Marina. Councillor MacLeod noted that there were some suggestions made such as using the washroom inside the building by providing keys or codes to access the building. He noted that there are only 1.5 individuals hired at the Marina and that DNRR does not want them to use their facilities in Salsman Park. He also noted that the cost to purchase a porta-pottie is minimal.

Warden Vernon Pitts stated that Council agreed to install water, sewer and construct a building with a washroom for that purpose.

Mr. Barry Carroll reviewed the situation at the Marina and how the building with the washroom came about. He also noted that a better solution might be to make an exterior entrance into the washroom so that people do not have to go through the rest of the building.

Councillor Paul Long reviewed how the washrooms are accessed at the Guysborough Marina both during staffed and unstaffed hours.

MOVED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: THAT Council approve the purchase of a porta-pottie for the Country Harbour Marina at a cost not to exceed \$3,0000 and that this funding come the operating reserve;

AND FURTHER THAT MODG staff arrange for the pumping of the porta-pottie for the period of time that the Marina is open each year.

MOTION CARRIED

OUT OF THE FOG MUSEUM

24-07-30660

Councillor Neil DeCoff noted he received a call from Gloria MacQuarrie, Out of the Fog Museum. He stated that Gloria informed him that they had 63 American Veterans visit their museum recently who went through all of the artifacts. She wanted Council to be aware of this good news story.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECOMMENDATION – EMO FACILITY STORAGE UPGRADES

24-07-30661

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT on the recommendation of Committee of the Whole, the Municipality of the District of Guysborough award the EMO Facility Storage Upgrades project to Con & Con Construction Ltd. for a quoted price, not to exceed, \$66,800.00, plus HST.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – WRITE OFF TAXES FOR INACTIVE ACCOUNT 05523958

24-07-30662

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: THAT on the recommendation of Committee of the Whole and the Director of Finance, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the write off of outstanding taxes on inactive account 05523958 in the amount of \$4,371.09 and interest in the amount of \$1,068.90 for a total of \$5,439.99.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – COLLECTION TRAILER PURCHASE

24-07-30663

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: THAT on the recommendation of Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough authorize the payment of a tendered Public Works trailer to GD Equipment Ltd. for the amount of \$31,849.25;

AND FURTHER THAT the amount of \$31,849.25 be taken from the Public Works Equipment Reserve.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – POLICY G-12 COMMUNITY & RECREATION GRANTS

24-07-30664

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: THAT on the recommendation of Committee of the Whole the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the adoption of the Policy G-12 Community and Recreation Grants as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

ERSWM

24-07-30665

Councillor DeCoff noted that they did not have a meeting; however, he did have a phone conversation with Chris MacDonald, GFL concerning rumours about the compost facility and that they are no longer composting. Councillor DeCoff stated that he agreed to bring this to Council's attention and that according to Chris MacDonald, composting is still taking place at the Site.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE COMMITTEE

24-07-30666

Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche reported that she will refer this matter to Mr. Shawn Andrews as she was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Shawn Andrews provided an update from the last meeting for the information of Council.

Councillor Paul Long suggested that we might want to send a letter of recognition and support to the rescue agencies in the Valley in light of the recent tragedy from the flash flood event.

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the Emergency Management Office Committee Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough send letter to the appropriate rescue agencies following the recent tragedy from the flash flood event.

MOTION CARRIED

GALA

24-07-30667

No meeting.

WASTE MANAGEMENT LIAISON

24-07-30668

No meeting.

LIBRARY BOARD

24-07-30669

Deputy Warden Peitzsche stated that she did not attend the meeting; however, she did receive a brief update from the Director which she read for the information of Council.

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the Library Board's report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

HOME SUPPORT BOARD

24-07-30670

Councillor Armsworthy provided a report from their most recent meeting.

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the Home Support Board Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD

24-07-30671

No meeting.

CANSO AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

24-07-30672

Deputy Warden Peitzsche stated that she received a report from the facility manager and reviewed that report for the information of Council.

Mr. Barry Carroll noted that Department of Health are due to meet with Council very soon.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: THAT the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the Canso Area Stakeholder Working Group's Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

GUYSBOROUGH AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

24-07-30673

Councillor Long reported that there hasn't been a meeting; however, they have hired two (2) RN's recently noting there are still too many closures which have mainly been due to nurse shortages.

MOVED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Guysborough Area Stakeholder Working Group's Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

TRANSIT ASSOCIATION OF GUYSBOROUGH

24-07-30674

Councillor DeCoff reported that there was no meeting however they are very busy and the membership is up. Councillor DeCoff noted that this demonstrates the need that exists in our Municipality. Councillor DeCoff discussed concern raised with the fact that the Maritime Bus does not stop to pick up passengers in Monastery.

Councillor Mary Desmond stated that she spoke on the issue that the Maritime Bus does not stop in Monastery; however, she feels that the funding needs to be focused on local area transit.

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Transit Association of Guysborough's report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

GUYSBOROUGH DISTRICT BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

24-07-30675

Councillor Long reported that the Board met yesterday and reviewed the information discussed at the meeting for the information of Council, noting that Michael Peters was introduced to the Board as their newest member. Councillor Long noted that one of the things they will be looking at is tourist rest stops throughout the municipality.

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Guysborough District Business Partnership's report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

GUYSBOROUGH & AREA BOARD OF TRADE

24-07-30676

No meeting

COMMUNITY FIRST GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY HOUSING ASSOCIATION

24-07-30677

Councillor Desmond provided a report for the information of Council noting that the next meeting is scheduled for August 20th.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION - REVIEW OF 2023/2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

24-07-30678

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough adopt the 2023/2024 Non-Consolidated Financial Statements and the 2023/2024 Consolidated Financial Statements including the Canso-Hazel Hill Water Utility statements as presented by Grant Thornton.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION - MANAGEMENT LETTER

24-07-30679

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Management Letter as presented by Grant Thornton.

MOTION CARRIED

ANY OTHER COMMITTEE OR BOARD

RECOMMENDATION – 3 YEAR OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CANSO/HAZEL HILL WATER UTILITY & CAPITAL BUDGET

24-07-30680

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of Committee of the Whole, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the following:

- The 3-Year Operating Budget for the Canso-Hazel Hill Water Utility 2024/2025 – 2026/2027; and,
- The 3-Year Capital Budget for the Canso-Hazel Hill Water Utility 2024/2025 – 2026/2027

MOTION CARRIED

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Wednesday, September 4th, 2024 @ 4:30 pm – Committee of the Whole
- Wednesday, September 18th, 2024 @ 4:30 pm – Regular Monthly Council
- Wednesday, September 18th, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - EMO

ADJOURNMENT

24-07-30681

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond
MOTION: **THAT** the Regular Council Meeting of July 17th, 2024 stand adjourned.
MOTION CARRIED (6:17 pm)

WARDEN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DATE

DRAFT