

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023 @ 4:30 P.M.
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL
GUYSBOROUGH MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Warden Vernon Pitts called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ATTENANCE

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Carroll, CAO
Shawn Andrews, Deputy CAO
Glen Avery, Director of Public Works
Magdelyn Connolly, Municipal Clerk
Isabelle Boulet, Bell (via zoom)
Jeff Prevost, Bell (via zoom)
Media

REGRETS

Councillor Mary Desmond
Councillor Neil Decoff
Councilor Hudson MacLeod

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

23-07-30420

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy
SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long
MOTION: THAT Council approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL

23-07-30421

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy
SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long
MOTION: THAT Council approve the minutes of the June 21, 2023 Regular Council as presented with no noted errors or omissions.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 5, 2023 SPECIAL COUNCIL

23-07-30422

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche
SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams
MOTION: THAT Council approve the minutes of the July 5, 2023 Special Council as presented with no noted errors or omissions.
MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

DELEGATIONS

BELL

Mr. Andrews welcomed Ms. Isabel Boulet and Mr. Jeff Prevost, representatives from Bell via zoom and stated that Council wishes to address concerns related to the large areas within our Municipality that do not have cellular coverage, or that have very limited and unreliable coverage.

Ms. Boulet reported that the Fibreop installation is happening now in our Municipality and that they expect it to be complete by Fall. She stated that reliability coverage issues do arise, and that if there are certain areas that are being flagged for recent poor coverage they may be reported to Bell. Ms. Boulet stated that Bell technicians will look to remediate issues with recent changes in cellular connectivity but that does not include areas without cell reception.

Mr. Prevost stated that the planning team investigates areas without cell reception and that they currently do not have any plans for the next three years to improve cellular coverage in the Municipality. He stated that the planning team does have equipment upgrades planned for 2025, for sites across the Municipality, but that this is not expected to improve cellular coverage.

Mr. Carroll stated that the proposed developments for our Municipality alone should be enough for the Bell planning team to take another look at upgrades and extension of cellular coverage. He stated that it is extremely unsettling to hear that there are currently no upgrades planned for our area.

Ms. Boulet reported that Bell has been extremely successful in the past forming partnerships with various levels of government to secure funding. She stated that Council should be advocating to the Federal and Provincial government for funding so that cellular expansion programs can be possible in the Municipality.

Deputy Warden Peitzsche stated that recently an EMO member from Home Care was left in a very rural location with no cellular coverage, which creates a major concern for safety. She stated that she does not believe cellular coverage issues are the responsibility of government and that Bell needs to step up and provide the service they are paid to provide.

Various Councilors around the tables asked questions and made comment to Mr. Prevost and Ms. Boulet.

Warden Pitts stated that Council is disappointed to hear that there are no plans in the future for improvement of cellular coverage in our Municipality. He thanked Mr. Prevost and Ms. Boulet for their time.

NEW BUSINESS

PROGRESS CLAIM #2 – BD CLIFTON CONTRACTING, CANSO WATERFRONT ENHANCEMENTS

23-07-30423

Mr. Avery reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package. He stated that two kiosks are ready and all washroom facilities including the accessible washroom was complete today, so all facilities are open and ready for Stan Fest weekend.

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: That the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough to authorize payment in the amount of \$264,067.36 including HST to BD Clifton Contracting LTD. As recommended by Strait Engineering.

MOTION CARRIED

**PROGRESS CLAIM #3 – RON CHISHOLM HYDROSEEDING LTD., CUTLER'S
BROOK PHASE II 23-07-30424**

Mr. Avery reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package.

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: That the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough authorizes payment in the amount of \$504,677.61 including HST to Ron Chisholm Hydro Seeding LTD. as recommended by Strait Engineering.

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEES & BOARDS

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

APPROVAL OF THE 2022/2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

23-07-30425

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: THAT on the recommendation from the Audit Committee, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the 2022/2023 Non-Consolidated Financial Statements and the 2022/2023 Consolidated Financial Statement including the Canso-Hazel Hill Water Utility statements be adopted as presented by Grant Thornton.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MANAGEMENT LETTER

23-07-30426

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

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

MOTION CARRIED

ERSWM

Next meeting is September 28th, 2023.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE COMMITTEE

Next meeting is September 20th, 2023.

GALA

No report, closed for summer.

WASTE MANAGEMENT LIAISON

Next meeting is scheduled for August 8th, 2023.

LIBRARY BOARD

BOARD APPOINTMENT

23-07-30427

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough appoint Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche to sit on the Library Board.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. Carroll stated that the Financial Statements are in the office for any Councilors who would like to view them.

HOME SUPPORT BOARD

Councillor Fin Armsworthy reported that there is one new member, and that things are going well.

COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD

23-07-30428

Councillor Long stated that there was no meeting, but that all wellness grant recipients have been notified. He reported that there is a provincial conference in October that some members have signed up for. Councillor Long gave kudos to Mrs. Dorothy Bennett, who he stated is a great leader of the Health Board and deserves recognition. Next meeting is scheduled for September.

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Community Health Board report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

CANSO AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

No meeting.

GUYSBOROUGH AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

23-07-30429

Councillor Long reported that the group has not met. He stated that the Community Meeting was very well attended, and that helpful discussions were had. Councillor Long stated that there is a need for more employees to fill vacant positions so that the emergency room can stay open.

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

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

MOTION CARRIED

TRANSIT ASSOCIATION OF GUYSBOROUGH

AGM scheduled for August 9th at the Sunnyville Community Centre.

GUYSBOROUGH DISTRICT BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

23-07-30430

Councillor Long reported that the GDBP met yesterday. He stated that Doug Griffiths has been working on his report, which will be presented to the Board next month. Councillor Long reported that the public perception of the GDBP has grown to be very positive, and that they have been able to help new businesses in the Municipality.

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

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

MOTION CARRIED

SIGNAL GOLD

No report.

ANY OTHER COMMITTEE OR BOARD

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Wednesday, September 6th, 2023 @ 4:30 pm – Committee of the Whole
- Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 @ 4:30 pm – Regular Monthly Council
- Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 @ 6:00 pm – EMO

ADJOURNMENT

23-07-30431

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

MOTION: THAT the Regular Council Meeting of July 19, 2023 stand adjourned.
MOTION CARRIED (5:30 p.m.)

DEPUTY WARDEN

DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DATE