

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 @ 4:30 P.M.
GUYSBOROUGH MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Warden Paul Long called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Danita Imlay, Director of Finance
Deborah Torrey, Development Officer
Angie Tavares, Director of Recreation
Christina Bowie, Manager of Special Initiatives & Communications
Magdelyn Connolly, Municipal Clerk
Media (via zoom)
Ian Ball

REGRETS

Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche
Sean O'Connor, CAO
Shawn Andrews, Deputy CAO
Glen Avery, Director of Public Works
Jason Thorpe, Director of Economic & Community Development
Kelsey Reece, Director of Emergency Services
Ashley Cunningham Avery, Executive Director GDBP

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

26-06-95161

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: **THAT** the Committee of Whole approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 6, 2026

26-06-95162

MOVED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the minutes of May 6, 2026 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

DELEGATIONS

REPORTS

WARDEN'S REPORT

26-06-95163

Warden Long reviewed his report as it was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee, giving kudos to the many great volunteers in our community, which he recognizes put in extra time and effort for the summer season. He stated that he attended a session at St. FX last week that was put on for mayors, wardens and elected officials.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Warden's Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

26-06-95164

Warden Long stated that Mr. O'Connor's report was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee.

MOVED: Councillor Susan Cashin

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Chief Administrative Officer Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

DEPUTY CAO REPORT

26-06-95165

Warden Long stated that Mr. Andrews report was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee.

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

26-06-95166

Mrs. Imlay noted that her report was included in the meeting package, stating that they continue to work with Grant Thornton on the Audit. She reported that Grant Thornton worked in the Office a couple of days, the rest is being completed remotely. Mrs. Imlay stated that we now have 174 approved tax exemption applications, with 30 pending for a total of 204, 26 of those are new applicants.

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Director of Finance Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

BRIEFING NOTE – 3 YEAR OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGETS WATER UTILITY

26-06-95167

Mrs. Imlay briefly reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package.

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the 3-Year Operating Budget for the Canso-Hazel Hill Water Utility 2026/2027-2028/2029 and the 3-Year Capital Budget for the Canso-Hazel Hill Water Utility 2026/2027-2028/2029.

MOTION CARRIED

BRIEFING NOTE – WRITE OFF TAXES FOR INACTIVE ACCOUNT 01705636

26-06-95168

Mrs. Imlay briefly reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of the Director of Finance, Committee of the Whole recommends that Council approve the write-off of outstanding taxes on inactive account 01705636 in the amount of \$9,345.41 and interest in the amount of \$31,371.51 for a total of \$41,716.92.

MOTION CARRIED

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

26-06-95169

Mrs. Torrey stated that her report has been included in the meeting package and she is happy to answer any questions that Committee may have. She stated that she attended her Development Officers conference last week in Sydney. Mrs. Torrey reported that she hopes to have a briefing note for Council next meeting regarding her RFP.

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Development Officer's Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT

26-06-95170

Warden Long stated that Mr. Avery's report was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Director of Public Works' Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF RECREATION REPORT

26-06-95171

Mrs. Tavares stated that her report was included in the meeting package. She reported that there are 52 members signed up at the Canso Fitness Centre, which is 31 members more than they had at the Fanning Fitness Centre prior to its closure. Mrs. Tavares stated that they are waiting for the paving to be completed before hosting the grand opening of the new fitness centre. She thanked Mrs. Bowie for completing playbox tours across our Municipality. Mrs. Tavares stated that all summer student hiring is complete and that the pools in both Canso and Guysborough are planned to open on June 27th.

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Director of Recreation Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

(Councillor Hanhams was excused 4:58pm)

DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

26-06-95172

Warden Long stated that Mr. Thorpe's report was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Director of Economic & Community Development Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER OF SPECIAL INITIATIVES & COMMUNICATIONS

26-06-95173

Mrs. Bowie reviewed her report as it was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee. She highlighted the accessibility check-ins that she completed in various communities, which will help guide the Accessibility Plan.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Manager of Special Initiatives and Communications Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

26-06-95174

Warden Long reported that Ms. Reece's report was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee.

MOVED: Councillor Susan Cashin

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: **THAT** Committee of the Whole approve the Director of Emergency Services Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

GUYSBOROUGH DISTRICT BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

26-06-95175

Warden Long reported that Mrs. Cunningham Avery's report was included in the meeting package for the information of Committee. He briefly reviewed Mrs. Cunningham Avery's report.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

MOTION: THAT Committee of the Whole approve the Director of Emergency Services Report as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE/NEW BUSINESS

STRAIT CAMPUS NSCC SISTER RESIDENCE

26-06-95176

Warden Long stated that this request has been received from Warden Landry, with the County of Richmond.

MOVED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough support the request to the province to revisit the possibility of constructing an additional student residence at the NSCC Strait Area Campus in Port Hawkesbury.
MOTION CARRIED

CELL SERVICE, STRAIT REGION

26-06-95177

Warden Long stated that the correspondence for this request has been emailed to Council, and that they are looking for support in the request to the province regarding cell coverage issues.

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough support the request to the province regarding cell coverage concerns.
MOTION CARRIED

OLD COURTHOUSE MUSEUM, GUYSBOROUGH - LEASE

26-06-95178

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

MOVED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the Lease renewal for a 10-year term with the Guysborough Historic Society for the Old Courthouse Museum.
MOTION CARRIED

BRIEFING NOTE – NOTICE OF MOTION, AMENDMENTS TO POLICY A-2

26-06-95179

Mrs. Connolly briefly reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package.

MOVED: Councillor Neil DeCoff

SECONDED: Councillor Susan Cashin

MOTION: **THAT** Committee approve the notice of motion to adopt the amendments as presented to Policy A-2, Adoption or Amendment of By-Laws;

AND THAT they be recommended for final adoption at the June 17th, 2026 meeting of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Desmond stated that there will be a memorial vigil in Upper Big Tracadie for the passing of Mr. Terry Izard, which she encourages Council to attend.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- June 17th @ 4:15pm – Special Council, Public Hearing
- June 17th @ 4:30pm – Regular Monthly Council
- July 15th @ 3:00pm – Committee of the Whole
- July 15th @ 4:30pm – Regular Monthly Council

ADJOURNMENT

26-05-95180

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT** the June 3, 2026 Committee of the Whole stand adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED (5:18 pm)

WARDEN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DATE