

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024 @ 4:30 P.M.
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL & BUDGET ADOPTION
GUYSBOROUGH MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Warden 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 (via zoom)
Councillor Hudson MacLeod
Councillor Fin Armsworthy

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Carroll, CAO
Shawn Andrews, Deputy CAO
Danita Imlay, Director of Finance
Gordon MacDonald, Director of Economic Development
Sean O'Connor, Business Development Officer
Debbie Torrey, Development Officer
Glen Avery, Director of Public Works
Angie Tavares, Director of Recreation
Ashley Cunningham Avery, Executive Director GDBP
Anne Nagel, Manager of Finance
Magdelyn Connolly, Municipal Clerk
Media (via zoom)

REGRETS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

24-03-30562

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL 24-03-30563

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy
SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond
MOTION: THAT Council approve the minutes of the February 21, 2024 Regular Council as presented with no noted errors or omissions.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2024 SPECIAL COUNCIL 24-03-30564

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond
SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long
MOTION: THAT Council approve the minutes of the February 28, 2024 Special Council as presented with no noted errors or omissions.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2024 SPECIAL COUNCIL 24-03-30565

Councillor Hanhams stated that Motion 24-03-30559 was recorded incorrectly in the minutes and should read *THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the personnel plan as amended in closed session.*

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Neil Decoff

MOTION: THAT Council approve the minutes of the March 13, 2024 Special Council with the noted amendments.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS

ADOPTION OF 2024-2025 BUDGET ESTIMATES 24-03-30566

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough adopt the Budget Projections for Revenues and Expenditures for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 showing projected Revenues and Expenditure of \$17,120,267 (seventeen million, one hundred twenty thousand, two hundred sixty seven dollars);

AND FURTHER THAT the 2024-2025 Budget so adopted will be attached to the original of the Minutes as Appendix "A".

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF 2024-2025 CAPITAL & SPECIAL MUNICIPAL INITIATIVES/PROJECTS BUDGET ESTIMATES 24-03-30567

MOVED: Councillor Neil Decoff

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough adopt the Capital Budget Projections for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 showing projected Revenues and Expenditures of \$6,826,455 (six million, seven hundred twenty six thousand, four hundred fifty five dollars);

AND FURTHER THAT the 2024-2025 Capital Budget and Special Municipal Initiatives/Projects so adopted will be attached to the original of the Minutes as Appendix "B".

MOTION CARRIED

NAY: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

ADOPTION OF ESTIMATES AND STRIKING OF TAX RATE 24-03-30568

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough estimates that the sum amounting to \$4,899,678 (four million, eight hundred ninety nine thousand, six hundred seventy eight dollars) is required for the lawful purpose of the Municipality aforesaid for the Fiscal Year commencing April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025 after crediting any probable revenue and from the abatement and losses which may occur in the collection of taxes and for taxes for the said Fiscal Year which may not be collectible or collected;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the said Council hereby authorize the levying and collection for a rate of \$0.77 per \$100.00 of assessment for all RESIDENTIAL/RESOURCE property and a rate of \$2.74 per \$100.00 of assessment for all COMMERCIAL PROPERTY assessed on the Assessment Roll to defray the expenditures of the Municipality aforesaid for the period April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025 and any deficit from the previous year;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, in addition to the above rates, the said Council hereby authorize the levying and collection for a rate of \$1.5145 per \$100.00 of assessment for all RESIDENTIAL/RESOURCE property in District 8 and a rate of \$1.3470 per \$100.00 of assessment for all COMMERCIAL PROPERTY in District 8 assessed on the Assessment Roll to defray the expenditures for additional local services of the Municipality aforesaid for the period April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025 and any deficit from the previous year;

AND FURTHER RESOLVE THAT as part of the elimination of the Business Occupancy Assessment the Municipal Law Amendment (2005) Act, (Bill 191), establishes a process for Assessment to identify seasonal tourist businesses;

AND WHEREAS properties containing seasonal tourist businesses are eligible for a reduced commercial tax rate on their real property the said Council authorize the levy and collection for a rate of \$2.06 per \$100.00 of assessment for all properties identified by Assessment as seasonal tourist business;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the said Council requires payment of said rates to be made to the Treasurer of the Municipality aforesaid on or before the **31st day of JULY, A.D., 2024;**

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the said Council hereby impose an additional percentage charge for EIGHTEEN PER CENT (18%) SIMPLE INTEREST per annum on arrears outstanding after the **31st day of AUGUST, A.D., 2024;**

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council hereby fixes the **31st day of JULY, A.D., 2024** as the day after which the Treasurer may proceed to issue warrants for the collection of all rates and taxes, then unpaid and in arrears.

MOTION CARRIED

NAY: Councillor Dave Hanhams, Councillor Fin Armsworthy

TRANSFER OF PREVIOUS YEARS SURPLUS TO GENERAL OPERATING REVENUE 2024-2025

24-03-30569

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: **THAT WHEREAS** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough has deemed it necessary to transfer into the 2024/2025 Operating Budget an amount not to exceed \$338,827 (three hundred thirty-eight thousand eight hundred twenty-seven dollars) from the operating reserve accumulated surplus;

BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approves the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$338,827 (three hundred thirty-eight thousand eight hundred twenty-seven dollars) to the 2024-2025 Operating Budget.

MOTION CARRIED

BORROWING RESOLUTION 2024-2025

24-03-30570

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough authorize

Warden Vernon Pitts and Barry Carroll, Chief Administrative Officer, to borrow up to ½ of the 2023/2024 tax levy, \$2,449,839 (two million, four hundred forty nine thousand, eight hundred thirty-nine dollars) if required to meet the current operating expenses for 2024-2025.

MOTION CARRIED

FIRE PROTECTION LEVIES 2024-2025

24-03-30571

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Neil Decoff

MOTION: **THAT WHEREAS** it has been determined that the following specific amounts will be required by the various Fire Departments within the Municipality of the District of Guysborough to provide Fire Protection for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the 2024-2025 Area Fire Levies be assessed on the various areas as follows:

F1	Milford Haven	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
F2	Erinville and District	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
F4	7 Communities	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
E4	Auld's Cove	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
F5	Chedabucto	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
F6	Three Top	0.1350 per \$100 of assessment
E6	Larry's River	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
F7	Harbourview	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
F9	Little Dover (162 Units)	65.00 per unit
E2	Goshen (60 Units)	65.00 per unit
E3	Tracadie	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment
F8	Canso/Hazel Hill	0.1550 per \$100 of assessment

AND FURTHER THAT in accordance with the Municipal Government Act Section 78(1)(a)(b)a Forest Acreage Fire Levy will be established at \$.01 per acre for 2024-2025.

MOTION CARRIED

STREET LIGHTING LEVIES 2024-2025

24-03-30572

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

MOTION: **WHEREAS** it has been determined that the specific amounts will be required for the provision of Street Lighting for the various areas of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT an area rate of \$.0566 per \$100 of assessment be adopted and levied for Street Lighting for the taxation year 2024-2025.

MOTION CARRIED

2024-2025 SUNNYVILLE PUMP HOUSE RATES

24-03-30573

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: **THAT WHEREAS** it has been determined that an amount of **\$354.34** has been spent to operate the Pump House in Sunnyville for the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the area rate for the operation of the Sunnyville Pump House for 2024/2025 be established at a rate of **\$0.08982 per \$100.00** of assessment for operating costs.

MOTION CARRIED

2024-2025 SEWER RATES – GUYSBOROUGH

24-03-30574

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

MOTION: **THAT WHEREAS** it has been determined that an amount of \$70,992 may be expended on the Guysborough Sewer System during the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 covering projected operational costs as budgeted;

AND WHEREAS it has been determined that of the \$70,992 projected expenditures an amount of \$70,992 must be raised through a direct levy to the users of the system;

THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough set the 2024/2025 Annual Sewer Maintenance Charges, based on a User Fee System, of \$243.12 per equivalent unit, there being 292 equivalent units presently connected to the system.

MOTION CARRIED

2024-2025 SEWER RATES - LITTLE DOVER

24-03-30575

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: **THAT WHEREAS** it has been determined that an amount of \$33,325 may be expended on the Little Dover Sewer System during the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 covering projected operational costs as budgeted;

AND WHEREAS it has been determined that of the \$33,325 projected expenditures an amount of \$33,325 must be raised through a direct levy to the users of the system;

THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough set the 2024/2025 Annual Sewer Maintenance Charges, based on a User Fee System, of \$233.04 per equivalent unit, there being 143 equivalent units presently connected to the System.

MOTION CARRIED

2024-2025 SEWER RATES - HAZEL HILL

24-03-30576

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT WHEREAS** it has been determined that an amount of \$3,819 may be expended on the Hazel Hill Sewer System during the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 covering projected operational costs as budgeted;

AND WHEREAS it has been determined that of the \$3,819 projected expenditures an amount of \$3,819 must be raised through a direct levy to the users of the system;

THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough set the 2024/2025 Annual Sewer Maintenance Charges, based on a User Fee System, of \$238.68 per equivalent unit, there being 16 equivalent units presently connected to the System.

MOTION CARRIED

FULL TAX EXEMPTIONS

24-03-30577

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

MOTION: **THAT** pursuant to the Tax Exemption By-Law as approved by the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough the following tax

exemptions or partial exemptions from taxes be granted provided that the exemption meets the qualification provisions, and the applications were received in accordance with the deadlines as set out in the By-Law as approved:

NAME	ACCOUNT #	WRITE OFF
Goldboro/Isaac's Harbour Community Development Association	2150255	\$5,222.44
Guysborough Waterfront Development Society	3378314	\$4,540.18
Mulgrave Road Theatre	1830848	\$1,539.88
Keepers of the Beacon	3398013	\$ 983.66
Whitehaven Community Development	4897307	\$4,373.04
Mulgrave Road Theatre	3562522	\$6,249.94
Chedabucto Bay Folk Society	4967135	\$6,540.09
Chedabucto Bay Folk Society	1186191	\$9,013.53
Total		\$38,462.76

MOTION CARRIED

PARTIAL TAX EXEMPTIONS

24-03-30578

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Hudson MacLeod

MOTION: THAT pursuant to the Partial Tax Exemption By-Law approved by the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough the following be granted tax exemptions in accordance with the By-Law provided that the exemption meets the qualification provisions, and the applications comply with all provisions of the By-Law the exemption being the difference between the Commercial Rate and the Residential Rate:

NAME	ACCOUNT #	WRITE OFF
Boylston Community Association	00888907	\$2,391.58
Masonic Hall	03075796	\$2,777.70
Sunnyville Community Association	04479556	\$ 981.06
Sunnyville Community Association	05101913	\$ 791.94
St. Patrick's Hall	01830945	\$2,364.00
Chedabucto Curling Club	00726923	\$4,215.80
Guysborough Fish & Game	01830821	\$1,804.52
Lincolville Community Association	07107897	\$1,707.99
St. Joseph's Parish Hall	04402901	\$2,125.63
Country Harbour Gun Club	00962422	\$2,545.24
Masonic Hall Lodge # 96	03075702	\$ 559.48
Canso Curling Club	00653012	\$1,855.74
St. Agnes Parish Hall	00695408	\$3,075.17
Eddy Point Marine Park	03378543	\$ 53.19
Eddy Point Marine Park	03378519	\$ 809.67
Lincolville Community Association	05088666	\$ 37.43
Lions Club of Canso	5632528	\$2,851.78
Shamrock	5957389	\$2,050.09
Total		\$32,998.01

MOTION CARRIED

MUNICIPAL GRANTS AND BURSARIES

24-03-30579

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the granting of the grants and bursaries in a total amount of \$45,000.00 in the 2024/2025 Budget covering the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 as proposed;

AND FURTHER THAT the balance be distributed upon receipt of written request and the approval of the Committee of the Whole of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough:

Other		\$ 5,000
School Bursaries	(10 x \$250.00)	\$ 2,500
School Bursaries	(2 x \$250.00)	\$ 500
Stan Rogers Folk Festival		\$ 2,000
GOALS		\$10,000
St. Martha's Hospital Foundation		\$25,000
T O T A L		\$45,000

MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENT - MUNICIPAL AUDITORS 24-03-30580

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough appoint the Firm of Grant Thornton as Auditors for the Municipality of the District of Guysborough for the Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR 24-03-30581

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Paul Long

MOTION: THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough appoint the Firm of MacKeen Legal Services Incorporated as Solicitors for the Municipality of the District of Guysborough for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

MOTION CARRIED

TRANSFER OF OPERATING RESERVE FUNDS TO GENERAL OPERATING REVENUE 2024-2025 24-03-30582

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough has deemed it necessary to transfer into the 2024/2025 Operating Budget an amount not to exceed \$2,265,234 (two million, two hundred, sixty-five thousand, two hundred thirty-four dollars) from the Operating Reserve Fund;

AND WHEREAS Section 99(6) of the Municipal Government Act permits a municipality to maintain other reserve funds for such purposes as the Council may determine;

BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$2,265,234 (two million, two hundred, sixty-five thousand, two hundred thirty-four dollars) from the Operating Reserve Fund to the 2024/2025 Operating Budget for the following expenditures:

1.	Collection Truck	\$ 425,000
2.	Queensport Apparatus	\$ 264,000
3.	Public Works Vehicle	\$ 65,000
4.	Zamboni Pad	\$ 10,000
5.	Sewer Upgrades	\$ 32,000
6.	Solar Project	\$ 219,234
7.	Little Dover Water Dispensing	\$ 25,000
8.	Little Dover Water Study	\$ 100,000
9.	Economic Development Projects	\$ 200,000
10.	Canso Community Enhancements/Commercial Cable	\$ 75,000

11.	Canso Fitness Centre	\$ 200,000
12.	Eddy Point Marina	\$ 50,000
13.	Wind Initiatives	\$ 200,000
14.	Signature Projects	\$ 100,000
15.	Mulgrave Road Grant	\$ 150,000
16.	Guysborough Waterfront	\$ 150,000
		<u>\$ 2,265,234</u>

MOTION CARRIED

**TRANSFER OF CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS TO GENERAL OPERATING REVENUE
2024-2025 24-03-30583**

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long

SECONDED: Councillor Neil Decoff

MOTION: THAT WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough has deemed it necessary to transfer into the 2024/2025 Operating Budget an amount not to exceed \$908,325 (nine hundred, eight thousand, three hundred twenty five dollars) from the Capital Reserve Fund;

AND WHEREAS Section 99(6) of the Municipal Government Act permits a municipality to maintain other reserve funds for such purposes as the Council may determine;

BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$908,325 (nine hundred, eight thousand, three hundred twenty five dollars) from the Capital Reserve Fund to the 2024/2025 Operating Budget for the following expenditures:

1.	Canso Fitness Centre	\$ 400,000
2.	Sidewalks	\$ 57,000
3.	Cutler's Brook Phase III	\$ 451,325
		<u>\$ 908,325</u>

MOTION CARRIED

LOW INCOME TAX EXEMPTION 2024-2025 24-03-30584

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT pursuant to Policy F-4 Low Income Tax Exemption approved by the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough the income threshold level for the low-income tax exemption from all sources is set at \$40,000 or below;

AND FURTHER THAT the rebate amount for the exemption be set at \$200.

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEES & BOARDS

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**RECOMMENDATION – WRITE OFF TAXES FOR INACTIVE ACCOUNTS
24-03-30585**

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT on the recommendation of Committee of the Whole, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough approve the write off of outstanding taxes and fees on inactive accounts in the amount of \$21,049.49 and interest in the amount of \$28,781.35 for a total of \$49,830.84.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – PORT HAWKESBURY PAPER WIND AGREEMENT
24-03-30586

MOVED: Councillor Neil Decoff

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 Agreement with Port Hawkesbury Paper for the Goose Harbour Lake Windfarm.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION – PORT HAWKESBURY PAPER WIND DEVELOPMENT
24-03-30587

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: **THAT** on the recommendation of Committee of the Whole, the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Goose Harbour Lake Wind Farm Project Impact Study in accordance with Section 14.6.3 (b) of the Guysborough Municipal Land Use Bylaw as follows:

- Turbines T2, T14 and T28 – 1.25 x the turbine height from a private property line
- Turbines T1, T5, T13, T15, T16 and T21 – 1.5 x the turbine height from a private property line

AND FURTHER THAT if any of the above noted turbines are determined to be located in the Water Resource Overlay Zone, those turbines will not be permitted to be constructed in that Zone in accordance with the Guysborough Municipal Land Use Bylaw unless the Municipality receives an approved copy of a Watershed Management Plan approved by the Town of Mulgrave that specifically lists large scale wind turbine development as a permitted use;

AND FURTHER THAT the turbine height shall mean the distance from the base of the turbine to the farthest tip of a rotor blade in a vertical position.

MOTION CARRIED

ERSWM

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 28th.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE COMMITTEE

Next meeting is scheduled for April 17th.

GALA

24-03-30588

Councillor Armsworthy reported that there are several courses taking place and that programing is ongoing. He reported that things are running smoothly.

MOVED: Councillor Neil Decoff

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

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

MOTION CARRIED

WASTE MANAGEMENT LIAISON

Next meeting is scheduled for May 8th.

LIBRARY BOARD

Next meeting is scheduled for March 21st.

HOME SUPPORT BOARD

No meeting.

COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD

24-03-30589

Councillor Long reported that wellness funds are now open for application. He reported that last week local schools participated in the Big Crunch, which was an incentive for lunch programs and health eating sponsored by the Upper Big Tracadie Senior's Action Club. Councillor Long reported that a survey was completed to identify Eastern zone priorities, which identified the number one priority as low income. He stated that following low income was housing, food, social inclusion and physical activity. Councillor Long stated that the Board continues to seek new members and that they are lacking representation from Canso and Sherbrooke. He reported that the next meeting is scheduled for April 8th.

Councillor Desmond stated that they continue to try recruiting youth and that meeting attendance could be virtually.

Deputy Warden Peitzsche requested that the Community Health Board place a notice in the municipal newsletter seeking new members.

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond

SECONDED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

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

MOTION CARRIED

CANSO AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

24-03-30590

Deputy Warden Peitzsche reported that although she was unable to attend the meeting she has been advised that the meeting was very positive. She stated that the primary care mobile clinics have been extremely well received by residents.

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

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

MOTION CARRIED

GUYSBOROUGH AREA STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

24-03-30591

Councillor Long reported that they held a virtual meeting. He reported that he has extended an invitation to NSHA representatives to come in and present the new virtual care platform to Council. Councillor Long stated that emergency room closures continue to be a concern and that they hired a new administrator, Michelle Myers who lives in the area and was a RN at the hospital the last number of years.

MOVED: Councillor Neil Decoff

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

Next meeting is scheduled for March 21st.

GUYSBOROUGH DISTRICT BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Long reported that the Board met yesterday and that the new Visit Guysborough website is live. He stated that Mrs. Cunningham Avery has been speaking with Irving regarding possible use of their lots in both Canso and Guysborough. Councillor Long reported that the Board is supporting the idea of an O2 program at Guysborough Academy. He stated that they are working to have a culinary and construction program added.

MOVED: Councillor Paul Long **24-03-30592**
SECONDED: Councillor Neil Decoff
MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough send a letter of support for the O2 program at Guysborough Academy.
MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Long reported that Mrs. Cunningham Avery has been working with Labor Skills and Immigration regarding funding to hopefully encourage immigrants and newcomers to move to our area. He briefly reported on various proposed budgetary items that have not been accepted by the Board at this time. Councillor Long stated that the Board will be appointing a new chairperson in the near future, due to the current chair resigning.

MOVED: Councillor Mary Desmond **24-03-30593**
SECONDED: Councillor Neil Decoff
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 **24-03-30594**

Councillor Hanhams reported that they held a meeting which he was unable to attend. He reported that a survey has been circulated from the Board of Trade to help identify the future direction of the Board.

Councillor Long reported that the Board of Trade also discussed replacing the hanging flower baskets with historical banners from the streetlamps on Main Street, Guysborough.

MOVED: Councillor Neil Decoff
SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond
MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Guysborough and Area Board of Trade's Report as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNITY FIRST GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY HOUSING ASSOC. **24-03-30595**

Councillor Desmond stated that the Association met the day before and elected the officers. She reported that Mrs. Nancy O'Regan was elected Chairperson, Ms. Juanita Byard was elected Treasurer and Ms. Maud Peters was elected Vicechair. Councillor Desmond reported that the Association will meet monthly and begin their meetings with a land acknowledgment and short videos of micro-transgressions and antiracism. She stated that they have a meeting scheduled for next week. Councillor Desmond requested that the Association be added to the list of Committees and Boards on future Council agendas.

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams
SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche
MOTION: **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough accept the Community First Guysborough County Housing Association's Report as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

ANY OTHER COMMITTEE OR BOARD

SIGNAL GOLD

Councillor MacLeod asked Mr. MacDonald to give a brief report on the recent Signal Gold meeting, which they both attended.

Mr. MacDonald reported that Signal Gold has expanded their footprint of subservice rights to 22,000 hectares and that they will be continuing drilling in the coming months. He stated that they are finalizing permits with a construction target of February 2025.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Wednesday, April 3rd @ 3:00 pm – Stanfest Meeting
- Wednesday, April 3rd @ 4:30 pm – Committee of the Whole
- Wednesday, April 10th @ 4:00 pm – Joint Council Meeting
- Wednesday, April 17th @ 3:30 pm – Department of Public Works & Infrastructure
- Wednesday, April 17th @ 4:30 pm – Regular Monthly Council
- Wednesday, April 17th @ 6:00 pm – EMO @ Municipal Building

ADJOURNMENT

24-03-30596

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche
MOTION: THAT the Regular Council Meeting of March 20, 2024 stand adjourned.
MOTION CARRIED (5:25 p.m.)

WARDEN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DATE