



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

Council Members Present: Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright, Councillor Gordon Boudreau, Councillor Glenn Diggdon, Councillor Ted Saulnier, Councillor Guy Surette, Councillor Richard Donaldson, and Councillor Kathy Bourque.

Absent with Regrets: Councillor Calvin D'entremont

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, and Executive Assistant Julie Atkinson

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

Deputy Warden Nicole Albright called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. **Invitation to Stand and Move**

Deputy Warden Nicole Albright reminded Council that they are permitted to stand and move as they need to during the meeting. This is an initiative by Argyle Recreation which normalizes movement in meetings.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

By consensus, the agenda was approved with the addition of 7g Update in Fire Service Review.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **April 24, 2024 - Capital and Grants to Organization Meeting Minutes**
- b. **May 9, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

By consensus, the April 24, 2024, and the May 9, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes, are approved as presented.

5. **Staff Reports**

- a. **Department Head Report**

The department head report is attached to the agenda. There were no questions on the report.

- b. **Clerks Report**

The Clerk's Report is attached to the agenda. There were no questions on the report.

- c. **Building Permit Report**

The building permit report is attached to the agenda. There were no questions on the report.

- d. **Strategic Action Items Update**

The Strategic Action Items Update is attached to the agenda. There were no questions on the update.

6. **7-Day Notice**

a. **Article C17 – Involuntary Destruction of Property**

Council received 7-Day notice for the amendments made to Article C17 – Involuntary Destruction of Property.

b. **Article C18 – Growing Communities Scholarship**

Council received 7-Day notice for the amendments made to Article C18 – Growing Communities Scholarship.

c. **Article C36 – Audit Committee**

Council received 7-Day notice for the amendments made to Article C36 – Audit Committee.

7. **For Decision and Discussion**

a. **Aquaculture Development Area Update and Information**

There have been quite a few questions, concerns, comments, and complaints. Many community members are now paying more attention since the announcement of this project. The ADA was a collaborative initiative, led by the province. The application process was incredibly long prior to the ADA, the Municipality would have no input on these applications before the ADA.

These sites are not pre-approved, they are pre-assessed. What the ADA means is that these sites have been assessed with certain criteria to note whether they are eligible.

The public can see these pre-assessed locations, but it must be noted these are not pre-approved.

The pre-assessed locations were selected by the province and 6 locations were released for applications from the province.

3 of the locations are not near any residential addresses, the other 3 have close residential addresses.

Deputy Warden Nicole Albright spoke on this subject, noting that residents feel their concerns were not heard. If these sites are applied for a public engagement period will open, the province will send out letters to residents who are near these sites. One on ones will be had with residents at their request on their concerns. There is still a chance for the public to have their say. This is a pilot project, and we are learning as we go.

CAO Muise advises that councillors can set up their one-on-one appointments with support from staff. Preferably held at the Municipal Building in Tusket, this is beneficial as any resources needed are easily accessible.

Warden Danny Muise feels there is perception that the Municipality is in charge of this, any concerns will be forwarded to the province, but our part is done.

CAO Alain Muise states we are not responsible for the decisions, we can help residents by hearing and voicing their concerns on these 6 sites. The remaining 47 on the map are pre-selected with no lease. We can be more influential on these sites. This gives us plenty of time to vet these locations appropriately.



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These are leases of a location, not a license. A license gives the opportunity to fish anywhere, a lease is specific to one location.

The application process through the ADA still takes approximately 2 years. This is not an instant process.

b. **Article P5 – Hiring and Probation of Staff**

Question was posed regarding section 1.3, CAO Alain Muise clarified the concern.

It is MOVED by Councillor Guy Surette and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve the amendments to Article P5 – Hiring and Probation of Staff.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. **Article P16 – Christmas Bonus – Deferred**

Council has requested that further amendments be made to this policy. Deferred until next meeting.

d. **Article P19 – Job Sharing**

It is MOVED by Councillor Guy Surette and SECONDED by Councillor Richard Donaldson to approve the amendments to Article P19 – Job Sharing.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. **Heritage Advisory Committee – Resignation of Members**

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Ted Saulnier to dissolve the Heritage Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

By consensus, a letter will be sent out to members of the PAC inquiring if they would like to merge the Heritage Advisory Committee with the PAC.

f. **Article C5 – Citizen Appointment to Committees, Commissions and Boards**

It is MOVED by Councillor Richard Donaldson and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve the amendments to Article C5 – Citizen Appointment to Committees, Commissions and Boards.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

g. **Fire Service Review**

CAO Muise gave a brief update on the Fire Service Review.

The recommendations from this review are for long term.

8. **For Correspondence and Information**

a. **WREN Cell Service Survey Press Release**

Council received correspondence on the WREN Cell Service Survey delivered earlier this year.

b. **Economic Impact Study – Port of Yarmouth**

Council received correspondence on the Economic Impact Study revealing the Importance of the Port of Yarmouth.

c. **Letter from Minister Lohr – Financial Measures Act**

Council received correspondence from Honourable John A. Lohr Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the Financial Measures Act.

d. **Letter to Minister Masland Re: Pubnico Head Intersection**

A letter was sent to Minister Masland on behalf of Council regarding the safety of the intersection at Pubnico Head.

e. **Letter to AMFFA Re: Request to form a Council Committee**

A letter was sent to the Chair of the Argyle Municipality Fire Fighters Association (AMFFA) on behalf of Council regarding the request to form a council committee with the 9 fire chiefs.

f. **Letter of Support to Le Village historique acadien de la Nouvelle-Ecosse**

A letter of support was sent to Roland d'Eon at Le Village historique acadien de la Nouvelle-Ecosse regarding the Church/Chapel project.

g. **Letter of Correspondence from Minister Masland Re: Duck Lake Bridge**

Council received correspondence from Minister Masland regarding further concern of Duck Lake Bridge.

h. **Memo from Scott Surette Re; Communauté Francophone Accueillante/ Welcoming Francophone Community**

Council received a memo from Deputy CAO Scott Muise regarding the opportunity to apply for a program, stating that the deadline did not leave adequate time for a strong application. We hope to have another opportunity to participate in the future.

9. **Financial Requests – District Community Grants**

a. **District 1 Community Grants**

It is MOVED by Warden Danny Muise and SECONDED by Councillor Richard Donaldson to approve a District Community Grant in the amount \$700 for the following organizations in District 1:

- *Theatre Sud-Ouest*
- *Abram's River Wharf Association*
- *Le Club Acadien*
- *Abram's River Schoolhouse Society*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. **District 2 Community Grants**

It is MOVED by Councillor Ted Saulnier and SECONDED by Warden Danny Muise to approve a District Community Grant in the amount \$700 for the following organizations in District 2:

- *Comeau's Hill Cemetery Planning Committee*
- *Association of Clairmont, Deviller, Fitzgerald, Harris and Jacquard*
- *Comeau's Hill and Little River Harbour Beach Committee*
- *Harbour Hill Community Hall*
- *Plymouth Cemetery*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. **District 4 Community Grants**

It is MOVED by Councillor Guy Surette and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve a District Community Grant in the amount \$500 for the following organizations in District 4:

- *Festival de la Barge*
- *Amirault's Hill Community Improvement Committee*
- *Those Were The Days Vintage Fashion Show*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. **District 5 Community Grants**

It is MOVED by Warden Danny Muise and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve a District Community Grant in the amount \$700 for the following organizations in District 5:

- *Belleville and Friends*
- *Comité Touristique de la Paroisse Ste. Anne du Ruisseau*
- *Eve Joe Bourque Society*
- *Le Club des Audacieux de Quinan*
- *Village and Friends Senior Club*
- *Quinan Fire Department*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. **District 6 Community Grants**

It is MOVED by Councillor Richard Donaldson and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve a District Community Grant in the amount \$700 for the following organizations in District 6:

- *Argyle Baptist Historical Church Building*
- *New Horizons Seaside Park Association*
- *Green Grove Cemetery Association*
- *Glenwood Hall*
- *Argyle Mount Pleasant Cemetery*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. **District 7 Community Grants**

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Richard Donaldson to approve a District Community Grant in the amount \$700 for the following organizations in District 7:

- Laurel Hills Cemetery
- East Pubnico Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
- Pubnico – Light Monument Society

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. **Agenda Topics for the next meeting/Notice of Motion by Councillors**

11. **Question Period – None.**

12. **In-Camera**

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Guy Surette to move In-Camera at 7:38 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

a. **Section 22:2 (c) Personnel Matters – Committee Appointments**

It is MOVED by Councillor Ted Saulnier and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque that Julie LeBlanc and Keval d'Entremont be appointed to the Audit Committee and Brenda LaGrandeur and Ray Pottier be appointed to the Planning Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. **Section 22:2 (e) Contract Negotiation – Yarmouth International Airport Corporation**

c. **Section 22:2 (e) Contract Negotiation – Mariners Center Expansion Project**

It is MOVED by Warden Danny Muise and SECONDED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau to endorse the MCEB recommendation of budget increase for the Mariners Center Expansion Project.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.



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Date Approved

Chair

Clerk/Recorder

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