



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2025

Council Members Present: Warden Nicole Albright, Deputy Warden Ted Saulnier, Councillor Gordon Boudreau, Councillor Greg Foster, Councillor Darryl LeBlanc, Councillor Kathy Bourque, Councillor Glenn Diggdon, and Councillor Racheal Surette

Absent with Regrets:

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

1. Call Meeting to Order

Deputy Warden Ted Saulnier called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

2. Invitation to Stand and Move

Deputy Warden Ted Saulnier 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

It is MOVED by Councillor Greg Foster and SECONDED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Approval of Minutes

a. January 30, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting Minutes

By consensus, the January 30, 2025, Regular Council Meeting Minutes were 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.



6. 7-day Notice

a. Article C50 - Council Procedural Policy

Council received 7-day notice for the amendments made to Article C50 – Council Procedural Policy.

b. Article C6 - Public Presentation

Council received 7-day notice for the amendments made to Article C6 – Public Presentation. The language in section 1.1 around lobbying is not clear enough, request to add during the course of the meeting.

c. NEW Article C55 - Internal Controls Policy

Council received 7-day notice for the NEW Article C55 - Internal Controls Policy.

d. NEW Article C56 - Credit Card Policy

Council received 7-day notice for the NEW Article C56 – Credit Card Policy.

7. For Decision and Discussion

a. Review of Hospitality and Expense Claim Policies

It is MOVED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc and SECONDED by Warden Nicole Albright to approve Article C33 – Hospitality Policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It is MOVED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau and SECONDED by Councillor Malcolm Madden to approve Article C21 Travel and Reimbursement Policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. YASTA By-Laws

It is MOVED by Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to adopt the changes made to the YASTA By-Laws.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. First Reading - By-Law 23 - Heritage Property

It is MOVED by Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve the first reading of By-Law 23 – Heritage Property.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



d. Solid Waste Contract Request for Proposals

Discussion was held regarding solid waste collection services, with a key point being the current bi-weekly pickup system, which is automatically provided to residents on public roads but not on private roads due to liability concerns. Staff explained the cost concerns with increased services, including weekly pickups. Additionally, uncertainty around the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program, which could help offset recycling costs, was noted. Council questioned whether billing methodology could be reconsidered. (ie per household as opposed to property assessment. The council advised the CAO on modifications to the tender package.

It is MOVED by Warden Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Racheal Surette that Council endorse the attached request for proposal for Solid Waste Collection, and act as the principal contract holder for the collection of recycling material with the addition of alternative weekly pricing.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It is MOVED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque that Council task the CAO to negotiate an agreement with Circular Materials to receive industry funding under the Extended Producer Responsibility legislation.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Letter from Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs

Warden Albright received a phone call from Minister Lohr to support the initiatives that the Province of Nova Scotia is looking to push forward. The NSFM was concerned about this. NSFM would like to endorse a letter from all Municipalities for NSFM to send a letter to the province asking for more information. This would also be a great time to invite MLA Colton LeBlanc to meet with Council.

It is MOVED by Warden Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau the Municipality of the District of Argyle supports the work of the NSFM in advocating for Nova Scotia Municipalities to be at the table with the provincial legislative and policy makers when legislation that affects municipalities is being contemplated, and that the Warden has autonomy to sign a letter expressing support of the NSFM in representing the needs of municipalities that support the municipal autonomy, strong decision making and municipal engagement.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. Application for Intermunicipal Solar Project – Request to Approve Application

It is MOVED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque that Council authorize AREA the submission of the solar garden application for the Oakhill location.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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g. RCMP Officer Assessment and Request to Increase Officers

It is MOVED by Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc that the Municipality of Argyle, along with the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, requests the addition of 2 RCMP officers to be filled in the 2025-2026 fiscal year, and a third officer be added in the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It is MOVED by Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc that the RCMP and the Province of Nova Scotia join the municipalities to re-evaluate policing resources after the new positions are filled within an 18-month period to examine police effectiveness and additional needs of all parties.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

h. Article C36 - Audit Committee

It is MOVED by Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to re-adopt Article C36 - Audit Committee.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

i. Volunteer Recognition Mariner Centre

It is MOVED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau and SECONDED by Councillor Racheal Surette to approve to contribute up to \$500 in conjunction with the Municipality of Yarmouth \$500 contribution and The Town of Yarmouth \$500 contribution to be used to cover the cost of a gift for the former President & Vice president of the Mariners Centre as recognition for all the additional work they both were faced with over the last year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. For Correspondence and Information

a. MEMO to Caucus - Premier of NS

Council received correspondence from the Premier of Nova Scotia.

b. Letter of Congratulations to Virginia Smith

Council received correspondence of the letter of congratulations that was sent to Virginia Smith.

c. Letter to Department of Transportation RE: Wedgeport Crosswalk

Council received correspondence of the letter that was sent to the Department of Transportation regarding the Wedgeport Crosswalk.

d. Letter to Minister LeBlanc RE: Oil Exploration

Council received correspondence of the letter that was sent to Minister LeBlanc regarding Oil Exploration.

e. 24-25 GRID Approval Letter/T&Cs

Council received correspondence from Honourable John A. Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs approving the funding request for the Tusket Falls Brewery Wastewater Treatment Project.

f. Barb's Bench

Council received correspondence from Ina Comeau-Collins regarding "Barb's Bench", it is noted that Ina will be asked to apply for funding through our Grants to Organizations.

9. Financial Requests

a. NSMW 2025

Conversation was held around being asked to pay 1/3 of events held in the Town of Yarmouth or Municipality of Yarmouth. These events are not always as beneficial to the Municipality of Argyle as they are to the Town of Yarmouth and Municipality of Yarmouth.

It is MOVED by Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Council Darryl LeBlanc to fund \$15,667 to support the licensing fees required to bring NSMW to Yarmouth & Acadian Shores.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Council Community Grant Request - Plymouth Recreational Hall Society

It is MOVED by Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Councillor Malcolm Madden to approve the District 2 Community Grant Request for the Plymouth Hall in the amount of \$700

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Council Community Grant Requests - District 8

It is MOVED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and SECONDED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc to approve the District 8 Community Grant Requests in the amount of \$700 for:

- *Nouveaux Horizons de la Baronnie*
- *Pubnico Lions Club*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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

Councillor Malcolm Madden made a request to add ADA to the next agenda.

11. Question Period – None.

With EPR would there be a reduction in taxes, we do not know yet.

12. In-Camera

It is *MOVED* by Kathy Bourque and *SECONDED* by Warden Nicole Albright to move to the In-Camera session at 7:55 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

a. Section 22:2 (g) – Legal Matters

Consensus to come out in-camera session at 9:24

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Racheal Surette to authorizes the CAO to utilize a third-party consultant for FOIPOP requests.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Date Approved

Chair

Clerk/Recorder