



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

Council Members Present: Warden Danny Muise, Councillor Richard Donaldson, Councillor Gordon Boudreau, Councillor Glenn Diggdon, Councillor Ted Saulnier, Councillor Calvin d'Entremont, Councillor Guy Surette, and Councillor Kathy Bourque.

Absent with Regrets: Deputy Warden Nicole Albright

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Scott Surette, and Executive Assistant Chantalle Newell.

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

Warden Danny Muise called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Warden Muise indicated there are regrets from Deputy Warden Nicole Albright.

2. **Invitation to Stand and Move**

Warden Danny Muise reminded Council that they are permitted to stand and move as they need to during the meeting. This is a new initiative introduced by Argyle Recreation which normalizes movement in meetings.

3. **Approval of Agenda/Conflict of Interest Declaration**

By consensus, the agenda was approved as circulated with no conflict declared.

4. **Presentation – None.**

5. **Recognizing Argyle**

Councillor d'Entremont gave a shout out to the ESPB sharks who went undefeated and brought home the provincial banner. He also gave a shout out to a young local resident who received Bronze at the Canada Games.

Councillor Bourque gave a shout out to CAPEB for partnering with community halls for the Mardi Gras breakfast and supper.

Councillor Surette mentioned there is a Brunch on the 19th at the Club Social des Iles to support the village.

Councillor Diggdon was invited and attended the Tri County Womens Centre International Womens Day Event.

Councillor Boudreau mentioned the community meeting regarding the rectory for the Wedgeport Parish. There were some good ideas that they will move forward on.



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6. **Adoption of Minutes**

a. **Special Council Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2023**

By consensus, the Special Council Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2023, are approved as presented.

b. **Executive Council Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2023**

By consensus, the Executive Council Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2023, are approved with the addition of “for a community sign” under item 10 b.

7. **Wardens Report**

Warden Muise’s report is attached to the agenda. There were no questions on his report.

8. **Committees Report**

a. **Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission**

Councillor Surette reported on some movement on the Harbour South Medical Centre. They are in the final negotiation process with NS Health.

b. **REMO Executive Meeting**

Nothing to report.

c. **Mariners Management Authority**

Councillor Diggdon indicated there is a lot of work being done on how the board will be working with the expansion going forward.

d. **Mariners Centre Expansion Steering Committee**

Nothing to report.

e. **Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association**

Councillor d’Entremont reported on Neil’s report that was released. The room nights are up 51%. The NS Government is implementing a room tax levy. He indicated the levy money is used for marketing.

f. **Yarmouth County Solid Waste Park**

Nothing to report.

g. **Yarmouth International Airport Corporation**

Councillor Surette reported that they have submitted for community funding to find out what it costs to run it. They have signed an agreement with CMA 2024. There have been three applicants for citizen reps.

h. **Nakile Board**



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Councillor Bourque reported on Gail's retirement at the end of March and the new administrator has been following the staff around.

i. **Western County Regional Libraries**

Councillor Kathy Bourque reported there is a meeting next week.

j. **WREN Liaison and Oversight Committee**

Councillor Surette reported on meeting twice a year with the WREN Board. They have decided to have three meetings per year, and they have elected people for the board and for the audit committee.

k. **Argyle Recreation Committee**

Councillor Bourque reported on the February 16th meeting. They are doing a pilot project for day camps for 4-year olds, partnering with Le Jardin des Petits. It will be held at the Belleville School. They will take one person from Le Jardin and 2 students to run it. The speed radar sign is currently up at West Pubnico School and will be placed at the Creamy Treat when it is open for the season.

l. **Police Advisory Board**

Councillor Boudreau reported on getting an RCMP lead to start having meetings.

m. **Doctor Recruitment**

Nothing to report.

n. **Waste check**

Nothing to report.

o. **Sewer Committees**

Nothing to report.

9. **Reports**

a. **Clerks Report**

The clerk's report is attached to the agenda.

b. **Department Head Report**

The Department Head Report is attached to the agenda.

10. **7-Day Notice to Council**

a. **Rescind – Article C45 – COVID 19 Policy**

As the COVID 19 Pandemic is wrapping up, Council is repealing their COVID 19 policy. This is their 7-day notice.

b. **Rescind and to be Repealed – Article P9 – Eliminate Conflict**



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This policy is out dated and needs to be replaced. Therefore, council has received their 7-day notice for the rescinding of this policy.

11. For Decision and Discussion

a. Article C16 – Low Income Tax Exemption

It is moved by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont to approve the changes to Article C16 – Low Income Property Tax Exemption.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Clare/Argyle Tourism Project

It is moved by Councillor Kathy Bourque and seconded by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont that Council supports the partnership between the Municipality of Argyle and the Municipality of Clare for the Clare/Argyle Acadian Tourism Projects with a financial contribution of \$15,000 per project, for a total of \$30,000, divided amongst the next two fiscal years. (2023-2024, 2024-2025)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. By-Law 41 – The Maintenance and Improvement of Private Roads

It is moved by Councillor Richard Donaldson and seconded by Councillor Guy Surette to approve the second reading of By-Law 41 – The Maintenance and Improvement of Private Road.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Strategic Plan Action Items

It is moved by Councillor Richard Donaldson and seconded by Councillor Ted Saulnier that the action items associated with the Strategic plan (2023-28) be approved as presented, and that the CAO finalize the plan for Council, staff and the public.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Policing Priorities 2023-2024

It is moved by Councillor Guy Surette and seconded by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont to have the CAO submit the policing priorities as presented.

Councillor Richard Donaldson left the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Richard Donaldson returned to the meeting at 7:47 p.m.



12. **Correspondence and For Information**

a. **Letter of Support – Lake Milo Aquatic Club Renovation Project**

Deputy CAO Surette attached this letter to the agenda for information purposes.

b. **Correspondence to the Interim Manager and Board of the Airport**

Council reviewed the correspondence written to the Interim Manager and Board of the Airport.

13. **Financial Requests**

a. **District Community Grant Request – Le Nouveaux Horizon de la Barronie - \$500**

It is moved by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont to approve a \$500 District Community Grant for le Nouveaux Horizon de la Barronie.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

None

15. **Question Period**

16. **In-Camera – Section 22:2 (C) Personnel Matter**

It is moved by Councillor Guy Surette and seconded by Councillor Ted Saulnier to approve the suggested salary scales for the Municipality of Argyle staff, as outlined by the CAO in his report.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Date Approved

Chair



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Clerk/Recorder

DRAFT