



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 14, 2024

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

Absent with Regrets: Deputy Warden Nicole Albright

Staff Present: 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 6:31 p.m.

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 at this time.

4. **Presentation – Dan White, West Nova Chamber**

Dan White was present to speak on behalf of the West Nova Chamber. The West Nova Chamber took on the task of fighting for the Ferry to continue being in Digby. They are currently fighting to get the 101 highway completed. The West Nova Chamber is reaching out to partner with municipalities to work together on getting projects complete. They are looking to partner with municipalities to complete the Tourism and Trade Show for this part of the country next year. Dan highlights the importance of tourism in this area and how small areas should get educated and get the word out there about how beautiful this area is..

Councillor d'Entremont asked what area the West Nova Chamber of Commerce covers. Dan White indicated there is no restriction in NS of what part can join the West Nova Chamber.

Councillor Surette highlighted the importance of the Yarmouth Ferry.

Warden Muise asked if any other municipality was involved. Dan indicated that any chamber of commerce can join the West Nova Chamber and West Nova Chamber will do the administrative work.

Dan White would like council to consider furthering dialogue with the West Nova Chamber.

5. **Adoption of Minutes**

a. **Executive Council Meeting Minutes – February 29, 2024**



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By consensus, the Executive Council Meeting Minutes of February 29, 2024, are approved as presented.

6. **Recognizing Argyle**

Councillor Boudreau thanked a volunteer for cleaning up le petit bois.

Councillor Bourque thanked CAPEB for the funds for the Mardi Gras breakfast.

Councillor Diggdon noted the concert at the Theater and gave a shout out to organizers.

Councillor Surette gave a shout out to CAPEB for the dinner party in Surette's Island.

7. **Wardens Report**

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

8. **Committees Report**

- a. **Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission**
- b. **REMO Executive Meeting**
- c. **Mariners Centre Management Authority**
- d. **Mariners Centre Expansion Board (MCEB)**
- e. **Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association**
- f. **Yarmouth County Solid Waste Park**
- g. **Yarmouth International Airport Corporation**

Councillor Surette reported on a contract that was going to be signed to bring some money in to the airport.

h. **Nakile Board**

Councillor Bourque reported on Nakile having a new administrator, Larry Muise and that things are going well.

- i. **Western County Regional Libraries**
- j. **WREN Liaison and Oversight Committee**
- k. **Argyle Recreation Committee**
- l. **Police Advisory Board**
- m. **Doctor Recruitment**
- n. **Waste Check**
- o. **Sewer Committees**

9. **7-day Notice**

- a. **Article C6 – Public Presentation Amendments**

Council received 7-day notice to pass the amendments to Article C6 – Public Presentation Policy.

- b. **Article C53 – Municipal Grants and Sponsorship**



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Executive Assistant Newell gave council an overview of the changes to the Municipal Grants and Sponsorship Policy. The intent is to repeal Article C4 – Grants to Organizations, Article C34 – Fire Services Capital Grant Program, and Article C37 – Community Hall Grants policies in favour of the new policy. Council is asking to have clarification surrounding the Council Community Grants and what happens when they don't use all their money for their grants.

This is Council's 7-day notice for the passing of this policy.

It is MOVED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and SECONDED by Councillor Ted Saulnier to allow \$4,200 per Councillor for the Council Community Grants with a cap of \$700 per organization per year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. **Article P32 – Employee Recognition**

Council received 7-day notice to pass Article P32 – Employee Recognition Policy.

10. **For Decision and Discussion**

a. **Article C22 – Fees and Penalties Amendments**

Article C22 – Fees and Penalties has been brought forward with the addition of room rentals in the Municipal Building, the addition of Change of use permit which was missed the last time the policy was updated, and clarification around Municipal Civic Signs.

It is MOVED by Councillor Guy Surette and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve the amendments to Article C22 – Fees and Penalties Policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. **Veterans Banners 2024**

Deputy CAO Surette is seeking permission to move forward with the Veterans Banners Project again this year in the Municipality. He is asking to continue with the program as is, with 5 banners per district.

It is MOVED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau and SECONDED by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont to approve the Veterans Banners Project for the 2024 year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. **Use of Parking Lot of Mrytle Lane**

Nova Scotia Department of Public Works is looking to develop a parking lot off of Mrytle Lane for the Boat Launch. They are requesting the Municipality own and maintain it.



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It is MOVED by Councillor Richard Donaldson and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to own and maintain the parking lot that may possibly be developed by the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works on Myrtle Lane.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Correspondence and For Information

a. Coastal Protection Act

Council received documentation from the Province on the Coastal Protection Act.

12. Financial Requests – District Community Grants

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau to approve a \$500 District Community Grant for the following organizations:

- *Kemptville Fire Department*
- *Wedgeport Tuna Museum*
- *Wedgeport Nature Trail Committee*
- *Wedgeport and District Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary*
- *East Side Community Centre*
- *Pubnico Area Lions Club*
- *Forest Grove Cemetery*
- *Nouveaux Horizons de la Baronnie*
- *Papillons et Pissenlits*
- *Ladies Auxiliary of the West Pubnico Fire Department*
- *Le Village Historique Acadien de la Nouvelle Ecosse.*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

None

14. Question Period

None

15. In-Camera – Section 22:2 (e) and Section 22:2 (c)

The Council went to the in-camera session at 7:35 p.m.

The Council returned to the regular session at 8:07 p.m. to make the following motions:

It is MOVED by Councillor Ted Saulnier and SECONDED by Councillor Guy Surette to approve the amendment to the Solar Farm Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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16. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Date Approved

Chair

Clerk/Recorder

DRAFT