



Victoria County Municipal Council
June 14th, 2021

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held via Zoom on June 14th, 2021 at 5:00pm with Warden Bruce Morrison in the Chair.

Present Were:

District #1- Paul MacNeil

District #2- Perla MacLeod

District #3- Bruce Morrison, Warden

District #4- Barbara Longva

District #5- Fraser Patterson

District #6- Larry Dauphinee, Deputy Warden

District #7- Jackie Organ

District #8- Norman MacDonald

Also present were:

Leanne MacEachen, CAO

Amy Liu, CFO

Stephanie MacLeod, Recorder

Dan Coffin, Tourism Officer

Garrett Fazekas, IT



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Warden Morrison began by acknowledging that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Morrison called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval with one addition of an in camera session at the end of council session.

It was moved by Councillor Organ and seconded by Councillor Longva that the agenda be approved.

Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 31st, 2021, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council were presented for approval.

It was moved by Councillor MacDonald and seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee that the Victoria County Municipal Council minutes of May 31st, 2021, be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

CAO REPORT

Old Business

Messaging has been done for Heavy Garbage postponement.

Pride Flag was raised June 14th at 9:30am.

Looking to see if there's grant funding for trash cans.

Hoping we can be part of a Province wide trash cleanup initiative.

Irving have responded - will only meet to discuss current work completed. Trying to gather all relevant information.

Councillor MacNeil commented on heavy garbage and he appreciated the comments that the CAO made regarding this issue. The CAO mentioned that we are not staffed up and we don't have the extra trucks rented so we will be keeping heavy garbage pickup this fall.

New Business

Senior Safety

Speaker at AMANS on Covid success stories



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Looking for funding options for newsletter - discuss at SSP board meeting

Working on a Resource Database for our website

Couple of 'one-on-one' calls a week coming in

June 15, 2021 – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Tourism

Trails meetings and progress being made- great meeting with Steve TIR

ARCH study - good meeting, making progress

Looking to check in with Tourism Operators - Major change over last 2 weeks

Baddeck Waterfront committee - making progress with project

Website upkeep

Rec/AL

Trails meetings and progress

Placemaking - planning summer sessions around the County, and looking at funding options

Step Challenge starting July 1

Mobi-Mats are being delivered to Parks this week - News release related to it

HRM have contacted looking for some guidance on Rural Rec programming

Finance

Sick valuation actuarial report required this year

Y/E Reports being worked on

Tax collection position being developed for Down North

Will be visiting Highland Manor once restrictions are eased

Public Works

Monitoring fish plant water usage daily - don't want community issues

30 yellow cards for water customers last month - collected on 29. Good efforts

C&D hauling this week

North Re-Use Building needs more materials - consider donating



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Baddeck Re-Use should be opening this weekend - options for groups? Change the weeks, or start from June group?

Councillor MacLeod suggested giving everyone 3 weeks instead of 4 to make it fair. Council agreed.

Enviro-Depots - we will be removing Pre-Count requirement this week

Other

Washroom EOI open until June 17

Will be scheduling another Bylaw meeting to discuss a new Local Improvement Bylaw

Website - calendar will be updated regularly - please check there for documents

IMA Approval - IT Project - need a motion to accept project.

It was moved by Councillor MacNeil and seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee to accept the IMA Approval IT Project.

Motion carried.

Need a motion to apply for PCAP funding Priority 1 - Backup Generators, Priority 2 - LN Well Development

It was moved by Councillor Longva and seconded by Councillor MacLeod that the applications for PCAP funding for Priority 1 – Backup Generators and Priority 2 – LN Well Development are approved by Council.

Motion carried.

Councillor Patterson said the FCM is looking for applications for their committees and Councillor Patterson Council's permission to apply for some FCM committees.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Dauphinee and seconded by Councillor MacDonald to permit Councillor Patterson to apply to sit on some FCM committees.

Motion carried.



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TAXATION UPDATE

Total outstanding is \$658,733.04 which is \$263,217.40 lower than last year's \$921,950.44.

Current outstanding is \$294,903.34 which is \$212,465.48 lower than last year's \$507,368.82.

Arrears outstanding are \$363,829.70 which is \$50,751.92 lower than last year's \$414,581.62.

- Prepayment of tax as of June 14, 2021 is 389,955.86 which is 36,607.78 higher than last year's 353,348.08.

Notes:

1. We collected 44,482.94 tax from May 31, 2021 (last council meeting) to today.
2. New tax bills will be sent out at June end.
3. The village is going to collect their own rates. So, village residents will receive two bills.
4. A list of tax sale properties is going to be published in the Cape Breton Post on June 19th. The Tax Sale date is July 20. It is a tender tax sale.
5. We are going to schedule a public auction tax sale on October 19th instead of November 16th. There are already some properties arranged to be on this public auction tax sale.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND RENEWAL

District 1

Councillor MacNeil thanked Steve for the work that was done on the St Columba and Barra Glen Roads and for the Road being built up to South Cove.

Councillor MacNeil commented that mowing and brush cutting have to be done along roads and that he will contact Steve and Mark on issues.

District 2

Councillor MacLeod had nothing new to add and said all concerns were reported to Steve.

District 3

Warden Morrison requested that the crosswalks be repainted in the Village.

District 4

Councillor Longva said the Wreck Cove sign is missing and requested TIR to put it back. Councillor Longva also requested a hidden driveway sign by the Wreck Cove power project.



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Councillor Longva also said that the Cabot Trail sign near the St. Ann's Motel lists a website that doesn't exist and asked if that could be changed.

CAO MacEachen asked Councillor Longva if she contacted Steve about this. Councillor Longva has not, but will.

Warden Morrison mentioned to Councillor Longva that he received a note about the Trans-Canada Highway, just past the Big Harbour turn off, where that gypsum hole is, the asphalt is starting to sink right down there again and people are hitting it hard with their vehicles. Warden Morrison requested that Councillor Longva add this to her list of TIR concerns.

Councillor Longva said she would add this to her list.

Councillor Longva asked Councillor MacLeod if she knew where the 1km of paving is going to be done on the Big Farm Road and Councillor MacLeod responded that she was not sure where it will be yet.

District 5

Councillor Patterson said that the grading has been done on the Southside of Boularderie.

District 6

Deputy Warden Dauphinee thanked TIR for fixing the erosion around the Marina. Deputy Warden requested some brush cutting be done.

District 7

Councillor Organ addressed TIR concerns with Steve MacDonald and she will continue to do so.

District 8

Councillor MacDonald asked when the work will be done at the Coop in St. Margaret's Village. Traffic is driving on the opposite lane to avoid the huge drop in pavement. Councillor MacDonald is getting calls from residents as traffic collision is a huge concern.

Councillor MacDonald asked if Council could get a list of RIM projects. Warden Morrison advised the CAO to get an update on this from Steve.

Councillor MacDonald mentioned that foliage is out and intersections are a concern and requested the Brush Cutter be sent in.

Receiving calls about access to the beach in Dingwall...the road is a disgrace; many people use this road to get down to the beach for a walk for their mental health. Norm sent an email about this.



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NOTICE OF MOTIONS

It was moved by Councillor Longva and seconded by Councillor MacDonald that \$1,000.00 be taken from her district budget for the SABDA Time Bank.

Motion carried.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

District 1

It was moved by Councillor MacNeil and seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee that \$1,000.00 be taken from his district budget to CEPI as part of a study on Recreational Fishing in and around the Bras D'Or.

Motion Carried.

Councillor MacNeil thanked Charlene Ellis and her Grade 10 CBL class for cleaning up the garbage from Rankin School of the Narrows to the Iona Port. They collected 8 full bags of Garbage and 1 blue bag which were mostly liquor cans and bottles which is disturbing in itself.

Councillor MacNeil thanked all the individuals that have done cleanup in the community in the district. We appreciate the work that was done to keep our communities clean.

District 2

Councillor MacLeod safe grad money they aren't going to do a grad this year, is it ok with council can we use the money for graduation ceremony instead.

Council agreed that this is allowed. CAO will look at how much and send it to all three schools in the district.

It was moved by Councillor MacLeod and seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the safe grad money given to safe grads by the County be used for graduation ceremonies this year instead.

Motion Carried.



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District 3

Warden Morrison asked for a motion to accept the following LGBTQ proclamation:

Proclamation Designating June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Victoria supports the rights of every citizen to experience equality and freedom from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, all people regardless of age, gender identity, race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical challenges have the right to be treated on the basis of their intrinsic value as human beings; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Victoria accepts and welcomes people of diverse backgrounds and believes a diverse population leads to a more vibrant community; and

WHEREAS, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) communities contribute to the cultural, civic and economic successes of the Municipality of the County of Victoria; and

WHEREAS, while we as a society at large are slowly embracing new definitions of sexuality and gender we must also acknowledge that the need for education and awareness remains vital to end discrimination and prejudice.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRUCE MORRISON, Warden OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF VICTORIA do hereby proclaim June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer + Pride Month in the Municipality of the County of Victoria and encourage our residents to reflect on the ongoing struggle for equality members of the LGBTQ+ face and celebrate the contributions that enhance our Municipality.

IN WITNESS, THEREOF, I have hereto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the seal of the Municipality of the County of Victoria, this 14th day of June 2021.

Bruce Morrison

Warden

It was moved by Councillor Organ and seconded by Councillor MacLeod that Council accept the LGBTQ Proclamation.

Motion Carried.



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Councillor MacLeod requested that the proclamation be added to the County Minutes, Facebook and website.

Warden Morrison requested that if a volunteer fire department in the County did not receive their 25 years of service medals to contact your fire chief to make arrangements.

Warden Morrison presented Councillor Patterson with a medal last week at the Ross Ferry Volunteer Fire Department alongside EMO Lyle Donovan.

District 4

It was moved by Councillor Longva and seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee that \$1,000.00 be taken from her district budget to the Crowdis Mountain Snowmobile Club for a new groomer.

Motion carried.

Councillor Longva asked if there was any money available to fix up the flower beds at the Cabot Trail sign by the St. Ann's Motel. The new owners said they would maintain them but asked if there was funding available for them.

CAO MacEachen indicated that we are not able to fund private businesses.

Warden Morrison asked if it is a community owned sign or a provincial sign and Deputy Warden Dauphinee suggested checking with Destination Cape Breton to see if they could assist.

Councillor Longva mentioned that there is an eighth of an acre at 36 Meadow Road that residents would like to put a playground/community garden in but it is on County land. CAO MacEachen indicated that their lawyer should contact our lawyer regarding this, civic addresses, etc. We cannot just "donate" land.

Councillor Longva asked if the Zero Waste study was available for the public to view and CAO MacEachen said it was not put online yet but we can make it available.

District 5

Councillor Patterson had nothing new to report.

District 6

It was moved by Deputy Warden Dauphinee and seconded by Councillor MacNeil that \$500.00 be taken from his district budget to assist with staff appreciation at Highland Manor.

Motion Carried.



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Deputy Warden Dauphinee thanked Council for attending the Minister of Environment meeting last week.

District 7

Councillor Organ had one concern and has taken steps to help this resident.

District 8

Councillor MacDonald has had numerous calls from residents in regard to FiberOp. Many places that were scheduled to be hooked up in Capstick and Meat Cove in the first phase by Develop NS have been told that now it will be completed by December 2023, residents are asking why. Seaside towers are not providing adequate service to Capstick and Meat Cove areas.

CAO MacEachen said she would reach out to Develop and find out what is going on and would let Councillor MacDonald know.

Councillor MacDonald congratulated the Cabot graduates.

BYLAW/POLICY REVIEW

Two new proposed bylaws were presented for approval.

PACE:

It was moved by Deputy Warden Dauphinee and seconded by Councillor MacLeod to approve the second reading of the PACE Bylaw

Motion carried.

Community Standards:

It was moved by Councillor MacNeil and seconded by Councillor Longva to not approve the second reading of the Community Standards Bylaw and will review that bylaw at a later date.

Motion carried.



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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Next Council meeting is June 28, 2021.

In July and August we will go with one council session. There will be one on July 26, 2021 and one on August 23, 2021.

In the event we have to meet before those dates we will meet as a Committee of the Whole

It was moved by Councillor MacNeil and seconded by Councillor Organ to go In Camera meeting to discuss a financial issue.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Organ and seconded by Councillor MacNeil to come out of In Camera meeting.

Motion carried.

ADJOURN

The Municipality of the County of Victoria County council session was adjourned at 6:25pm.