

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held in Council Chambers at Baddeck on April 23, 2024, at 2:00pm with Warden Morrison in the Chair.

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT**

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 #8 – Norman MacDonald

**STAFF PRESENT**

Leanne MacEachen, CAO

Alix Redden, CFO

Steff MacLeod, Recorder

Jennifer Dagsvik, Communications

**ABSENT**

District #7- Jackie Organ

Warden Morrison welcomed everyone and acknowledged that this meeting is being held in Unama'ki, one of seven traditional districts of Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaw People.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Morrison called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval, with the addition of the FCM report requested by Councillor Patterson.

***On Motion of Deputy Warden seconded by Councillor Organ that the Agenda for April 23, 2024, be approved with the noted change.***

***Motion Carried.***

**TRAILS UPDATE – DAN COFFIN**

The following presentation was given:

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## **TRAILS DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**Project Plan Overview**

**Project Plan Status Updates**

**Trails Development Support Program**

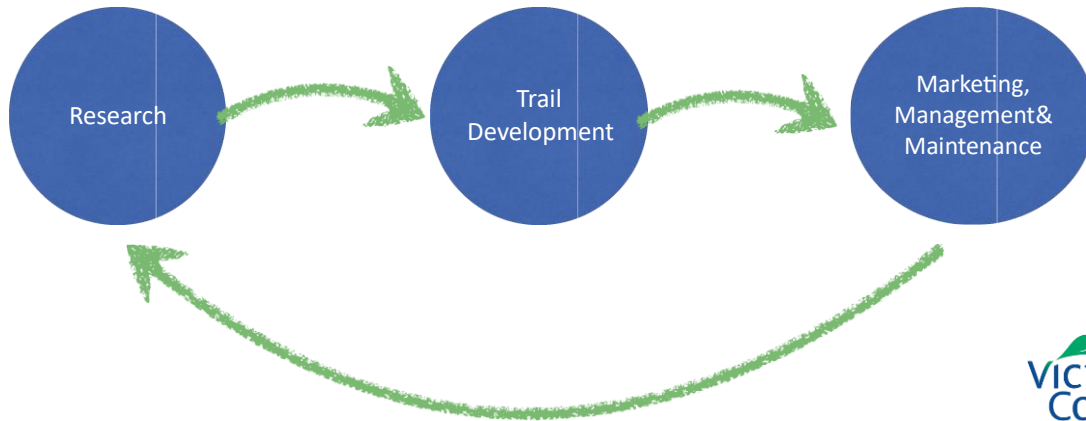
**Next Steps**

**Jajiktek / Seawall Trail Update**

**Closing**

# PROJECT PLAN PHILOSOPHY

RESEARCH- DRIVES TRAILS DEVELOPMENT- WHICH THEN DRIVES MARKETING



## PHASE 1 - RESEARCH

WHAT IS NEEDED TO SATISFY THE MARKET?

- ✓ Review and Utilize current research and Trail Plans
- ✓ Assess Best Practices for Trail Development
- ✓ Meet with Relevant Project Partners



**TRAIL DEVELOPMENT STATUS UPDATE**

**PHASE 1 - RESEARCH**

1. Review and Utilize current research and Trail Plans
  - Team reviewed and assessed current plans
  - Small Adjustments based on land ownership
2. Meet with Relevant Project Partners
  - ✓ ACOA
  - ✓ NS Tourism, Communities, Culture & Heritage
    - NS Department of Natural Resources
  - ✓ NS Department of Transportation
  - ✓ Nova Scotia Trails Federation
  - ✓ Trails User Groups & Clubs
  - ✓ Inverness County Trails Federation



**TRAIL DEVELOPMENT STATUS UPDATE**

**PHASE 1 - RESEARCH**

1. **Assess Best Practices for Trail Development**
  - Trail Bike Tour of Celtic Shores Coastal Trail
  - ATV tour of Proposed Route & Destinations
  - Snowmobile tour of Highlands by Snowmobile Clubs
  - Best practice mission to Quebec - Trail System (Winter)

**WHAT IS NEEDED TO SATISFY THE MARKET?**

**Key Findings:**

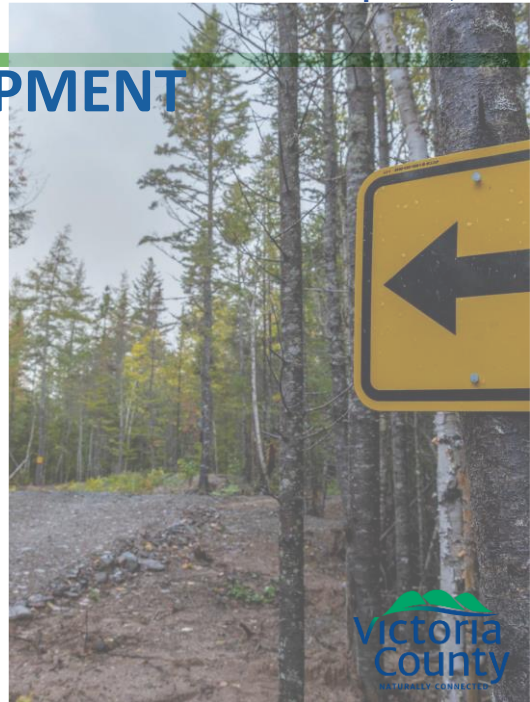
- Trail Access Points
- Trail Amenities and Services
- Trail Safety and Maintenance
- Trail Destination Points



## PHASE2 - TRAILSDEVELOPMENT

### DRIVENBY RESEARCH

- ✓ Confirm Route and secure easements & permits
- ✓ Establish Trail Infrastructure & Construction needs
- Confirm Current and apply for new funding
- ✓ Quote & Contract Suppliers for Trail Construction
- ✓ Consult with user groups on specific needs
  - MountainBike Strategy Alignment
  - Snowmobile Strategy - DCBA / SANS
  - Local Clubs and User Groups



## TRAILDEVELOPMENTSTATUSUPDATE

### PHASE2 – MULTI-USE TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

- Approximately 73 kms of trails to connect communities to trails
- Roughly 35 kms are complete or under some level of development
- Mary Barker Trail - Ingonish
  - Partner with Cabot Snowmobile Club
- New Glen road upgrade & Bridge – Big Baddeck Area
  - Partner: St Ann’s Rec Trail Society & Crowdis Mnt Snowmobile Club
- Lewis Mountain Road upgrade – St Ann’s area
  - Partner with St Ann’s Rec Trail Society
- Most of the challenging pieces have been tackled first. Still 4 key challenging sections to work on. (St. Ann’s, Ingonish, Big Baddeck(2))
- Trailheads developments will begin this summer & next summer (North River, Hunter’s Mountain / Big Baddeck, St. Ann’s, Ingonish)
- Phases 5, 6 & 7 to commence in 2025



## PHASE 3 - MARKETING, MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE

- Marketing Planning
  - Mapping & Signage of the Trails System
  - Digital Presence and Branding of Trails System
  - Trails Naming - (Naming Contest?)
- Management Planning
  - Speed / Noise limits in specific areas and times
  - Litter and Washroom options
  - Parking and Loading areas
  - Education and Enforcement Campaigns for user groups
- Maintenance Planning
  - Grooming and trail clearing plan
  - Ongoing Trail repair plan
  - Sustainability Planning



## TRAIL SUPPORT PROGRAM-BASED ON NEEDS

### SUPPORTING TRAILS PROJECTS THAT ALIGN WITH MUNICIPAL TRAILS DEVELOPMENT PLANS

**New Development** - To provide one time financial support to fund or provide initial seed funding for a new project that enhances and supports the Municipal Trails Strategy.

- *Cannot exceed 15% of the total project cost.*
- *Maximum amount eligible to request is \$10,000.*

**Trail Maintenance / Repair** - To provide one-time support for the required repair of section of an existing trail or equipment or to execute a portion of planned trail maintenance project.

- *Cannot exceed one-third (1/3) of the total project cost.*
- *Maximum amount eligible to request is \$3,000.*

**Marketing** - To provide grants to community organizations that have a mandate to market and promote the use of a trail as part of the Municipal Trails Strategy. This funding is intended to focus on marketing through maps and website or digital content to assist in the user experience of being on the trail.

- *Maximum amount eligible to request is \$2,500.*
- *Not intended to support staff salaries or wages.*

## TRAIL SUPPORT PROGRAM

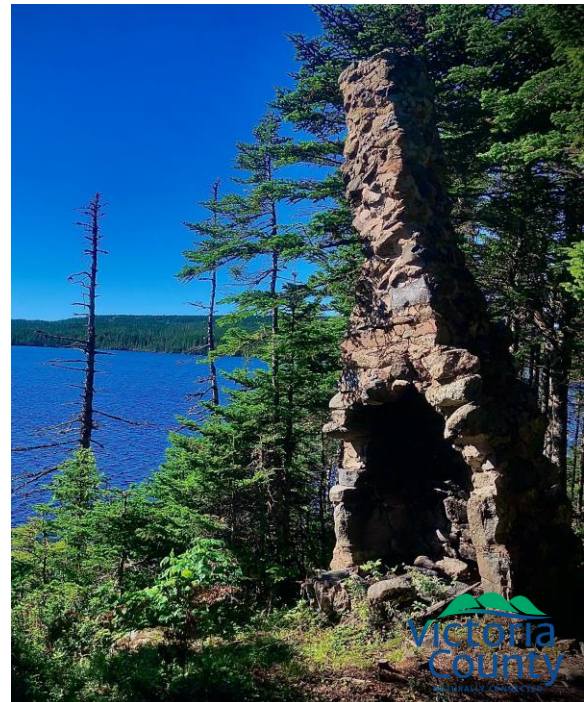
### EXAMPLES OF FUNDING PROVIDED

Crowdis Mountain Snowmobile Club	New Trail / Maintenance – 6 projects	\$50,666
Ingonish / Cabot Snowmobile Club	New Trail Development	\$10,000
St. Ann’s Bay Rec Trail Dev Society	Lewis Mountain Road & St. Ann’s Trailhead – 2 projects	\$17,300
Baddeck Nordic	New Trail / Maintenance / Signage – 4 projects	\$11,533
North Highlands Nordic	Maintenance Program	\$2,500
Central Cape Breton ATV Club	Trail Maintenance	\$3,000
Waterfront Baddeck	Kidston Island Trail	\$3,700
St. Ann’s Bay Development Association	Rear Barrachois Trail Development – 2 projects	\$9,700
Northeast Biosphere Trails Association	Nicholson Trail	\$2,450



## NEXT STEPS IN VICTORIA COUNTY TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

- Continue to work to complete Multi-Use Connection Plan
- Continue to work with Community Groups to support & align priorities (includes non- motorized groups)
- Focus first on Access (trailheads) & Safety (Bridges & Trail)
- Next Focus on User Experience & Destinations
- Final Focus on Recreation programming on trails
- Assess needs and partners for Under-developed trails  
-North River, Cape Smokey, Kauzzman, Tenerife, Humes River, Gairloch Mountain, Bald Mountain etc.
- Develop site Optimization program to improve these sites for quality user experience and sustainability.



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THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

Dan Coffin  
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(902) 294-0060



## QUESTIONS

Council thanked Mr. Coffin for his efforts and work.

Deputy Warden Dauphinee mentioned the trail up to Cape North and asked if it is still being considered, and Mr. Coffin said there was a proposed route, but it was taken out of the plan right now but, could be considered again in the future.

Deputy Warden Dauphinee also asked about trails connecting communities and advised that if Mr. Coffin ever has an opportunity to meet with Parks Canada for this to do so and urged Mr. Coffin to keep pushing for this, because it is important to connect communities.

Councillor MacLeod asked about some miscommunication between the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables and County staff and Mr. Coffin said we are working on this issue and potentially bringing in a surveyor and are working well with the Departments of Environment and Public Works.

Councillor Patterson asked if Mr. Coffin had any stats on how many are travelling to Cape Breton for the trails and Mr. Coffin said not yet, but that is part of the strategic plan, and we are working with the trail's groups and Destination Cape Breton on these numbers as well.

Councillor MacDonald said there are three trails in District 8 and some residents in the area are asking about proper parking spaces and Mr. Coffin said the problem with this is most of the trail heads are on private land but added that the plan for the upcoming year is to work with private landowners.



Warden Morrison made mention of the bigger parking areas in the Baddeck area that hasn't been in use yet and Mr. Coffin said those areas will be used once Phase 2 is complete and that phase will be completed once we talk to some private landowners.

Warden Morrison asked about some recent trail damage done by ATV's and Mr. Coffin said the challenge is the ATV's coming off crossing on the highway and will be discussing this with Provincial Department of Public Works and Warden Morrison suggested possibly getting some public service notices out regarding this.

### **VICTORIA REPORTER PRESENTATION – NICOLE FAWCETT**

Ms. Fawcett provided Council with information and update regarding the new Victoria Reporter, some of the highlights were:

- Last October The Strait Area Reporter expanded with the addition of the Victoria Reporter. It has been our goal to fill the existing news desert of the Municipality of Victoria with its own community newspaper dedicated to the civics, local news and accolades of the wonderful area.
- As you are aware, it is a large and unique area. There are so many stories to be told. With the size of the area, it has been a challenge to reach every corner and ensure that we cover as much as possible. We have been meeting that challenge and are proud of what we have achieved.
- I want to thank the municipality for their support and ask for it's continuance. The decision was made for the Victoria Reporter to be its own individual paper within the Strait Area Reporter in order for it to have its own identity. We feel it is necessary for the people in the Municipality to feel ownership of the paper. It is also important that you, the Municipality, also feel that ownership.
- The Victoria Reporter has been gaining readership each and every week. We were aware that it would take time and planned for an entire year for growth. We have been focusing on the content of the paper to make sure that each edition would bring in more readers. For the next few months, we believe that readership will continue to expand, especially as the seasonal residents come home and see that they have the opportunity to receive their community news year-round.
- With such a diverse and large area, the Victoria Reporter depends on the resources of the Strait Area Reporter for viability. We have not received any government funding. While most think of newspapers as large organization, we are a small and privately owned business. Therefore, it is imperative that the Victoria Reporter is able to support itself with the help of the Strait Area Reporter's resources. We did not expect to make a profit for the first six months, but with the support of The Strait Area Reporter, we have met our goals.
- We still have so much potential and room to grow. In order to do that, it is time that we begin focusing more on revenue so that we can pour it back into the paper for that growth.

- When people look to their community newspapers, they are looking for more than news. They are also looking for notices, events, and announcements. Advertising is a major part of any newspaper. While the revenue is important, we feel it is equally important for the content of the paper. We need people to reach for their local paper for this information as well.
- For many advertisers, the issue has been value. There is no doubt that many organisations reacted to the loss of advertising over the years by increasing the price and therefore depleting the value to the advertiser. We have not done that. Keeping our ads reasonable and offering discounts to nonprofits is our way to ensure that we offer something to the advertiser with great return. Combining the Victoria Reporter with the Strait Area Reporter automatically increases the readership by thousands each week. It ensures that the neighboring municipalities are also reading your news, your accolades, and what you are promoting.
- The response from our Strait Area Reporter has been more than we are expected. We have received countless positive comments. It has and will continue to be a strong and positive way to promote the municipality of Victoria.
- I would also like to ask to consider the Victoria Reporter when you have newspaper ads such as the recent tax sale. Our rates are extremely reasonable, and we are serving the target area and beyond that you are aiming for. We truly believe in the value we are offering and hope that you see it as well.

## QUESTIONS

Council thanked Ms. Fawcett for her work and for bringing a local paper back to Victoria County and Council is happy to continue supporting the Victoria Reporter.

Councillor MacDonald asked where print copies are available in District 8 and Ms. Fawcett contacted various convenience stores to ask them to carry the paper, residents can also subscribe to the Reporter as well and it would be mailed out to them.

## RECESS

Warden Morrison called for a 10-minute recess.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the March 26, 2024, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was presented for approval.

***On Motion of Councillor Longva, seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee to approve the Minutes of March 26, 2024.***

***Motion Carried.***

## CAO REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- NSHA (Nova Scotia Health Authority) will start sending briefings as part of the regular Council packages.
- Victoria Co-Op Fisheries is granted an extension for the acceptance of fish offal until May 31, 2024.
- Community grants review will be happening soon.
- Dillon is helping us work through both our EPR Change Management Plan, including current state and EPR readiness and transition plans.
- SEL is getting ready to schedule a staff member to survey the site in New Haven. The purpose of the survey is necessary to determine grades (elevation information and horizontal measurements).
- Reuse Centre opens April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Heavy garbage starts May 6<sup>th</sup>.
- We will be putting out the stairs at the New Haven beach sooner than later.
- Ingonish Waterline Extension has been tendered and closes at the end of April.
- Residents will be receiving their water bills toward the end of this week, or early next week.
- The Dingwall water tower is getting closer to coming online.
- Working to revitalize the mountain biking strategy which is in line with trail development.
- Attending Destination Cape Breton community sessions.
- Assisting with plans for the upcoming Ingonish STEP meetings on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at Keltic.
- New Community Comfort Station (washroom) coming to North Shore at the parking lot of the Clucking Hen.
- Placemaking meetings will be scheduled in coming months with communities to explain the program and explore opportunities.
- Applications Submitted to Department Natural Resources Renewables for work to begin on 2 trailheads and Upgrade 3 on the trail plan.
- Have ordered 8 new e-bikes for the County loaner program. Additional details will follow in June.
- Recreation Equipment Loan program and Community Champions programs are rolling out now and watch for Chris visiting your community for an opportunity to find out more.
- We have 6 new Victoria County signs ready for installation.
- Province of Nova Scotia is hiring, through NSFPM, a Coastal Protection Co-Ordinator to help Municipalities.

Warden Morrison said he received a thank you note back to Council from Victoria Co-Op Fisheries on the extension of acceptance of fish offal until May 31, 2024.

## **DISTRICT CONCERNS**

### **DISTRICT 1**

- Held office hours, a few residents came.
- Requested CAO MacEachen contact the RCMP requesting more police presence in District 1.
- Road issues sent to Provincial Department of Public Works.
- Garbage concerns, CAO MacEachen suggested hosting a community cleanup and let the County public works department know and Collections will pick up the bags and residents can register for the “Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up” program.
- Requested CAO MacEachen contact Provincial Public Works Supervisor Steve MacDonald, for a meeting to get a summer program update.

***On Motion of Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor Longva to take \$1,000.00 from District 1 Budget to the Highland Village to sponsor a youth music and square dance workshop.***

***Motion Carried.***

***On Motion of Councillor MacNeil, seconded by Councillor MacDonald to take \$1,000.00 from District 1 Budget to the Rankin School of the Narrows SAC Committee for various projects.***

***Motion Carried.***

### **DISTRICT 2**

***On Motion of Councillor MacLeod, seconded by Councillor Longva to contact Susan Kelley with the Cape Breton Victoria Regional Centre for Education, to discuss parking lot issues and drop-off/pickup concerns.***

***Motion Carried.***

- Office hours are May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 12-1pm in Council Chambers. Requested Communications to post on the website and create a sign for the sandwich board informing residents of office hours.
- Requested a dog park update, indicating next steps.
- Residents are requesting financial assistance for Mersey Road (private road). A former councillor has helped them in the past through district budget money. They are asking for \$5,000.

Councillor MacLeod asked to have a pot of money created, similar to trails to help residents get their private roads fixed. Requested Council and staff to consider this request.

Deputy Warden Dauphinee said it's a good idea but 8-9 years ago this issue came up that there are hundreds of roads, if we do one, how do we say yes to one and no to others. Trails is different because everyone can use them.

Councillor Patterson said he doesn't agree with assistance and said if a resident is choosing to live on a private road, they know going in that they have to pay to maintain it. If the County gets into subsidizing private roads, it will be a nightmare.

Warden Morrison said this is a discussion for Budget.

Councillor MacNeil asked if there is anything in the MGA prohibited this and CAO MacEachen said we cannot fund private businesses or residents but added if the County had an Local Improvement Charge By-Law, this could have been addressed.

### **DISTRICT 3**

***On Motion of Warden Morrison, seconded by Councillor Longva for a streetlight request at 51 High Street, Baddeck.***

***Motion Carried.***

- Received correspondence from the Regional Librarian with the Cape Breton Regional Library asking to follow up on some corrections from the Ingonish Library branch and accessibility parking at the Baddeck branch. The Warden and Deputy Warden are working to clarify and will follow up with Ms. Mulak when they have more information.
- Village of Baddeck Community Clean-up is April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm. Gloves and bags are available for this. If other communities in Victoria County are in need of bags and gloves for community clean-ups, give the County Public Works Department a week's notice so they can plan for it.

### **DISTRICT 4**

- Sympathy was expressed to Barbara Tower and the Montgomery and Tower families at the loss of Don Tower. He was retired from the military and was a very active volunteer and he dedicated a great deal of his time to the Sea Cadets program in Baddeck.

***On Motion of Councillor Longva, seconded by Councillor MacNeil to contact Nova Scotia Power regarding a burnt-out streetlight at the St. Ann's turn off at Exit 11.***

***Motion Carried.***

- There are some issues with mail being delivered in District 4, the mail route does not go the full distance to where the residents live in Wreck Cove to the foot of Smokey area and also from the turnoff to Englishtown Ferry on the Trans Canada to the St. Ann's

turnoff, who are considered in the Baddeck postal area, but the mail pick up does not come past the St. Anns turnoff.

***On Motion of Councillor Longva, seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee to write a letter to Canada Post to inquire about mail delivery in the Wreck Cove and St. Ann's areas.***

***Motion Carried.***

#### **DISTRICT 5**

***On Motion of Councillor Patterson, seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee for a streetlight request at 2571 Old Route 5.***

***Motion Carried.***

#### **DISTRICT 6**

- Road concerns sent to the Provincial Department of Public Works.
- Reminder to Council that only 75% of district budget is allowed as this is an election year and Council are not eligible to spend 100% of their district budgets as the election is in October.

***On Motion of Deputy Warden Dauphinee, seconded by Councillor MacNeil to take \$2,000.00 from District 6 budget to the Ingonish Snowmobile Society.***

***Motion Carried.***

***On Motion of Deputy Warden Dauphinee, seconded by Councillor MacNeil to contact Nova Scotia Power to request representatives meet with Council to discuss concerns.***

***Motion Carried.***

- Deputy Warden Dauphinee recognized that Council had previously requested Nova Scotia Power come to Council but after receiving an update from Nova Scotia Power, that meeting was called off as Council was satisfied with the update provided. Since that update, however; there are areas of concerns that are not being addressed.

#### **DISTRICT 8**

- Residents are requesting that more funds be made available for road repairs near Effies Brook. Councillor MacDonald advised residents to contact MLA Bain with this request.
- Community Garbage clean-ups
- District Budget Requests:

- \$500 Cabot Fire Department
- \$500 Cabot Fire Ladies Auxiliary
- \$500 for Bay St. Lawrence Fire Department for the Crab Festival.
- \$500 for Bay St. Lawrence Fire Department for repairs to building.

## **MOTIONS**

***On Motion of Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Longva to approve the following tax rates for fiscal 2024-25:***

***Residential and resource tax rates of \$1.15 per \$100 of assessment***

***Commercial tax rate of \$2.09 per \$100 of assessment***

***Motion Carried.***

Contrary minded were Councillors MacLeod and MacNeil.

Councillor MacLeod read an email from Councillor Organ expressing that she does not agree to the 5% reduction, would prefer a lower rate, but by 2-3%, not 5% and Councillor MacLeod agreed and suggested \$1.18.

Councillor MacDonald is in favour of the CFO's recommendation with a 5% tax rate reduction and said with assessments up, this will help our residents.

Councillor MacNeil said it is easier to put the rate down than up, in the future it will be hard to put up, I agree with Councillor MacLeod.

Deputy Warden Dauphinee said that Council has to look at where we are today, we have a lot of residents struggling and CFO Redden made a good recommendation and I am in favour of the 5% decrease.

Councillor Patterson said people moving back to Cape Breton might choose to live in Victoria County because of the lower tax rate and I am in favor of the 5% decrease.

Warden Morrison is in favour of the 5% decrease and having the rate at \$1.15.

***On Motion of Deputy Warden Dauphinee, seconded by Councillor Patterson approve Victoria County's Operating Budget for fiscal 2024-25 with revenues of \$14,259,244 and expenses of \$14,259,244.***

***Motion Carried.***

***On Motion of Councillor Longva, seconded by Councillor MacDonald approve Victoria County's five-year Capital Budget for fiscal 2024-25 of \$25,515,302.***

***Motion Carried.***

Warden Morrison read off the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS** *Lyme disease is a serious illness caused by the bite of a blacklegged tick infected with the bacterium Borrelia burgdorferi: and*

**WHEREAS** *blacklegged ticks carrying a variety of diseases or illnesses can now be found in all parts of Nova Scotia; and*

**WHEREAS** *awareness, education and practicing preventative measures, such as daily tick checks and proper tick removal, can help reduce your chances of contracting tick-borne diseases;*

**THEREFORE**, *be it resolved that I, Warden Bruce J. Morrison, on behalf of the Municipality of the County of Victoria, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as "Lyme Disease Awareness Month".*

**On Motion of Deputy Warden Dauphinee, seconded by Councillor Longva to declare the month of May as Lyme Disease Awareness Month.**

**Motion Carried.**

## CORRESPONDENCE

All forwarded.

## FCM REPORT

FCM Report presented by Councillor Patterson.

Councillor Patterson circulated a letter to Council regarding possible changes to the Canada Community Building Fund (formally Gas Tax) and the possible changes that are coming.

Councillor Patterson read out parts of the letter.

*"All provinces and territories have been presented with changes to the CCBF program that are largely a result of the Federal Government's commitment to tying new infrastructure investments to actions that will, in their view, increase the supply of housing. The Federal Government will require some municipalities to provide housing needs assessments to access federal funding opportunities."*

Councillor Patterson asked Council to consider leaving it as it is, this seems to be for more urban areas but suggested Council to wait to get more information.

Councillor Patterson submitted the following resolution:

**FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES – ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**WHEREAS** the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) represents the interests of member municipalities on policy and program matters that fall within federal jurisdiction.

**WHEREAS** FCM's Board of Directors is comprised of elected municipal officials from all regions and sizes of communities to form a broad base of support and provide FCM with the united voice required to carry the municipal message to the federal government; and

**WHEREAS** FCM's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference and Trade Show, June 6 to 9, 2024, followed by the election of FCM's Board of Directors;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Municipality of the County of Victoria, NS endorse Fraser Patterson to stand for election on FCM's Board of Directors for the period starting in June 2024 and ending in June 2025; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Council assumes all costs associated with Fraser Patterson attending FCM's Board of Directors meetings.

**On Motion of Councillor Longva, seconded by Councillor MacNeil to approve the FCM Resolution as read by Councillor Patterson, to nominate Councillor Patterson to the FCM Board of Directors.**

**Motion Carried.**

Councillor MacLeod asked if Councillor Patterson wins, is there any board travel built into the budget and CAO MacEachen said we did not build anything in the budget and CFO Redden said we moved forward from what was spent last year, some councillors were up, and some were down but there is not a separate line item for this in the budget.

Councillor MacLeod asked what the cost would be as Council had a discussion about this at a prior meeting. Councillor MacLeod said we need to put a limit on out of province conference travel.

Warden said if Councillor Patterson does win, travel still needs to be approved by Council and virtual options need to be considered as well, as currently there are virtual meetings that can and should be attended.

Council requested Councillor Patterson submit to council an estimate on FCM travel if elected, attending FCM meetings will be a Council consideration.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Councillor Patterson said there is a new committee, the Fences and Arbitration Committee. If Council have any residents that have cows/livestock that are roaming, there will be a form that will be filled out and submitted to the committee for a ruling.

- Councillor MacLeod said Victoria County Transit that the two new hybrid vehicles arrived, one will be for north and one for south.

### **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions from the public.

### **NEXT MEETING**

- Committee Of The Whole: May 13, 2024, at 2pm.
- Council Meeting: May 27, 2024, at 2pm.
- Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities Conference is May 8-10<sup>th</sup> and Victoria County is the host of the conference.

### **ADJOURN**

Councillor MacNeil made a motion to adjourn at 4:17pm.