

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MURRAY HARBOUR
MINUTES of REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

August 7, 2019

Attending: Mayor Paul White (Chair), Deputy Mayor Glen White, Marlene MacNeill, Debbie Shea, Carol White
Regrets: Sandra Gordon, Margaret VanInderstine
Staff: Mark Tiller (CAO), Christine Jackson (Incoming CAO)

Minutes recorded by Christine Jackson.

1. Call to Order

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Observers and incoming CAO Christine Jackson were welcomed. He requested a moment of silence to reflect on recent violence occurring in the US and elsewhere.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

3. Approval of Agenda

Several items on business from the last meeting as well as new items were added to the agenda.

Moved by Cllr Shea and seconded by Cllr MacNeill
that the agenda for the August 7, 2019 Council Meeting be approved as amended.
Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Cllr White and seconded by Dep. Mayor White
that Council hereby approve the minutes of the July 3, 2019 Council Meeting as submitted. Motion Carried.

Moved by Cllr Shea and seconded by Dep. Mayor White
that Council hereby approve the minutes of the July 10, 2019 Special Council Meeting as submitted. Motion Carried.

5. Business Arising from the July 2019 Meeting

Tree Planting Program

The CAO has applied to Maritime Electric to have trees planted along Faye Fraser Drive and the dog park. A decision will be made at the end of September.

Highfield Street

Regarding a request to have the status of Highfield street upgraded from a “non-assumed” road (which typically means snowplowing and sanding are not provided by the Province), no action has been taken at this time. Earlier inquiries by the CAO indicated this to be a lengthy process, and it is believed that snow removal and sanding are already occurring.

Dog Park Fence

Eastern Fence will assess and provide a quote for moving the gate at the dog park to improve access for grass cutting equipment the next time they are in the area.

Location for Lost at Sea Memorial

Cllr White reported that in response to a call out to the public, a number of suggestions for alternative locations/design for the memorial were received. The CAO reminded the group that the tender has already been awarded, based on an earlier decision of Council, and that the application to the Gas Tax Fund has already been submitted. The incoming CAO will arrange a special meeting to assess the new suggestions and to determine if the earlier motion should be amended. Any changes to the original plan will require a new quote and amendment to the Gas Tax application by mid-September.

Fire Inspection Certificate

With regard to the Fire Inspection Certificate for the Community Centre, it was reported that we are waiting for a letter from the inspector that outlines several identified issues that need to be addressed before the certificate can be issued. The incoming CAO will contact the inspector to determine status of the letter.

Veterans Memorial

The CAO has attempted to contact Powers Monuments regarding having three names on the back of the memorial moved to the front of the structure. There has been no response from the company. The incoming CAO will follow up.

Shadowbox for Village Memorabilia

Mayor White reported that Derek Squirell has agreed to build a box to hold donated items (e.g., S.D. Hughs official stamp). He will require dimensions for the project.

6. Delegations

None.

7. Correspondence

Wendy Siebrands – Newsletter Suggestions

Wendy offered several suggestions for the newsletter including re-establishing a regular feature about new people to the village and incorporating more news about school happenings (e.g.,

projects, sports events, etc.). The Council agreed that these were all good suggestions, and Cllr Shea will consider them for the next newsletter in September.

Shawn Landon – Recap of Presentation

The CAO read a letter from Shawn re-capping his suggestions presented at an earlier meeting, including extending the notice for Council meetings, drainage issues at the dog park, and purchasing a popcorn machine as a new source of revenue at village events.

City of Summerside – Confederation Bridge Fares

The city of Summerside is seeking support from municipalities regarding rescinding fares for all travellers on the Confederation Bridge. There were a number of opinions on this issue, including its potential impact it might have on the ferry and its workers. Council agreed that Summerside should host a meeting of interested municipalities to further discuss this issue. The incoming CAO will respond by letter.

8. CAO Report

The CAO reviewed the quarterly budget update (up to July 31), making note of any significant discrepancies to date. It was suggested by a member of Council that committee spending may need to be halted, unless approved, in order to make up for unbudgeted overages, specifically around payroll. Cost-saving measures such as printing the newsletter in-house were suggested. Others felt that they would like more information to better understand the breakdown of budget items.

Moved by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Shea
that the financial report prepared by CAO Tiller for the period of April 1, 2019 to July 31, 2019 be received as information pending a review and report by the incoming CAO regarding a breakdown of current expenditures and potential cost-saving measures to be discussed at the next meeting. Motion Carried.

9. Reports of Committee

Parks and Recreation

In addition to items discussed earlier, it was noted that the tiered stand have been/will be moved from the dog park area to the rink area. It was also agreed that Cllr White would get two quotes from local contractors regarding having the former rink shed altered for serving food during events (i.e., creating a serving counter on the side of the building).

Planning

Dep. Mayor White reported that the work of the committee is progressing. A set of maps have been received and every property within the village will now need to be zoned (e.g., single family residential, commercial, etc.). The committee will also address its operating Terms of Reference at upcoming meetings. The next meeting is September 6 at 10 am.

EMO

Cllr MacNeill reported that she has received and shared the *Municipal Hazard Risk Assessment for Murray Harbour Report* that was produced by the provincial EMO office after consultation with the committee. The committee is working on a number of requirements from the *Municipal Government Act*, but the updated by-law is priority. A MOU has been signed with Memorial United Church as a back-up location (should the Community Centre not be accessible) during emergency events. A second MOU with the Church of Christ is pending once appropriate clauses (sample clauses have been provided by Hyndman Insurance) are included within the MOU to address the church's inquiries about liability and indemnity.

Beautification and Special Events

The CAO read a report from Cllr VanInderstine which stated the committee was pleased with the turnout and community spirit during Canada Day festivities. She extended her thanks to all volunteers and to those who contributed to the cake auction. It was suggested that a thank you be included in the next newsletter. An end-of-summer event is currently being planned.

10. New Business

Grant and Gas Tax Suggestions

There is currently \$100k available in the Gas Tax account. Proposals for funding must be submitted by mid-September for consideration at the provincial Gas Tax meeting in early October. The incoming CAO will arrange a special meeting asap to discuss options; this may include representatives from the Gas Tax office.

First Reading of EMO By-law #120

This draft by-law has been publicly available for review for several months, so a line-by-line reading is not required.

Moved by Cllr MacNeill and seconded by Dep. Mayor White
that Bylaw 120, being a by-law to establish a Municipal Emergency Management Program for the Rural Municipality of Murray Harbour, be read a first time. Motion Carried.

Moved by Cllr MacNeill and seconded by Cllr White
that Bylaw 120, being a by-law to establish a Municipal Emergency Management Program for the Rural Municipality of Murray Harbour, be hereby approved. Motion Carried.

Signing Officers

Moved by Dep. Mayor White and seconded by Cllr MacNeill
that Council hereby contact the CIBC in Montague and remove Mark Tiller as a signing officer for all the applicable accounts of the Rural Municipality of Murray Harbour.
Motion Carried.

Moved by Cllr MacNeill and seconded by Cllr White
that Council hereby contact the CIBC in Montague and add Christine Jackson as a signing officer for all the applicable accounts of the Rural Municipality of Murray Harbour. *Motion Carried.*

Chairs at Ceilidhs

Cllr Shea advised that cleaning staff would like ceilidh organizers to ensure that chairs on the stage are properly put away. Faye Fraser will address this.

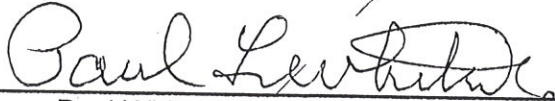
Thank You to Mark Tiller

On behalf of the Council, Mayor White extended sincere thanks to Mark Tiller for his excellent work and service as CAO.

Motion to adjourn at 8:24 pm.

The next regular meeting of Council will be on September 4, 2019 at 7 pm.

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Signed:



Mayor Paul White



Christine Jackson, CAO

