

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MURRAY HARBOUR
MINUTES of REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 10, 2020

Attending: Deputy Mayor Glen White (Chair), Sandra Gordon, Paula MacLean,
Marlene MacNeill, Margaret VanInderstine, Carol White, Christine Jackson (CAO)

Regrets: Mayor Paul White

1. Call to Order

In Mayor White's absence, Deputy Mayor White chaired the meeting; he called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Cllr MacNeill and seconded by Cllr White
that the agenda for the June 10, 2020 Council Meeting be approved as submitted. *Motion carried.*

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Cllr VanInderstine and seconded by Cllr MacLean
that Council hereby approve the minutes of the March 11, 2020 Regular Council Meeting as submitted. *Motion Carried.*

5. Business Arising from the Earlier Meetings

Any business arising from the previous meeting are addressed in the CAO's Report (see attached).

6. Delegations

None.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. CAO Report

See report attached.

Moved by Cllr Gordon and seconded by Cllr White
that the CAO's Report be received as information. *Motion Carried.*

9. Reports of Committees

Parks and Recreation

Cllr White provided updates on a number of activities:

- She will follow-up with Powers Monuments on the cenotaph re-lettering projects, which has had slight start delays due to Covid.
- Pickleball activities have resumed with Covid guidelines in place
- A design for the Fisher's Memorial project has been requested from White's Fabrication
- Cllr White recommended, and Council agreed, that Community Centre rental rates will remain the same as last year
- Cllr White extended thanks to fishers who made donations and the volunteers who turned out to cook and shell 600 lbs of lobsters in preparation for planned take-out events over the next few months.
- It was noted that the lookout at the bridge requires significant clean-up and maintenance; summer staff will address this. Cllr White also reported that Lorne Leeco, who owns the berth next to the lookout, is willing to provide more room for future extension of the area.

Planning

Cllr MacLean relinquished the Chair position of this Committee, stating she felt she didn't have the technical background to effectively lead the upcoming development and official plan project. A new chair will be identified. It was reported that 3 proposals have been received in response to the project RFP; these will be assessed over the next few weeks.

Finance and Infrastructure

See attached report.

EMO

See attached report.

Sewage Utility Board

Cllr Gordon reported that the Board has not met recently so there is no new information to report at this time.

Beautification and Special Events

Cllr VanDerstine provided updates on several issues:

- Summer staff will be working at Railhead Park and other locations around the village to clean up down trees/branches, maintain flowerbeds and boxes, re-locating garbage bins, etc.
- She suggested that cans and bottles collected from village bins could be donated to Guy MacKenzie's Haiti project -- she will make arrangements for this
- Mayor White is volunteering his time and flowers to put together flower baskets that will be placed around the village; because the groundskeeper no longer has a truck at her disposal, new arrangements will be made for watering/fertilizers the baskets will be made.
- Plans for Canada Day activities (e.g., a Covid-modified cake auction, etc.) will be discussed at a June 15 meeting of the Committee

- Cllr Vanlderstine suggested Council might consider a Go Fund Me fundraiser in support of Community Centre/village operations to help replace income lost during Covid.

10. New Business

Covid-19 Operations Plan

Christine reported that operational plans have been put in place to manage public access to the Village Office and outdoor spaces and activities (e.g., playground, pickleball, etc.). Given the village's limited resources, residents will be largely responsible for managing their own behaviors (e.g., distancing, hand sanitizing), particularly in outdoor spaces. The Operations Committee will need to consider a schedule for gradually re-opening the Community Centre to activities over the next several weeks.

Village Fire Dues

Village fire dues are based on a municipal-defined percentage of municipal property taxes, which are transferred monthly to the Fire Department along with District Fire Dues. In 2019/20, this was 21.7%. In consultation with Chief MacKay, it was proposed that the percentage be reduced to 17.5%, which would reduce the village's monthly transfer but still provide the Fire Department with an overall annual increase of \$1152 (due to the recent increase in municipal taxes).

Moved by Cllr Gordon and seconded by Cllr MacLean

that Council hereby approve the adjustment of the Village Fire Dues transfer rate (to the Murray Harbour Fire Department) from 21.7% to 17.5% of the municipal property taxes.

Motion Carried.

HR

Christine reported that funding has been received for both the Groundskeeper (13 weeks) and a summer student (8 weeks). Shannon Penny will begin work on June 15. The posting for the summer student closes on June 19, with the position starting on June 30. Two applications have also been received for the CAO position and Council will hold interviews on June 13; the position will start on July 2.

Village Flag Protocols

Council discussed protocols around the lowering of the flag (i.e., on what occasions this should occur). Christine shared what other jurisdictions (federal, provincial, and municipal) do, and it was agreed that a protocol would be drafted using this information for review at the next Council meeting.

Dog Park and Outdoor Rink

Council confirmed that the Village will continue to purchase waste bags for the dog park. Deputy Mayor White reported that screws from the panels on the rink are being sheared off and this presents a potential liability issue. Christine will contact the supplier to arrange this be fixed.

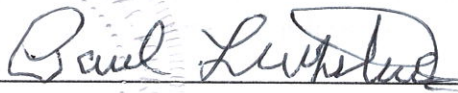
Motorized Vehicles on Grassy Areas

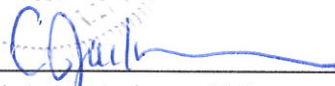
There have been several discussions with individuals who are driving ATVs, dirt bikes, etc. on village properties; they have been advised of the damage it causes and asked to stay off grassy areas. However, this continues to be a problem, particularly in the area around the rink and dog parks. Council discussed several options to address this, including installing a fence or tree hedge along the boundary. Before more intensive action is taken, Christine will look into the cost of signage to post in the area.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Cllr MacNeill to adjourn at 9 pm.

Signed:



Mayor Paul White

Christine Jackson, CAO

Date