

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MURRAY HARBOUR**  
**MINUTES of REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**November 8, 2023**

**In Attendance:** Mayor, Terry White; Deputy Mayor, Gary MacKay; Cllr. Paul White;  
Cllr. Pam Oickle, John Robertson

Staff: Anne Harnesk (CAO)

1. Swearing in of new Councillors

2. **Call to Order:**

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

3. **Acknowledgement**

4. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts declared.

5. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Oickle,

**that the agenda for November 8, 2023 Council Meeting be accepted as amended.** Amendment was adding New Business Item e. Dart League.

*Vote was 6-0 in favour; motion carried.*

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKay, and seconded by Cllr Oickle,

**that Council hereby approve the minutes of the October 11, 2023 regular Council meeting as submitted.**

*Vote was 6-0 in favour; motion carried.*

7. **Delegations – None**

8. **Business Arising from Previous Meeting**

a. Community Fridge – Mayor Terry White

Copy of application was given to Councillors in their meeting package. Anne to go ahead and submit application.

b. Hall Rental Prices- Anne

Anne continuing to work on this.

c. Hiring of Independent Third-Party Investigator – Anne

Investigator hired; report completed. Done.

9. **Correspondence –**

Shawn Landon – requesting gravel be placed at dog park area where you first enter into the dog park, also some at each dog park entrance. It would also be nice to have new benches in each dog park. The existing ones are falling apart. Anne has already ordered gravel and once it is delivered Gordon will spread. New benches will be looked at for next years budget.

Laverne McInnis dropped off a letter at the Village Office stating that Councillors Oickle and White claimed that the Mexican workers were not allowed to associate with the residents of Murray Harbour and provided a vetted copy of a work permit to show that nowhere on the contract does it state they can not associate with residents. While that information may be correct, it was not Councillors Oickle and White who made that statement. It was a resident at the October 8, 2023 Council meeting that made the statement. As such it is Laverne that is now spreading misinformation. Anne to write a letter to Laverne informing her of the same and request that she apologize to Councillors Oickle and White for not having her facts correct.

#### 10. CAO Report

- a. Administrative Report: see attached.
- b. Financial Report: see attached.

Moved by Cllr Oickle and seconded by Cllr Robertson,  
**that the CAO's report be received as information.**  
*Vote was 6-0 in favour; motion carried.*

Also moved that Council approve the hiring of Sewage Utility Administrator on a temporary basis to the end of the year, working 6 hours a week with an additional 4 hours allowed for billing.

#### 11. Committees

##### Planning

Deputy Mayor Mackay, Chair

No change.

##### Capital Projects/Finance

Deputy Mayor MacKay, Chair

See attached.

##### Maintenance & Infrastructure

Councillor Robertson – Chair

See attached.

##### Newsletter

Councillor Chapman

December edition is moving ahead. So far there is \$330 in committed advertising. Looking for assistance calling a few people. Cllr Matheson agreed to help with that.

##### Sewage Utility

Councillor White – Chair

See attached.

##### EMO

Councillor Oickle - Chair

Discussion regarding the secondary location warming centre should something happen to the Community Centre. Upon further discussion with Craig at Hyndman Insurance, it turns out we would have to create a Memorandum of Understanding between the Church of Christ and the Village that would then be approved by the insurance company. Discussion followed where it was decided we would no longer search for a secondary location.

Lawrence Harnesk did the monthly generator check and found the trickle charger which keeps the generator battery charged was not working. Lawrence put his own trickle charger on the generator in the interim until a new trickle charger can be ordered.

### **Fundraising**

Councillor White – Chair

Not a great turn out for the Halloween party, but those who did attend had a great time.

There will be a free seniors (65 and over) dinner on December 16<sup>th</sup> for all seniors in the Murray Harbour mail route. A flyer will be sent out shortly. Terry White will be donating the turkeys.

We will also be a New Years Eve dance.

## **10. New Business**

- a. Work on Generator/Lift Station at corner of Main Street & Riverside Drive – Mayor White  
During the October 2023 Sewage Committee meeting, discussion regarding the work on the above unit was discussed. In June, Cllr Robertson contacted Harvey Chandler regarding the state of the unit. Payment was never discussed. Harvey came out and refinished the unit. A bill in the amount of \$767.05 later arrived at Sewage Utility. As the work was not authorized by Sewage Utility, it was decided to ask the Village to reimburse Sewage Utility for the unauthorized spending. Cllr Robertson stated that he believed in good faith the equipment was owned by Chandler Motors and they were responsible for upkeep and there would not be an invoice, however he did not confirm this with Harvey Chandler. Cllr Robertson offered to pay the amount personally, however the offer was refused. Council reminded Cllr Robertson that no spending was to be done without approval.

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKay and seconded by Cllr Oickle,  
**that council reimburse Sewage Utility in the amount of \$767.05 for the unauthorized work done on the lift station/generator located at the corner of Main Street and Riverside Drive.**  
*Vote was 5-1 in favour; motion carried.*

- b. Christmas Day Dinner – CAO Anne Harnesk  
Gordon Ramsli would like to host a Christmas Day meal for any members of the community who wish to attend. This is his way of thanking residents for supporting the Grab n Go and provide a place for residents that may not have a place to go for Christmas.

Moved by Cllr Oickle and seconded by Cllr White,  
**that council allow Gordon Ramsli to use the large room on December 25, 2023 to host a free Christmas day meal for any member of the community who wish to attend.**  
*Vote was 6-0 in favour; motion carried.*

- c. Purchase new Barbeque - Mayor White  
The barbeques we have been using for fundraising events are falling apart. We need a new barbeque. The Fundraising Committee has already surpassed their budgeted fundraising amount and requests that:

Moved by Cllr Oickle and seconded by Cllr White,  
**that council approves the purchase of a new barbeque not to exceed \$1,300.00**  
*Vote was 6-0 in favour; motion carried.*

- d. Study regarding amalgamation – Mayor White

Robert Hughes, the trustee of Murray River drafted a motion regarding allowing the Province to go ahead with the implementation of a study regarding the amalgamation of Murray Harbour, Murray River and the unincorporated areas surrounding them. This would be the Murray Harbour and Murray River Fire Districts. This motion must be approved at both Murray Harbour and Murray River Council meetings and the wording must be the same. After review of the motion council was concerned the wording implied Murray Harbour council was in favour of the amalgamation when in fact it was only interested in seeing a study done. It was decided to not sign the motion and draft our own motion. Anne to reach out to Robert Hughes.

e. Dart League – Ralph ???

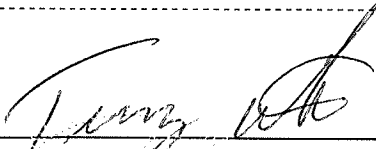

Maddie Fraser, on behalf of her husband Ralph ?? mentioned that he had been speaking with Cllr Paul White regarding starting up a Dart League. Ralph has been posting on Facebook asking about local support for the idea and has had quite a few favourable responses. Ralph will speak further with Cllr White.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Oickle to adjourn at 9:00 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Council will be on January 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Boardroom.

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Mayor, Terry White  
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Anne Harnesk, CAO