

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MURRAY HARBOUR
MINUTES of REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

May 14, 2025

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

Regrets: Cllr. Kelly Matheson

Gallery: Faye White, Carol White, Cal Fraser, Jen Smith, Michael Vanasse, Amanda Vanasse, Derek Squirell, Natalie Edgar, Margaret Brady, Andrea Hill, Jeanette Walker, Lindsay Walker, Bernice MacLeod

Staff: Anne Harnesk (CAO)

1. Call to Order:

Deputy Mayor White called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. Acknowledgement

In the spirit of Reconciliation, we acknowledge that the land upon which our organization stands is unceded Mi'kmaq territory. Epekwitk (PEI), Mi'kma'ki is covered by the historic Treaties of Peace and Friendship. We pay our respects to the Indigenous Mi'kmaq People who have occupied this island for over 12,000 years; past, present, and future.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts declared.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Cllr. Oickle, and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacKay,
that the agenda for the May 14, 2025, Council Meeting be accepted as amended. New Business item e. Recreation Area was added.

Vote was 5-0 in favour; motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKay and seconded by Cllr. Oickle
that Council hereby approve the minutes of the April 9, 2025, regular Council meeting, as submitted.

Vote was 4-1 in favour; motion carried. One abstention as they didn't read the minutes.

6. Delegations: - Alicia McDonald – Library Annual Report – Did not attend.

- Paula Maclean – Pickleball

Pickleball would like to have the price increase in writing. Council would like Pickleball to designate a representative to represent their group to Council. They will get back to Council with a name.

- Rumors of a new floor going in the large room. Council confirmed they have requested funding via CCBF for a new floor. Council would also like someone from Pickleball to help with selection of the floor if the project is approved. There was also a rumour that once the floor was in, Pickleball would not be allowed to play on it. Council confirmed that was not the case.

- A few players stated they would only be paying the \$2.00 rather than \$3.00.

- Cal Fraser & Jen Smith – Nellies Landing

Update on what is planned for this season. Liquor license allows us to be open from 9:00am to 2:00am, however we plan to be open from 12:00pm to 10:00pm. Music will be turned down at 9:00pm or 10:00pm

- Looking at the possibility of doing lunches on a Monday and Tuesday. Maybe a breakfast still in planning stage.

- Upcoming Events

- Trivia nights will be back Thursday nights at 7:00pm
- Live music on Saturday nights.
- Canada Day will be planning something for after the Community Centre's event.
- Big Concert event on July 25. Tickets are \$25. Council welcome to run a 50/50
- September 1st Margarita Monday. Anniversary of the passing of Jimmy Buffet, we have a performer coming to play Jimmy Buffet songs all evening.
- We have been asked to host another Fall Flavours

7. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

a. Canadian Postcards Mural Projects – Anne Harnesk

Application was sent in and confirmed received. We won't hear anything now until sometime in the Spring.

8. Correspondence – A note from Shawn Landon with suggestions for improvements to the Dog Park . Information was passed along to Deputy Mayor MacKay. Shawn also requested to be involved in this project as he is a regular user of the Dog Park area.

9. CAO Report

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

Moved by Cllr Oickle and seconded by Cllr. Chapman,
that the CAO's report and Financial Report be received as information.

Vote was 5-0 in favour; motion carried.

10. Committees

Planning - Deputy Mayor Mackay, Chair

See attached.

Capital Projects – Deputy Mayor MacKay, Chair

See attached. Access to Cenotaph project was approved at the last intake. We have been told our request for Capacity Building has been rejected this intake. Capacity Building would have allowed us to bring in experts for community engagement. This was deemed too close to the Official Plan and Bylaw project.

Dedication ceremony planned for the Heritage Park area where the old Murray Harbour School bell sits. The last schoolteacher from the Murray Harbour School will be a guest of honour to unveil the bell.

Maintenance & Infrastructure – Deputy Mayor MacKay, Chair

See attached. We have a budget of \$39,000. this year. Most of that budget will be taken by painting the outside of the Community Centre and putting eavestroughs on the building.

Parks and Recreation – Cllr. Matheson, Chair

- Nothing at this time.

Newsletter – Councillor Chapman, Chair

See attached. Newsletter has been sent to printer.

Project Nectar – Councillor Chapman

They are in process of securing \$25,000 funding from United Way. Project Nectar is asking for access to water from the Community Centre. Discussion followed. Marlene will give them something in writing.

Sewage Utility – Councillor White – Chair

See attached. Discussion regarding the Engineer's report followed. Sewage Utility has the money to cover the \$22,500 for the report. Anne Harnesk spoke with Stephen MacKay regarding coming to a Council meeting to explain the sewage system and how it works. Stephen would prefer to meet with Council on a Saturday as this is his busy season.

EMO – Councillor Oickle - Chair

See attached.

Fundraising – Councillor White – Chair

We have Small Halls coming up on Saturday, June 21st. Will need to have food for the performers. We usually provide two types of chowder, buns and various squares. Cllr. Oickle suggested instead of two types of chowder, her husband makes a really good chili.

11. New Business

- a. Motion for Murray Harbour Fire Department to apply to the Rural Growth Initiative for a grant to purchase new Air-paks. – Anne Harnesk

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKay and seconded by Cllr. Oickle

that Council hereby approve the minutes of the April 9, 2025, regular Council meeting, as submitted.

Vote was 5-0 in favour; motion carried.

- b. Dogs at large – Mayor White

Murray Harbour has had a dog's at large problem and recently there have been serious incidents where a chicken was killed and a residents dog was severely injured by another dog. Murray Harbour had a dog bylaw that was passed February 1, 1989. This bylaw was repealed August 7, 2013. Discussion followed on what Council should do with respect to this issue. It was decided the first step would be to update the Dog Bylaw. Anne and Derek Squirell to work on this and have ready to read at the June Council meeting. It was also suggested that once the bylaw was in place a mail out through the post office would be sent to residents.

- c. Murray Harbour Pins – Anne Harnesk

I was tasked a while ago to look into purchasing Murray Harbour pins. I have gotten a quote for \$1,600 for 1,000 pins. A proof of the pin was sent to Council, they suggested that the Murray Harbour be printed in black instead of silver. Anne to ask for a revised proof.

Moved by Cllr. White and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacKay

that Council hereby approve the purchase of 1,000 Murray Harbour pins in the amount of \$1,600.00 (shipping and taxes extra.)

Vote was 5-0 in favour; motion carried.

d. Christmas gifts to Village Employees – Cllr. Robertson

Last year there was confusion on payment of gifts to Village employees. Suggestion of putting \$20.00 per councillor into a pot for the gifts. Both Margaret and Anne said that although the gesture was appreciated, they get paid for the work they do for the Village and didn't think it was fair for Councillors to pay for gifts for them when the Councillors volunteer their time and do so much for the Village. *It was decided Councillors would give a cash donation to the person in charge of purchasing gifts.*

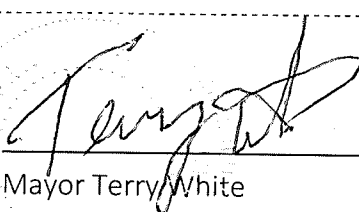
e. Recreation Area – Cllr. Oickle

Cllr. Oickle's granddaughter knelt down at the recreation area and ended up getting cut by broken glass that required two stitches. There is a gap in time from when the snow melts and Shannon starts as the Groundskeeper. As a result, there is a lot of garbage and broken glass that needs to be dealt with. Discussion followed. Anne to ask Gordon if he would be interested in getting a few more hours during this time to take care of picking up outside around the Community Centre. Faye White and Jeanette Walker volunteered to clean up around the area immediately.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Cllr. Oickle and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacKay to adjourn at 7:25 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Council will be on June 11, 2025, at 6:00 pm in the Boardroom.



Mayor Terry White



Anne Harnesk, CAO