

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday February 10, 2016**

MEETING, DATE & TIME:

The regular meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order at 7:00pm on February 10, 2016 in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, NS.

ATTENDING:

Warden Mosher	Deputy Warden Clark
Councillor Findlay	Councillor Dort
Councillor Pye	Councillor Baker
Councillor Kaiser-Kirk	Adam Rodgers, Solicitor

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Marvin MacDonald, CAO
David Gillis, Municipal Clerk
Jody Cook, Administrative Assistant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ANY ADDITIONS:

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BAKER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DORT, COUNCIL APPROVED AGENDA WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS; INTER MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT AND WATER LINE PRE-DESIGN STUDY
MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BAKER COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FROM JANUARY 11, 2016 AS PRESENTED
MOTION CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING

- There are letters on file stating Volunteer Fire Departments will take ownership of dry hydrants
- UNSM Forestry workshop will be hosted in Pictou on April 14, 2016 regarding crown resource utilization.

PRESENTATION – St. Mary's Food Bank, Chair Derek Elsworth

Mr. Elsworth reviewed current situation. The food bank covers 25-30 deliveries each month and exists for the sole purpose to serve basic needs to community. The cost of food is continues to rise. Even with store discounts, and successful increase in private and corporation donations the gap is widening. St. Mary's Food Bank had requested from council at previous presentation, adding a line of \$2000 annually to municipal budget because the Grant to Organization was not reliable enough. Mr. Elsworth communicated that at the time, Council requested the Food Bank to register with Joint Stocks and submit a grant application. Since the last presentation, there was miscommunication. Mr. Elsworth expressed that although grateful for the district funds given at the time, his confusion and disappointment when the Food Bank received only \$1000 from grant application. Letters were sent to all councillors and he spoke to staff regarding the Grant Policy. Mr. Elsworth requested a Budget allotment of \$2000 annually to guarantee funding to serve the most vulnerable.

Warden Mosher thanked Mr. Elsworth for presentation.

SOLICITOR REPORT

- County of Richmond appealed the Utility and Review Board's decision to decrease Number of councillors and was denied. The number of councillors is cut from 10 to 5.

OTHER MATTERS OF BUSINESS

- a. Signing inter-municipal agreement
 - Diamond Software Group establishes a common system of computer services, including hosting, data storage, data processing and client applications, and to contract for support services. The Nine municipal units, for the purpose of this Agreement provide more effectively and economically the necessary services to the public and to carry out their statutorily-mandated duties.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR FINDLAY AND SECOND BY COUNCILLOR KAISER-KIRK THAT COUNCIL SIGN THE INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR SHARED SERVICES BY DIAMOND SOFTWARE USER GROUP
MOTION CARRIED

- b. Water Line Pre-Design Study –

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR FINDLAY, THAT COUNCIL HIRE BOB FUNKE, INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT, TO COMPLETE A WATER LINE PRE-DESIGN STUDY THE POTENTIAL WATER LINE REPLACEMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS
MOTION CARRIED

Marvin MacDonald, CAO

- Discussions are continuing with Eastern Shore Cartage and they are interested in a one year extension of contract
- Eastern Strait Regional Enterprise Network recently hired John Beaton as CEO. Marvin will set up meeting with him soon.
- Attended Association of Municipal Administrators regional meeting where they discussed the inter-municipal agreement and records management.
- MP, Sean Fraser will be meeting with Council and other groups on Thursday February 11th and looking for input. Some items for discussion; municipal infrastructure funding, high speed internet and cell service, fair distribution formula not just to urban centre, impact of federal regulations i.e. municipal wastewater can be costly financial burden, SHOPS, new horizons for seniors program.
- Department of Business has hired Ernest and Young consulting firm for a Rural Internet Study Jody attended conference call to address concerns raised by residents/businesses from St. Mary's. Report from consultant will include solutions and next steps.
- Strategic plan process is still being developed
- Joint plan pilot project with Department of Municipal Affairs is being developed to address Growth readiness in rural areas. Marvin and Jody will be joining a interdepartmental committee on Friday made up of; Department of Fisheries, Department of Agriculture, Nova Scotia Business Inc, Department of Business, Department of Natural Resources, Geomatics, and other provincial departments.

Councillor Pye

- Attended the Active Sherbrooke Consultation

Councillor Dort

- Attended Solid Waste Management Committee Meeting
- Attended Guysborough County Home support Meeting
- Attended Proclamation of African heritage month at Chedabucto Education Centre

Warden Mosher

- Also attended the SRSB launch of African Heritage Month (only one in NS)

Deputy Warden Clark

- Attended the Annual General Meeting for Guysborough Adult Learning Association; funding unknown for the upcoming year.
- Attended UNSM Forestry Committee Meeting

Councillor Kaiser-Kirk

- Attended funeral for Ethel Archibald
- Attended Port Bickerton Lighthouse committee meeting.
 - o Annual General Meeting is coming soon.
 - o The residence was rented over Christmas.
 - o Clips from a Private drone company that captured Port Bickerton Lighthouse was featured on national news.

Councillor Findlay

- Attended Sherbrooke village commission
 - o Two retirements; Human Resources and Historical Services plus the Director has resigned.
- Looking to setup an information session on the Strategic Tourism Expansion Program

Councillor Baker

- Nothing to report

ADJOURNMENT:

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DORT MEETING WAS ADJOURNED 7:58PM

Approved By:

Recorded By:

Warden Mosher

Administrative Assistant