



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, December 6th, 2023

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

Warden Wier called the COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden Greg Wier

Deputy Warden James Fuller

Councillor Everett Baker

Councillor Courtney Mailman

Councillor Beulah Malloy

Councillor Charlene Zinck

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor James Harpell

Also Attending:

Doug Patterson, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF) *Attending Via Teams*

Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk

Denise Dunn, Economic Development Officer (EDO)

Tyler MacLaughlin, Interim Director of Community Development and Recreation

3. Additions to the Agenda:

8. a.) New Long-Term Care Homes

4. Approval of the Agenda:

On the motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, Council approved the agenda with the addition.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Minutes:

On the motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held November 15th, 2023.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Correspondence:

- Letter from Tourism and Heritage Culture – KAIROS Blanket.

8. Other Matters of Business:

- a. New Long-Term Care Home

- Warden, Greg Wier informed Council about the New Long-Term Care Homes that are approved to be built in Sherbrooke.
- Warden, Greg Wier shared that this should help the shortage of senior rooms.

b. Active Transportation (What We Heard Report)

- See the attached document.
- Tyler MacLaughlin, Interim Director of Community Development and Recreation, and Lydia Broderick, from Uplands notified Council of the feedback on the Active Transportation Project.
- The "What We Heard" report highlighted Accessibility, Safety, Amenities, Education programming and Promotions, barriers and lastly the St. Mary's River.
- Some additional comments on the "What We Heard Report" were items such as indoor activities, travel, accessible parking, and community centres.

c. Active Transportation (Draw for Gift Certificate)

- Tyler MacLaughlin, Interim Director of Community Development and Recreation drew for a Winner for the Active Transportation Gift Certificates.
- The Winner is Stephen MacDonald of the \$50.00 Gift Certificate to Beanies Bistro.

Tyler MacLaughlin left the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

d. Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging Paper Products and Packaging-like Products (EPR for PPP)

- See the attached report.
- Doug Patterson, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), informed Council of the new protocol for recyclables in Nova Scotia.
- Doug Patterson, CAO informed Council that the Municipality has the chance to opt into the agreement if needed. If the Municipality doesn't opt in at the beginning of the agreement they will not be able to join later.

On recommendation of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council agrees to opt in and participate in the Nova Scotia Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program for Packaging and Paper Products (PPP).

Recommendation adopted.

e. Climate Change Action Plan

- See the attached report.
- Denise Dunn, Economic Development Officer (EDO), informed Council of the updates to the Climate Change Action Plan since 2021.
- Some of the highlights include prioritizing certain goals that are achievable, review of the funding, "SMART" goals, and responsibility.

On recommendation of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, Council request that staff (1) review changes to Provincial & Federal legislation & Municipal Planning

Strategy & commitments and update the 2021 Climate Change Action Plan accordingly; (2) create SMART goals for the 2021 Climate Change Action Plan priorities including a complete corresponding action plan for each goal; (3) add "Biodiversity" under the Climate Change Risk priority. Further, that council will approve goals and corresponding action plans per item as presented.

Recommendation adopted.

f. Memorandum of Understanding (ECRL & MODSM) Eastern Counties Regional Library & Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

- See the attached report.
- Doug Patterson, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) advised Council of the MOU between Eastern Counties Regional Libraries (ECRL) and Municipality of the District of St. Mary's (MODSM).
- Council will see the Memorandum of Understanding in a finalized form that includes any further adjustments in January with a recommendation for acceptance.

g. Clean Foundation Funding Opportunity

- See the attached report.
- Denise Dunn, Economic Development Officer (EDO) has reviewed the Clean Foundation Funding and informed Council that the Municipality could apply for it to aid in sustainability projects.

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council agree to direct Staff to submit an application to the Clean Foundation's Community Climate Capacity Program by the December 13 deadline.

Recommendation adopted.

h. First Responders Day

- See the attached report.
- Deputy Warden Fuller requested the Municipality look into First Responders Day.
- May 1st, 2024 is designated First Responders Day by virtue of acts of Parliament and the Nova Scotia Legislature.
- Council asks that the Municipality Publicly recognize May. 1st as First Responders Day, establish a system of tiered recognition for First Responders, and the Municipality sponsors an event to present specific awards.
- Suggested awards can be as follows:
 - Valour:** for any first responder who, at the risk of personal danger, commits an act, either attempted or successful, of rescue, aid, or other lifesaving procedure within the scope of their duties.
 - Exceptional Service:** For any first responder who goes above and beyond the normal scope of duties. This can involve community service, special programs, and other community activities outside of first responder service.
 - Service Awards:** For any first responder who has completed a certain number of years (10, 20, 30+) in service to the community. Prior service to neighbouring communities can be counted to newer resident first responders.
- Nominations for awards can be made no later than March 30th of each year, an approved nomination form will be made available both online and by mail to appropriate department chiefs.
- All nominations will be collected and approved by Council at the first available COTW meeting in April, appropriate certificates and awards will be produced as well as an invitation for an award ceremony to be held on May 1st of each year.

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council agree to recognize May 1st of each year as First Responders Day and hold a ceremony to honour their hard work.

Recommendation adopted.

i. Cellular Service

- See the attached report.
- Deputy Warden Fuller informed Council of the dangers faced by a lot of the Districts with no cellular service.
- Council agreed to send a letter to the local MLA in support of getting Cellular Service in all of the Municipality's Districts.

On recommendation of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council agree to send a letter to our local MLA in support of Cellular Service for all of the Municipality's Districts

Recommendation adopted..

j. Digital Content Marketing Program

- See the attached report.

On recommendation of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council supports the municipal application to the Tourism Nova Scotia digital marketing program to seek assistance in digitally marketing content produced with the support of Tourism Nova Scotia.

Recommendation adopted.

Denise Dunn left the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

9. In Camera: Personnel

On motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, Council agree to move In-Camera for Personnel at 5:20 p.m.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Malloy, seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council agree to reconvene to regular session at 5:50

Motion approved.

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council approve the new staffing structure within the Public Works Department.

Motion approved.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Baker, there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Motion approved.

Jadzia Graham

Recorded By
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk

W. Wier

Approved By
Warden Wier