



# Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 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, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 4:00 pm in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

## 2. Attending:

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Warden Wier          | Councillor Harpell |
| Deputy Warden Fuller | Councillor Malloy  |
| Councillor Baker     | Councillor Zinck   |

## Also Attending:

Marissa Jordan, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)  
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF)  
Mallory Fraser, Municipal Clerk

## Absent with Regrets:

Councillor Mailman

## 3. Additions to the Agenda:

- 9.c EMO Training

## 4. Approval of the Agenda:

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

***Motion approved.***

## 5. Approval of Minutes:

*On motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*

***Motion approved.***

## 6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- The CAO provided an update to Council on the the Eastern Shore Coastal Flood Line Mapping Project. One proposal was received, and the project has been awarded to CBCL. A start up meeting and work will start next week.
- Council asked for an update on the EV Chargers. The CAO updated Council that the EV Chargers are installed and functioning and appear on digital maps for EV Users. The Economic Development Coordinator will be working to release information about the chargers in the coming weeks.
- Council asked for an update on the letter to the Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism & Heritage regarding Provincial Museums was signed yesterday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and sent today, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## 7. Presentations

### a. Sherbrooke RCMP – Corporal Marc Michon

- Corporal Marc Michon was unable to attend the meeting due to unforeseen events. The Municipal Clerk will set a new date with the Sherbrooke RCMP for a presentation.

## 8. Correspondence

### a. 12 Month Notice: Construction & Demolition Debris Management Regulation Change – John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing

- Correspondence was received from John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs providing 12 months notice of a policy change relating to construction and demolition debris management that will be occurring in the coming fiscal year. These new measures are designed to ensure that C&D debris management (including disposal, storage, transfer, and processing) does not cause adverse environmental impacts.
- ECC completed a review of C&D debris management in response to fires and groundwater impacts that occurred at existing C&D debris disposal facilities, as well as community concerns about facilities that store, transfer, and process these materials. The review included engagement and consultation with municipalities, construction industry stakeholders, environmental groups, waste management stakeholders, and provincial government departments. Amendments to the Activities Designation Regulations and the Solid Waste Resource Management Regulations mean that, starting on July 5, 2023, chemically treated wood will no longer be accepted for disposal at C&D debris facilities. Instead, these materials can be reused, repurposed, or disposed of in Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfills. Storage, transfer, and processing will continue to be permitted for treated wood.
- Council asked why the Municipality of the District of Guysborough (MODG) isn't listed within the facilities these changes may affect. The DOR updated Council that it is because the listing is for construction and demolition debris sites, and MODG is a second generation landfill and may have different regulations to follow.

## 9. Other Matters of Business:

### a. Municipal and Village Code of Conduct Consultation: What Was Heard & Next Steps

- In August, the Code of Conduct Working Group released a draft model code of conduct for municipalities and villages. The draft code was taken out for consultation with municipalities and villages for 8 weeks and over 160 participants provided feedback on the entirety of the survey. After the survey closed on September 24, 2022, the working group is considering some amendments to their recommendations based on the feedback provided. They are also working on developing sanctions and investigator process recommendations. It was expected these recommendations will be completed by November/December of 2022.
- Once the sanctions and investigation process recommendations have been completed, a consultation will take place with municipalities and villages to provide feedback on what is being proposed. Following the consultation on sanctions and investigator process, the working group will finalize all their recommendations for codes of conduct based on all three components – content, sanctions, and investigator process. Once these recommendations have incorporated the feedback received during consultations, there will be one final chance to provide feedback on the entire process through a brief survey.

- The working group will use the feedback in the survey to finalize and present their recommendations to the Deputy Minister of the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing for consideration, followed by a submission to the Executive Council for final approval. Consultation for the Municipality's region will be on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the afternoon seeking feedback elected officials and senior departmental staff on the recommendations for sanctions that can be imposed if a breach of the code of conduct occurs; and options related to the investigator model process.
- Staff will set the consultation up in the community room for any Councillors that can attend.

**b. 2023 Property Valuation Service Corporation (PVSC) Assessment Roll Review**

- The DOF provided Council with a review of the 2023 PVSC Assessment roll. The assessment roll was received at the first of January. The residential property assessment went from \$147,346,700 in 2022 to \$165,897,200 in assessment for 2023. The resource property assessment went from \$25,720,600 in 2022 to \$27,807,100 in 2023. The commercial resource property assessment went from \$25,468,600 in 2022 to \$25,894,800 in 2023.
- It is important to note that these figures are prior to any appeals.
- The cap rate set by PVSC for this coming fiscal year is 7.7% on residential properties.
- One cent on the tax rate is equal to \$21,691 of revenue for 2023/24.

**c. Emergency Management Organization Training**

- The Nova Scotia Emergency Management Organization Preparedness Officer has offered to conduct Senior Management and Elected Officials Emergency Management Organization Training on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The Senior Management and Elected Officials training takes approximately two hours and can be completed in an evening.
- Council directed the CAO to book the Senior Management and Elected Officials course for February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

**d. In-Camera – Personnel**

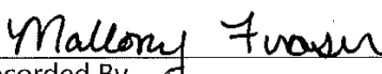
***On motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council moved to an in-camera session for personnel at 4:10 pm.***

***On motion of Councillor Baker and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council reconvened to regular session at 5:00 pm.***

**Adjournment**

*On motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Baker, there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 5:01 pm.*

***Motion approved.***

  
Recorded By  
Mallory Fraser, Municipal Clerk

  
Approved By  
Warden Wier