



Rural Municipality of Belfast

Mayor: Garth Gillis; Chief Administrative Officer: Bob Brooks; *Incorporated 1972*

COUNCIL MEETING - MINUTES

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM
Upstairs Hall, Wood Islands Village

In Attendance:

Council: Mayor Garth Gillis (Chair) Deputy Mayor Virginia Cooke
Councillor Lynn Docherty Councillor Billy Gamble
Councillor Andy Henry Councillor Mary Mecher-Carlson (**regrets**)
Councillor Joanne Vessey (**regrets**)
Administration: CAO Bob Brooks Ashley Feschuk
Public: (1)

Item Order of Business

1. **Call to Order** – Council was called to order at 7:05 PM
2. **Covid-19 Restrictions** – no capacity limits; 6-foot distancing and masking optional
3. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest** – Do any members of Council have a conflict of interest with any items on today’s Agenda? - None declared.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – Any other suggested Agenda Items? (**Yes - placed under Item 10**)

Moved by **Councillor Docherty** and seconded by **Councillor Henry** to adopt the agenda as amended.

Votes for: 4 Votes against: 0 Result: **Carried Unanimously**

5. **Adoption of April 20, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes** (**previously distributed – all changes received to-date by Council have been incorporated**). One typo announced.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Cooke** and seconded by **Councillor Henry** to approve the Minutes of the April 20, 2022 Council Meeting as amended.

Votes for: 4 Votes against: 0 Result: **Carried Unanimously**

6. **Business arising from the April 20, 2022 Council Meeting**
 - a. **Health Wellness Steering Committee Matter** – Since the meeting of April 20th, the Steering Committee created by Belfast Community Development Corporation (BCDC) for a possible Health and Wellness Center, has met on two separate occasions. These first two meetings were for introductions; ideas to build a Vision process for the project; and to break down the project into achievable phases.

To follow-up on Councillor Vessey’s question “how members were chosen for this Committee”; they were selected by the Board of the BCDC in an attempt to be reflective of the make-up of the Municipality, and in some cases, to represent a certain group (like RMB). This project will be broken down into three large expansion phases with each Committee Member, specializing in certain areas and able to form sub-committees. Mayor Gillis and Ashley noted that the Committee is expecting to hear from three members from Health PEI at the next meeting; and the CAO notes that BCDC will be paying for Ashley’s administration services.

7. **CAO Financial/Variance Report +**
- i. **Provincial Credit Union Account Balances at April 30, 2022 Statement:**

a. Share 001	\$5.30
b. Chequing 010	\$101,414.17
c. Savings 020 (Reserve)	\$36.43
d. Savings Reserve GIC/Int. (<i>project to be determined</i>)	\$45,164.28
e. Gas Tax Acct 00011	\$37,456.94
f. Gas Tax GIC/Int. (<i>for previously-approved GT projects</i>)	\$50,416.31
 - ii. **Year-end Financial Statements** – the CAO has a meeting with the Auditors (MRSB) on May 24th to hand over the year-end financial documents for our annual audit – all accounts seem to be on-track; and
 - iii. **Annual Expenditure Report (AER) (Gas Tax)** – working with MRSB, our AERs (both Notional and Municipal Service Contribution) are now with the Infrastructure Secretariat. The additional application from Wood Islands for the Lighthouse project is also into the Infrastructure Secretariat for their approval.
8. **Public Input/Presentations:** – None requested for this meeting.
9. **Official Plan and Development Bylaw Update (Fotenn Consulting Inc.)** – A note detailing the upcoming timelines and next steps was *attached*. Council was happy with the timelines and are looking forward to the public discussions.
10. **New Business for the Agenda:**
- a. **Affordable Housing - Repurposing of COVID Structures - Wood Islands** - Councillor Gamble introduced an article that talked about possible community uses for buildings no longer used by the government for Covid testing; unfortunately, in his follow-up, he discovered that the government had already divested itself of those buildings, or they were already spoken for. Councillor Gamble was thanked for looking into that idea.
 - b. **Public Mosquito Discussion** - Deputy Mayor Cooke raised the issue about continuing the Mosquito discussions with the public this summer, rather than later in the year. The CAO noted that while discussions were delayed due to the upcoming Council election; it was also discovered that the group who brought the Mosquito Proposal forward; are now rethinking their proposal and may bring forward a new proposal.
11. **Next Meeting:**
- a. **Regular Council Meeting** – the next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Hall at Wood Islands Village.
 - b. **Invitations:** Council was also reminded of three upcoming invitations:
 - i. Saturday, May 21st – Roseberry Pond – Family Fishing Day (BAWG)
 - ii. Monday, May 30th – Grand Opening – Three Rivers Office 2:30 – 5:30 PM
 - iii. Saturday, June 4th – Point Prim Market Opens
12. **Adjournment** – As there is no further business...

Moved by Councillor Docherty to adjourn the meeting at: **8:14 PM.**