



# Rural Municipality of Belfast

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

## COUNCIL MEETING - Minutes

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM

*Upstairs Hall, Wood Islands Market*

### ***In Attendance:***

Council:	Mayor Garth Gillis ( <i>regrets</i> )	Deputy Mayor Lynn Docherty
	Councillor Trisha Carter	Councillor Katherine Bryson ( <i>regrets</i> )
	Councillor Billy Gamble	Councillor James Kinnee
	Councillor Charley McGivern	
Administration:	CAO Bob Brooks	Ashley Feschuk
Public:	Four	

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### **Item**      **Order of Business**

- Call to Order** – For the Inaugural Meeting of Council, the CAO called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM; until Council members were sworn-in.
- Official Swearing-In of Council Members:** Council-Elect Members were called to the front from their seat in the audience, to be officially sworn-in or affirmed, and took their seats at the Council Tables. In alphabetical order (*by Mayor, then by Councillor*):
  - **Mayor Garth Gillis** of Newtown – (*Unfortunately, Mayor Gillis was unable to attend this event; and was therefore sworn-in at the RMB Office earlier on December 6<sup>th</sup>.*)
  - **Councillor Katherine Bryson** of Iona – (*Also sworn in on December 6<sup>th</sup>.*)
  - **Councillor Trisha Carter** of Wood Islands
  - **Councillor Lynn Docherty** of Mount Buchanon
  - **Councillor Billy Gamble** of Belle River
  - **Councillor James Kinnee** of Eldon
  - **Councillor Charley McGivern** of Iona

### ***Congratulations to all Council Members now embarking on their: 2022-2026 Council Term.***

- Naming of Deputy Mayor** – Per the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA), the Mayor holds the responsibility to name the Deputy Mayor. In addition to having the role to act for the Mayor as Chair/Spokesperson of Council when the Mayor is absent; the Deputy Mayor will also act as the third signing authority on the Municipal Accounts. In his absence, the Mayor has provided the Appointment of Deputy Mayor, which was read by the CAO.

*“To the Councillors of the 2022-2026 Council Term:*

*It is with deep regret that I will not be able to attend our Swearing-in Ceremony to officially kick off our Council term.*

*Due to a conflicting schedule, of an already scheduled event, I am not able to attend this very important ceremony with you.*

*Regarding the very important appointment of Deputy Mayor; after careful consideration and deliberation, it is with great pleasure that I announce that I have chosen: **Councillor Lynn Docherty as Deputy Mayor.***

*Due to Lynn's previous term involvement as Councillor, her impressive history with the revitalization of Belfast Days, her involvement with Committees and with the RMB Municipal Emergency Management Plan, and more; Lynn has demonstrated her qualifications to take on this very important appointment.*

*A big thank-you and shout-out to Trisha and Katherine for their interest in this position.*

*And Thank-you and Merry Christmas to you all."*

*Sincerely, Mayor Garth Gillis*

Deputy Mayor Lynn Docherty moved to take the Mayor's seat, to Chair the remainder of this Council Meeting... **Congratulations!**

4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest** – No Council members declared a conflict of interest with any items on today's Agenda.
5. **Approval of Agenda** – This Agenda Item is a standing Agenda Item for all Council and Committee Meetings; however, the Inaugural Council Meeting is typically reserved for the swearing-in and the appointments. That said, Council was asked "if there were any other suggested Agenda Items for today's meeting?" The Agenda was amended to include two additional items, that were placed under Item 9.  

**Moved by Councillor Gamble and seconded by Councillor Carter to adopt the agenda as amended.**  
Votes for:   4   Votes against:   0   Result: **Carried unanimously**
6. **Adoption of the November 16, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes** (*previously distributed – all changes received to-date by previous Council have been incorporated*).  

**Moved by Councillor Gamble and seconded by Councillor McGivern to approve the Minutes of the November 16, 2022 Council Meeting as presented.**  
Votes for:   4   Votes against:   0   Result: **Carried unanimously**
7. **Appointment of Signing Authorities** – RMB does its banking with the Provincial Credit Union (mainly out of Stratford or Montague). As the previous Deputy Mayor (Virginia Cooke), did not run for re-election, a new third signing authority is now required. Typically, the three signing authorities are: The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, and the CAO. The Provincial Credit Union needs a Council Resolution/Motion to that effect.

**Resolution # RES2022-003**  
**Signing Authorities**

**December 7, 2022**

**Whereas** – The Rural Municipality of Belfast requires three signing authorities for its banking and day-to-day operations;

**And Whereas** – At December 7, 2022, the current third signature will no longer be valid;

**Therefore, Be It Resolved:** That as of December 7, 2022, the three signing authorities for the Rural Municipality of Belfast will be:

1. **Mayor Garth Gillis,**
2. **Deputy Mayor Lynn Docherty,** and
3. **Chief Administrative Officer Bob Brooks.**

**Moved** by Councillor Kinnee and **seconded** by Councillor McGivern to adopt **Resolution # RES2022-003** as presented.

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

**8. Appointment of Council Members to the two RMB Standing Committees:**

The Rural Municipality of Belfast currently has two Standing Committees. The Community Grants Committee and the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) Grants Committee. Each Committee is made up of three Councillors (voting), the Mayor in an Ex-Officio capacity (voting), and the CAO or its designate (non-voting). The Chair of each Committee will be selected by its members at their first Committee meeting. Typically, the Committee Chair, will not be either the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor; however, they can be if the Committee members wish it.

Normally, the Community Grants Committee will meet one or two times per year (or as required), and the CCBF Grants Committee may meet one or two times per year (or as required). Committee Members were selected by Councillors as follows:

- a. **Community Grants Committee Members**
  - i. Councillor Kinnee
  - ii. Councillor Gamble
  - iii. Councillor Bryson
- b. **CCBF Grants Committee Members**
  - i. Deputy Mayor Docherty
  - ii. Councillor Carter
  - iii. Councillor McGivern

**Moved** by Councillor McGivern and **seconded** by Councillor Carter to adopt the Committee Members as selected.

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

9. **New Business for the Agenda** (*as per Item 5 above*)
- a. **Public Discussion Time Allotment for Presenters** – **Councillor Kinnee** asked to discuss the 5-minute time allotment for guest speakers, when making a public presentation and was concerned about the limitation. The CAO, some previous Councillors, and other attendees who has been at previous meetings, noted that this time limit was very flexible, and very much depended on the number of speakers in the que. That it was used as a guideline and for planning purposes for the presenters. No action was declared on this issue at this time.
  - b. **Belfast Community Development Corporation (BCDC) Activity Update** – **Mark Booth (BCDC Chair)** provided Council with an update on the extensive clean-up efforts they are committed to at the Belfast Highland Greens Golf Course. At the moment they have 5 full-time staff assisting them with trail clean-up. They are also renovating the clubhouse to make it available year-round and installing two new Golf Simulators. The 1<sup>st</sup> fairway is being reworked into a toboggan hill for sledding and the clubhouse will be open for hot-chocolate for the winter months. The South Pinette Park project is still in a holding pattern, due to the damage to the infrastructure along the shoreline. When there is an update, Mark will inform Council as to any plans that are being discussed and how the public will be informed/involved. The focus of the BCDC in 2023 is to acquire more land from the Province and expand on much-needed housing in the Belfast area.
10. **Next Meetings:**
- a. **Community Grants Committee Meeting** - scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Hall at Wood Islands Market.
  - b. **Regular Meeting of Council** - scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Hall at Wood Islands Market.
  - c. **CCBF Grants Committee Meeting** - scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Hall at Wood Islands Market.
11. **Adjournment** – As there is no further business...

Moved by **Councillor Carter** to adjourn the meeting at: **7:40pm**

Ashley/Bob

Minutes approved on: **January 15, 2023**

**Seal and Signature of File**

Mayor – Garth Gillis

**Seal and Signature of File**

CAO – Bob Brooks

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