



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Council Members Present: Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright, Councillor Richard Donaldson, Councillor Gordon Boudreau, Councillor Glenn Diggdon, Councillor Ted Saulnier, Councillor Calvin d'Entremont, and Councillor Kathy Bourque.

Absent with Regrets: Councillor Guy Surette

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Scott Surette, and Executive Assistant Chantalle Newell.

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

Warden Danny Muise called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Warden Muise indicated there are regrets from Councillor Guy Surette.

2. **Invitation to Stand and Move**

Warden Danny Muise reminded Council that they are permitted to stand and move as they need to during the meeting. This is a new initiative introduced by Argyle Recreation which normalizes movement in meetings.

3. **Approval of Agenda/Conflict of Interest Declaration**

By consensus, the agenda was approved as circulated with no conflict declared at this time.

4. **Presentation – Food Cycle Science Corporation**

Kassia Réginer, of Food Cycle Science was present on Zoom to present to Council. Food Cycle Science Corporation recently received funding from the federal government for municipalities, so they want to ensure municipalities are aware of this program. The Food Cycler is a device that takes household compost and makes it into a soil, reducing household compost by about 90%. The process is odourless. You can use the soil in a garden, put it in a larger green cart, etc. They have completed over 60 pilot projects, with the rest ongoing. The feedback has been mainly positive.

Pilot programs are typically 12 weeks, residents receive a food cycler from a subsidized rate, and users are asked to complete a survey at the end of the 12 weeks. This includes the Municipality investing \$100 per device, at a total of 10 households per pilot project. The remainder of the cost is split between the Government of Canada, Food Cycle Science Corporation, and the resident.

The Warden thanked Kassia for her presentation and council will consider this request at another time.

5. **Recognizing Argyle**

Councillor Saulnier reported on the 19th Annual Tuna Tournament, gave a shout out to the Tuna Queen, Sophia Pothier. He attended a presentation on aquaculture with Alix d'Entremont, which included visiting various potential sites for aquaculture. He mentioned that this would open doors and job



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

opportunities for the Municipality. Councillor Saulnier reported on attending the Kidzact studio open house. He mentioned that Kidzact has an enrolment of over 400 kids, and they are keeping kids off the streets, and teaching them leadership skills. "On behalf of the kids, thank you Kidzact".

Councillor Boudreau thanked the volunteers for the annual Tuna Tournament. He mentioned the Wedgeport Fire Department open house has been postponed due to the weather. He also attended the Kidzact open house and wanted to welcome Kidzact home.

Councillor Donaldson thanked the volunteers for making the Argyle Abuptic Festival a success. He also reported on his attendance at the Glenwood Park Beach Volleyball Court and Kayak Launch open house.

Councillor Diggdon also reported on his attendance at the Kidzact open house. He thanked the coaches for putting in a lot of time and effort into this organization. He also gave a shout out to Paul d'Entremont Mariner for donating a side-by-side to the West and East Pubnico Fire Departments. He also mentioned a rescue craft has been put in place for the West Pubnico Fire Department.

Deputy Warden Albright reported on the Quinan Picnic that was held on Labour Day this year. They were unable to have it last year, so she thanked the volunteers for bringing it back this year. She also reported on her attendance in the Warden's absence at Le Village when the Premier declared August Acadian History Month. She also reported on the Eel Brook Fire Hall that has begun construction.

Councillor Bourque thanked the East and West Side Improvement Societies for decorating for Acadian Day and encouraging residents to do the same. She also reported on a presentation she attended in Barrington to convert salt water to fresh water. She will receive updates from the Barrington Pilot Project.

Councillor d'Entremont reported on the semain Acadien and thanked the committee for their dedication. He also thanked Paul d'Entrmeont Marine for always donating to Youth Day.

6. Adoption of Minutes

a. **Special Council Meeting Minutes – August 30, 2023**

By consensus, the Special Council Meeting Minutes of August 30, 2023 are approved as presented.

7. Wardens Report

Warden Muise's report is attached to the agenda. There were no questions on his report.

8. Committees Report

- a. **Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission**
- b. **REMO Executive Meeting**
- c. **Mariners Management Authority**
- d. **Mariners Centre Expansion Board (MCEB)**
- e. **Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association**
- f. **Yarmouth County Solid Waste Park**
- g. **Yarmouth International Airport Corporation**



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

- h. **Nakile Board**
- i. **Western County Regional Libraries**
- j. **WREN Liaison and Oversight Committee**
- k. **Argyle Recreation Committee**
- l. **Police Advisory Board**
- m. **Doctor Recruitment**
- n. **Waste check**
- o. **Sewer Committees**

9. **Reports**

- a. **Clerks Report**

The clerk's report is attached to the agenda.

- b. **Department Head Report – Deferred.**

The Department Head Report has been deferred until the September Executive Meeting.

- c. **Building Permit Report**

The building permit reports for June, July, and August are attached to the agenda.

10. **7-Day Notice to Council**

- a. **Article P5A – Employee Definition**

Deputy CAO Surette has been working on cleaning up some HR policies to ensure they include proper language. The Employee Definition policy is being presented to council for 7-day notice.

- b. **Article P3 – Sick Leave**

The sick leave policy is being updated to include new regulations from the Government of Nova Scotia and to align with the 4-day work week policy.

- c. **Article C11 – Procurement Policy**

CAO Muise put forward the Procurement Policy for 7-day notice to update language to the purchasing authority and the directives.

11. **For Decision and Discussion**

- a. **J-Class Subdivision Road Submission**

The municipality received a request from the province to submit subdivision streets they would like to see paved during the 2024-2025 construction year. CAO Muise is putting this request forward to Council to see if Council wishes to put forward any subdivisions.

The Council did not identify any road to be submitted.

- b. **Road Safety Concerns – From Highway 103 to 5176 Highway 3.**



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Deputy CAO Surette brought forward this request from a resident. There are a few recommendations for council to consider, one in particular is to put the Municipality's Speed Radar sign in the area of concern.

It is MOVED by Councillor Richard Donaldson and SECONDED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon that staff install the speed radar sign between Highway 103 and 5176 Highway 3 in Argyle.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. **Sale of Excess Lands**

CAO Muise explained this request. Staff is looking to hire a realtor to determine if the excess land that the municipality owns is valuable or not.

It is MOVED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to allow staff to engage a local, independent realtor to recommend a price, listing, and sale of surplus land to be lead by said independent realtor.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. **Article P41 – Education Sponsorship Policy**

Council received their 7-day notice on the Education Sponsorship Policy in an e-mail on August 30, 2023. This policy is to allow the municipality to provide financial support and resources to employees pursuing education and skill development outside of their traditional education options, to enhance an employees professional growth and contribution to the organization.

It is MOVED by Councillor Richard Donaldson and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve Article P40 – Education Sponsorship Policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. **New Horizons Grants – Letters of Support**

There is a grant through the Government of Canada that multiple organizations are applying for, that require a letter of support from the community. Multiple organizations are asking for the Municipality to provide a letter of support to go along with their grant application due on September 28th.

It is MOVED by Councillor Ted Saulnier and SECONDED by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont to provide a letter of support for the New Horizons Grant Application to the following organizations: Plymouth Hall, Musée Acadien de Pubnico, Surettes Island Social Club, East Pubnico Seniors Club, and Glenwood Hall

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. **IWK Integrated Youth Services Letter of Support**

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright to provide a letter of support for the IWK Integrated Youth Services.



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

g. Support Letter – Acadian Day Funding

It is MOVED by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright and SECONDED by Gordon Boudreau to approve a letter of support for Acadian Day Funding.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Correspondence and For Information

a. Private Road Names

Alix d'Entremont, GIS Technician attached this memo to the agenda for information purposes for Council to be informed of recently created private roads.

b. PVSC Service Commitments

Council received notice of PVSCs Service Commitments effective June 2023-2028 for information purposes.

c. Approval of Funding for Clare/Argyle Acadian Tourism Development Project

Council received notice from the DMAH that the request for funding for the Clare and Argyle Acadian Tourism Development Project had been approved in the amount of \$25,000.

d. Approval of Funding for Argyle Banner Project

Council received notice from the DMAH that the CMA 2024 Acadian Regional Banner project request for funding was approved in the amount of \$18,500.

e. Letters sent to Minister Lohr re: Proposed Service Exchange

Council received copies of letters from the County of Kings and The Municipality of East Hants that were sent to Minister Lohr regarding the proposed service exchange agreement.

13. Financial Requests

a. District Community Grant Requests

It is MOVED by Councillor Richard Donaldson and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to provide a District Community Grant in the amount of \$500 to the following organizations: Pubnico Light Monument Society, Bay of Fundy Sea Kayak Symposium, Wedgeport Legion Branch 155, Festival Acadien de Wedgeport, Club des Audacieux de Quinan.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. Agenda Topics for the next meeting/Notice of Motion by Councillors

None



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

15. **Question Period**

16. **In-Camera – Section 22:2 (E) Contract Negotiations**

The Council went to the in-camera session at 7:57 p.m.

Consensus to come out of the in-camera session at 10:00 p.m.

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont to instruct staff to continue negotiations on the East Pubnico Water Tank Item.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

September 28, 2023

Date Approved

Chair

Clerk/Recorder