



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023

<u>Council Members Present:</u>	Warden Danny Muise, Deputy Warden Nicole Albright, Councillor Richard Donaldson, Councillor Gordon Boudreau, Councillor Guy Surette, Councillor Glenn Diggon, Councillor Ted Saulnier, Councillor Calvin d'Entremont, and Councillor Kathy Bourque.
<u>Absent with Regrets:</u>	None.
<u>Staff Present:</u>	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 6:30 p.m.

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 – YASTA – Neil MacKenzie**

Neil MacKenzie, CEO for YASTA was present to speak to Council about what YASTA does. YASTA was founded by the Municipality of Argyle, Municipality of Yarmouth, and Town of Yarmouth. YASTA works on marketing, business development, event attraction, and destination advocacy and support to grow tourism.

Neil provided Council with an update on the Room Marketing Levy.

5. **Recognizing Argyle**

Councillor Diggon reported on Fire Prevention Week. He thanked the firefighters for what they do in our communities. He congratulated the Eel Brook Fire Department on commencing their construction of their new building.

Councillor Saulnier reported on Sandra Fitzgerald stepping down as the President of. He indicated Verna Deviller has taken over. Birch Drive and Riverside Drive took away brush from around the area. The roof has been completed at the Plymouth Hall and Plymouth has received a new sign.

Councillor Bourque reported on Bishop Dunn spoke to the Parishers about the closures that could be happening in the area. She thanked the people for coming out and showing their support. She indicated she could give Bishop Dunn's email to any Parisher who wishes to express their concern.



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Nancy Ellis is the new community navigator for 5 weeks now. Nicole attended a meeting where the community navigator went through her report.

m. **Waste check**

n. **Sewer Committees**

9. **Reports**

a. **Clerks Report**

The clerk's report is attached to the agenda.

b. **Department Head Report**

The Department Head Report is attached to the agenda.

c. **Building Permit Report**

The building permit report for September is attached to the agenda.

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

a. **Article P8 - Holidays**

Deputy CAO Surette brought forward the amendment to Article P8 – Holidays for 7-day notice. The change being proposed in this policy is adding a section outlining how employees qualify for holiday pay.

b. **Article P12 – Leave for Blood Donation**

Article P12 – Leave for Blood Donation is being brought forward to allow all employees, rather than just full-time employees to have leave for blood donation. It also amends the maximum number of times to go in one fiscal year from four times to two times.

11. **For Decision and Discussion**

a. **CMA 2024**

Deputy CAO Surette spoke about the presentation that three councils received last week. He mentioned the presentation was geared towards how it would be in the Town of Yarmouth and in the Municipality of Yarmouth. Deputy CAO Surette asked if Council would like to have another presentation that is more geared towards the Municipality of Argyle. He indicated there will be large and small events in the Municipality of Argyle, in many villages. He mentioned there will be events put on by the Congrès Mondiale Acadien, and an expectation for villages to hold events as well.

Council decided to wait to have a meeting with the Congrès until later.

b. **Grants to Organization Fall 2023**

Executive Assistant Newell brought the fall edition of the grants to organizations forward for council approval. There were 3 requests this round.

It is MOVED by Councillor Richard Donaldson and SECONDED by Councillor Guy Surette to approve the fall grants to organization 2023 as presented.



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a. **District Community Grant Request – Immaculate Conception Cemetery**

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon to provide a District Community Grant in the amount of \$500 to the Immaculate Conception Cemetery.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

None

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 9:22 p.m.

It is MOVED by Councillor Guy Surette and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to send a letter to the tri-county planning committee advising that they are no longer interested in being part of the project.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

October 26, 2023

Date Approved

Chair

Clerk/Recorder