



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
145th ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

Council Members Present: Warden Nicole Albright, Deputy Warden Ted Saulnier, Councillor Malcolm Madden, Councillor Gordon Boudreau, Councillor Greg Foster, Councillor Darryl LeBlanc, Councillor Kathy Bourque, Councillor Glenn Diggdon, and Councillor Racheal Surette

Absent with Regrets:

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Director of Protective Services Rene Jeddry, and Executive Assistant Julie Atkinson

PUBLIC HEARING

Council has received an application for a map amendment to the Land Use By-law to rezone the property at 1838 and 1842 Comeau's Hill Road (PID 90222068), Little River Harbour from the Coastal Community (CC) zone to the Coastal Community Industrial (CCI) zone to allow for the development of a new storage and heavy equipment repair shop.

There was an open house held by René Jeddry on March 12, 2025, at the Harbour Hill Community Hall from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

There were no comments during the public hearing portion of the meeting, Mr. Jeddry summarized the amendment for council. The chair declared the public hearing portion closed.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Warden Nicole Albright called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. Invitation to Stand and Move

Warden Nicole Albright reminded Council that they are permitted to stand and move as they need to during the meeting. This is an initiative by Argyle Recreation which normalizes movement in meetings.

3. Approval of Agenda

It is MOVED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Presentation – Youth Wellbeing Network

Denise Vacon attended to provide a presentation on the Youth Wellbeing Network (YWN).

In May 2023, the community came together for a conversation involving 50 youth and 80 service providers to discuss the wellbeing of local youth. As a result, a comprehensive report was developed, outlining insights and needs across eight key domains:



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Relationships, Purpose, Safety & Security, Mental Wellness, Learning & Growing, Healthy Living, Community, and Places & Spaces.

The YWN was formed to address these areas and has established four core objectives: Connect, Collaborate, Communicate, and Create. A dedicated work plan has been developed, focused on increasing youth engagement.

Outcomes so far include: The creation of a youth engagement plan, A more integrated approach to youth wellbeing, Over \$2 million in funding investments. Plans to develop a Youth Hub at the old South Sentinel School — a welcoming space for youth to access support, resources, and community.

Council is encouraged to become familiar with the YWN's objectives. Positive results are already emerging, and continued support is key to the initiative's success.

A council member is being sought to participate in the Youth Wellbeing Network's monthly meetings (9:30 a.m. to noon).

5. Appointment of Officers – Deferred until April 24, 2025

Typically, at the annual council meeting, appointments of officers are made. These appointments will be deferred until the Executive Council Meeting on April 24, 2025.

6. Approval of Minutes

a. March 20, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting Minutes

It is MOVED by Deputy Warden Ted Saulnier and SECONDED by Councillor Racheal Surette to defer the March 20, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting Minutes until recommended amendments were made.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. March 27, 2025 – Special Virtual Council Meeting Minutes

By consensus, the March 27, 2025 – Special Virtual Council Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

7. Recognizing Argyle – Council Announcements

Councillor Racheal Surette attended the community health board plan, introducing the new plan dated 2025-2029. They identified four pillars, access to basic needs, mental health, community environment and natural environment and climate change. Presentations on how wellness funds were spent in 2024, opportunity to hear about projects that happened and are still happening, around food security, inclusion, intergenerational events and connecting people. Two presentations were from the Musee Acadien and the West Pubnico Golf Course. Announcement of wellness funds again and applications are until April 30th.

Councillor Malcolm Madden recognized Bryden Surette for competing in the Nova Scotia Skills Competition in the Precision Machining Division winning the Gold Medal in 2024 and 2025. In 2024 he



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took gold at the national level in Quebec and is soon headed to Saskatchewan at the end of May. Congratulations and good luck.

Councillor Glenn Diggdon attended a music concert at the St. Peters Roman Catholic Church, put on local musicians, open concert for everyone and well attended. A couple weeks ago, a community cleanup was held at the ball field in Lower West Pubnico. Responsible dog owners, who have been using the field over the winter months as a place to exercise their dogs, took the initiative to clean up the area ahead of the ball season. They did a thorough job, removing garbage from the field and the dugouts, and they expressed gratitude for being able to use the facility during the off-season. They understand that it will now return to its use as a ball field for the summer, but there's interest in exploring the possibility of a designated dog park in the area in the future. Nouveaux Horizons de la Baronnie would also like to thank the municipality for the \$700 community grant they received. Councillor Diggdon received an email inquiring about the veteran's banner program. There's hope that it will be continuing this year in partnership with the municipality and the two local Legions.

Councillor Kathy Bourque expressed thanks to Gordon and Julie Nickerson for voluntarily cleaning up the carpool area in Pubnico Head. They collected approximately 13 to 16 bags of garbage and noted that there was still more, including large items like mattresses and headboards. Appreciation was also extended to Waste Management and Richie Nickerson for picking up the larger items, and to curbside collection for handling the rest. Councillor Bourque acknowledged and appreciated their efforts in taking this initiative on their own.

Warden Nicole Albright Warden highlighted the Patchwork Pals, a dedicated quilting group in Eel Brook that meets every Wednesday. She visits them occasionally and appreciates their work. She praised their teamwork and organization, especially noting their generosity, they create quilts and donate them to other organizations to use for fundraising. Warden Albright expressed admiration for their efforts and enjoyment from her visits.

8. Warden's Report

The Warden's Report was attached to the agenda, there were no questions on the report.

9. Committee Reports

a. Argyle Recreation Commission – January 16, 2025 Minutes

By consensus, the January 16, 2025 – Argyle Recreation Commission Minutes were approved as presented.

10. 7-day Notice – None

a. Salary Administration Policy

Council received 7-day notice on the NEW Salary Administration Policy.



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11. For Decision and Discussion

a. Second Reading - By-Law 23 - Heritage Property

It is MOVED by Councillor Kathy Bourque and SECONDED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc to approve the second reading of By-Law 23 – Heritage Property.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Starlight Committee Member

It is MOVED by Councillor Malcolm Madden SECONDED by Councillor Foster that Councillor Racheal Surette be appointed as a voting member of the Starlight Development Society for a term ending no later than October 31, 2028.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. FOIPOP - Warden Nicole Albright

Warden Nicole Albright presented constituent questions regarding the process of Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) requests; the questions are attached to the agenda. Questions revolved around the process, how information is gathered, how a fee is calculated and status of current requests. CAO Alain Muise addressed these questions and there was a brief council discussion on the matter, and other financial matters.

It is MOVED by Councillor Darryl LeBlanc and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to appoint Kyle Boudreau as the FOIPOP administrator for the Municipality of Argyle.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. SPCA Notice of Termination of Dog Control

Council received notice of termination of services from the SPCA, this includes Bylaw Enforcement and animal sheltering.

We have reached out to the neighboring municipality's regarding this issue. The status of this service is still under investigation. CAO Muise noted there is no dog shelter near Argyle outside of the existing facility in Yarmouth.

e. Overgrown Trees Along Chemin Tour des Buttes

A continuing issue was raised regarding overgrown trees and brush along the Chemin Tour des Buttes Road in Amirault's Hill. School bus drivers have reported safety concerns, as the overgrowth is striking the mirrors of buses flattening them or even ripping them off. This issue affects both CSAP and Tri-County school buses. A recently retired driver also confirmed the problem has been ongoing.



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It is MOVED by Councillor Greg Foster and SECONDED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon to write a letter to N.S. Department of Transportation and Public Works to request the cutting of overgrown trees and brush along the Chemin Tour des Buttes in District #4 and cc MLA Colton LeBlanc.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. Replacement of Group Box for Weekly Flyers in Amirault's Hill

Councillor Greg Foster received a recent request from residents regarding a damaged community flyer box. After discussing it with a municipal staff member, they contacted the flyer delivery company, which promised to replace the box. However, as of the councillor's last visit, the box had not yet been replaced. If the company does not follow through, Councillor Foster suggested exploring alternatives, such as having a new box constructed by students at a local school carpentry program. For now, the matter will remain with the company, and council will wait to see if they fulfill their commitment.

g. Multi-Use Path Hubbard's Point

Councillor Greg Foster raised safety concerns regarding pedestrian traffic along Highway 308 in Hubbard's Point, a heavily traveled and narrow road that serves as a vital route connecting many outlying peninsula communities. This stretch of road, described as the "bottleneck" of District 4, sees frequent traffic from large trucks, school buses, and other vehicles.

Many residents regularly walk or bike along this route, which has a very narrow road shoulder. The current conditions are hazardous, with numerous reports of close calls where pedestrians have been forced off the road or into ditches due to passing vehicles often speeding. Councillor Foster is proposing the development of a separated multi-use path along the east side of Highway 308 in Hubbard's Point and that the matter be examined by an engineering firm. Councillor Foster presented a visual, which would create a loop, or continuous path on Highway 308 connecting to Chemin de la Pointe.

Multi-use paths are becoming more commonly approved over traditional sidewalks and would be widely accepted by the local population.

It is MOVED by Councillor Greg Foster and SECONDED by Councillor Malcolm Madden to support in principle for the construction of sidewalks or a multi-use path to link both ends of the Chemin de la Pointe in Hubbard's Point.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

h. Information on Climate Change Work

Council discussed a request for a designated municipal contact person for climate change-related conversations. While the municipality does not currently have a dedicated staff member for climate change, council confirmed that staff are open to being contacted and will engage as appropriate.



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i. First Reading - Tourism Marketing Levy By-Law

It is MOVED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau and SECONDED by Councillor Greg Foster to approve the First Reading of the Tourism Marketing Levy By-Law.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

j. YASTA Core Funding Request

It is MOVED by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and SECONDED by Deputy Warden Ted Saulnier that the core funding request of \$21,000 be approved by Council and reflected in the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

k. Second Reading - Comeau's Hill Rezoning

It is MOVED by Deputy Warden Ted Saulnier and SECONDED by Councillor Gordon Boudreau to approve the Second Reading of the Comeau's Hill rezoning application for a map amendment to the Land Use By-law to rezone the property at 1838 and 1842 Comeau's Hill Road (PID 90222068), Little River Harbour from the Coastal Community (CC) zone to the Coastal Community Industrial (CCI) zone to allow for the development of a new storage and heavy equipment repair shop.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

l. Non-Substantial Amendment Approval - Drive Through Lane Adjustment

It is MOVED by Councillor Malcolm Madden and SECONDED by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve the non-substantial amendment, drive through lane adjustment.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. For Correspondence and Information

a. Yarmouth County Trail Development Association Accountability Report

Council received the final report for Yarmouth County Trail Development Association Project 2024/25 to maintain the current trail bed by improving site lines at intersections, brush cutting, mowing grass, replacing safety signs/posts and maintenance repairs on trail's bridges.

b. Code of Conduct Letter

Council received correspondence updating the progress related to the mandatory Code of Conduct training for all local elected officials in Nova Scotia.

c. Deed for Mariners Centre

Council received an updated copy of the deed for the Mariners Centre.



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d. Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture - Response to ADA Residential Concern

Council received correspondence from the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture responding to a Residential Concern regarding the ADA.

13. Financial Requests – None.

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

15. Question Period

16. In-Camera

17. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.



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April 24, 2025

Date Approved

Nicole Albright

Chair

Julia

Clerk/Recorder