Present: Warden Richard Donaldson; Deputy Warden Danny Muise; Councillors Nicole Albright, Guy Surette and Glenn Diggdon; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Solicitor Réal Boudreau and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Frotten.

Regrets: Councillors Calvin d’Entremont, Roderick Murphy Jr., Lucien LeBlanc and Kathy Bourque.

The meeting is called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Warden Richard Donaldson.

Agenda:
On motion by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise the agenda is approved as circulated.
Motion Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration
Warden Richard Donaldson asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.

None declared.

Holiday Greeting
Warden Donaldson took a moment to pass along a holiday greeting to residents.

Presentations and/or Petitions
Efficiency Nova Scotia - Kaelan Keys
Mr. Kaelan Keys, Program Manager with Efficiency Nova Scotia, was in attendance to present to Council regarding the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing Service.

Mr. Keys presented the background of the service, the current programs, the benefits, the homeowner process, the municipality’s responsibilities, Efficiency Nova Scotia’s plan and their next steps.

Report Attached.

Adoption of Minutes
Regular Council Meeting - November 8, 2016
It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Nicole Albright that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 8, 2016, be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)
Special Council Meeting - Committees - November 8, 2016
It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Nicole Albright that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting - Committees of November 8, 2016, be approved as circulated. 
*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

Committee of the Whole Meeting - November 22, 2016
It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 22, 2016, be approved as circulated. 
*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

Business Arising from the Minutes
CAO Muise provided an update on the Welcome Pole Banners project and the Hipson Bridge report.

Wedgeport Wastewater Management District By-Law - Second Reading
Warden Donaldson presented By-Law No. 37 which was in respect of the Wedgeport Wastewater Management District. He noted that the By-Law had received first reading at the last meeting on November 22, 2016.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Nicole Albright to give Second Reading to By-Law No. 37 – By-Law respecting the Wedgeport Wastewater Management District. 
*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

Warden’s Report
Nov. 8th:
- ACOA funding announcement at the Mariners Centre for the Canadian Mixed Curling tournament.
- Regular Council Meeting.

Nov. 10th - Yarmouth Town Council Sweating-in

Nov. 11th - Remembrance Day Memorial Service, Mariners Centre. Remembrance Day Memorial Lunch, Wedgeport Legion.

Nov. 12th - Canadian Mixed Curling, Sponsors Reception.

Nov. 13th - Canadian Mixed Curling, Grand Opening.

Nov. 16th - Meeting of Region- Internet Service, Caledonia, Queens Co.

Nov. 17th - Meeting of Mayor, Wardens, Deputy's and CAO’s.

Nov. 18th:
- Carleton Watershed Area meeting.
- Yarmouth County Sports Awards.

Nov. 19th - Canadian Mixed Curling, Awards Dinner.
Nov. 22nd - Council Meeting.

Nov. 23rd:
- Waste Park audit meeting, Grant Thornton.
- Duty Minister of Transportation, meeting at Town Hall.

Nov. 25th - Opening of the Eleanor Autumn House.

Nov. 27th - Christmas tree lighting at Tusket.

Nov. 29th - Dec. 2nd – UNSM.

Dec. 5th
- Building committee.
- YAIC.

Dec. 7th - Waste Park.

**Councillor's Reports**
Councillor Albright reported on her attendance at the Town of Yarmouth’s launch of their new video.

Councillor Diggdon reported on his attendance at the kick-off of the Canadian Mixed curling championships, the opening of the Evelyn Autumn House, the Yarmouth tree lighting ceremony, a fundraiser for the Saint Pierre church, worked in a food drive and sponsored a children’s Christmas party.

Councillor Surette reported on his attendance at the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities’ annual fall conference and commented on the good program.

**Staff Report**

*Report Attached.*

**Other Business and for Decision**

**Tri-County Regional School Board - Gravel Sidewalk Request**
Warden Donaldson briefly explained the Tri-County Regional School Board’s letter supporting the Drumlin Heights Consolidated School’s request to widen a gravel sidewalk next to the school. CAO Muise explained that no financial request had been made but more information would be sought.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise to table the project to the capital project planning process.  
*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*
Nakile Home For Special Care - Partial Tax Exemption Request
Warden Donaldson began by noting that the request for partial tax exemption from the Nakile Home for Special Care was identical to the request received the previous year. CAO Muise provided a brief background of the initial request and noted the lack of provincial funding to pay the additional taxes incurred from the expansion.

Council discussed the home’s financial situation and the Province’s contribution formula which does not account for an increase in property taxes.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Nicole Albright to approve a partial tax exemption for one year to Nakile Home For Special Care in the amount of $17,680.
*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

Municipal Self-Assessment Summary
CAO Muise explained the Province of Saskatchewan’s municipal self-assessment tool which was shared by the Nova Scotia Association of Municipal Administrators. He summarized the internal self-assessment of the Municipality of Argyle and explained its intended next steps.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to accept the self-assessment and task the CAO to prepare recommended steps to implement improvements, and that the self-assessment be re-evaluated in 12 months.
*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

Building Committee Recommendation
CAO Muise explained the decision process of the committee of rectifying their decision on the location of the new administrative building. Council offered their feedback on the recommended location and provided some concerns and alternative options.

The consensus was to raise the Council’s concerns regarding the decision on location at the next Building Committee meeting.

PV Solar Project – Municipal Application
CAO Muise explained that the Department of Energy was currently contemplating the procurement of solar photovoltaic projects (up to 50kW each) to be developed by Municipalities and other select local ownership groups. He clarified that no specific project request was being made to the municipality at that time.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to assess the possibility of creating a project that could be included in this program.
*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

Tax Sale Properties Reduced Bids
Warden Donaldson presented reduced bids on properties that were slated to be brought to the tax sale. He explained that the properties were on tax sale for 6 years. CAO Muise noted that two properties were dangerous or unsightly clean ups and that the starting bids were not based on assessment.
Council discussed the reasons why these properties were not selling, the expectations that the costs of the clean ups would not be recuperated and the possibility of new tax revenue coming from the properties being bought.

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Nicole Albright to accept reduced bids of the properties presented.  

*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

**Rural Internet Project Application**

CAO Muise presented a federal funding program designed to expand and improve rural broadband coverage. He provided a background on unsuccessful partnership efforts with other local municipal units to submit an application and an update on the progress the Western Regional Enterprise Network has made on this initiative.

Council discussed the importance of internet in the community and the possible options to improve the service, especially in locations that experience little to no service.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Glenn Diggdon to engage the Western Regional Enterprise Network to coordinate an application for federal funding to improve rural broadband coverage in our region, and that the Municipality allocate up to $20,000 of Federal Gas Tax funds to support this endeavor.  

*Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)*

**Correspondence and for Information**

**Municipality of Barrington’s UNSM Resolutions Review**

Correspondence from the Municipality of Barrington regarding the UNSM resolutions review was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

**Region of Queens Municipality's Rural Internet Letter to MP Bernadette Jordan**

A copy of correspondence from Queen’s Municipality to MP Bernadette Jordan regarding rural internet was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

**Thank You Letter from the Honourable Chris d'Entremont**

A thank you letter from the Honourable Chris d'Entremont was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

**2016 November Building Permit Report**

A report of the 2016 November building permits was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

**Yarmouth Hospital Foundation Fall/Winter 2016 Newsletter**

The 2016 Fall/Winter Newsletter Yarmouth Hospital Foundation was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

**REMO South Shore - Letter Regarding Hazmat Teams**
A copy of correspondence from Regional Emergency Management Organization South Shore to the Province regarding rural hazardous materials response was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

PVSC Budget
Correspondence from the Property Valuation Services Corporation regarding their budget was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Rural Internet Project - Municipal Partnership
A memorandum of understanding regarding a rural internet project was circulated to Council for their information. No action was requested by Council.

Financial Requests

Grant Request

Bay of Fundy Sea Kayak Symposium
An application from the Bay of Fundy Sea Kayak symposium requesting a grant of $2,500 to help with hosting the event was circulated to Council.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Glenn Digdgon to give a Grant of $2,500 to the Bay of Fundy Sea Kayak Symposium to help with hosting the event.

Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)

District Community Grant

Conseil paroissial de Wedgeport
A letter from the Conseil paroissial de Wedgeport requesting a District Community Grant of $500 to help with repairs to the church was circulated to Council.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Danny Muise to give a District Community Grant of $500 to the Conseil paroissial de Wedgeport to help with repairs to the church.

Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)

Agenda Topics for Next Meeting / Notice of Motion by Councillors
Councillor Albright raised inviting the Area Manager for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to a Council meeting to have a conversation regarding the concerns from residents.

Councillor Surette raised the evaluation of the Senior Safety Program.

Question Period
None.

In Camera
It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Guy Surette to recess the Regular Council Meeting and go In-Camera to discuss Contract Negotiations.
Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Danny Muise and seconded by Guy Surette to recess the In-Camera meeting and go back to the Regular Council Meeting.

Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Guy Surette that Council support the full demolition of the Domtex building at 1/3 of the lowest estimated price.

Motion Carried (5 in favour, 0 against)

There being no further business, it is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Danny Muise to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Recorder
Chris Frotten

Date Approved: ________________________________

Chairman/Warden ________________________________

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer ________________________________