

TOWN OF LUNENBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2024 | 6 pm

Lunenburg Town Hall – Council Chamber and virtually through Zoom



- Present Mayor Jamie Myra, Deputy Mayor Stephen Ernst, Councillors Ed Halverson, Melissa Duggan, Jenni Birtles, Peter Mosher and Susan Sanford

- Also present Jamie Doyle, CAO
Lisa Dagley, Director of Finance
Lisa Kendall, Municipal Engineer
Hilary Grant, Director of Community Development
Michael Best, Communications Manager
Kayla Byrne, Municipal Clerk

- Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

- Land acknowledgment It was acknowledged that Lunenburg is located in the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

- Approval of Agenda Moved by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Sanford, that Council approve the agenda for the April 9, 2024 meeting as presented.
Motion carried unanimously

- Approval of Minutes Moved by Deputy Mayor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Birtles, that Council approve the March 26, 2024 meeting minutes as presented.
Motion carried unanimously

- Proclamation Request Moved by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Sanford, that Council proclaim May 5 to 11, 2024, as Heart Failure Awareness Week in the Town of Lunenburg.
Motion carried unanimously

- Public hearing: By-law to Repeal Certain By-laws Council held a public hearing on the proposed amendments to the By-law to Repeal Certain By-laws. No written or verbal submissions were received.

Moved by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ernst, that Council approve the second and final reading of the Amended By-law to

Repeal Certain By-laws as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

Public hearing:
Public Places By-law

Council held a public hearing on the proposed amendments to the Public Places By-law. No written or verbal submissions were received.

Special Events
Policy

Moved by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Sanford, that Council approve the Special Events Policy as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Councillor Birtles, seconded by Councillor Sanford, that Council repeal the Annual Town Parade Approval Procedure Policy.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Birtles, that Council approve the second and final reading of the amended Public Places By-law, By-law #55, as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

Blockhouse Hill
Design Project

Staff presented an information report highlighting Design Option 1.2 and estimated tax revenues for the five design options for the proposed development of Blockhouse Hill. Staff also noted that Parks Canada affirmed by email on April 5 that World Heritage buffer zones provide an opportunity for additional protection and controls and that World Heritage Committee decisions show the Old Town Lunenburg World Heritage Site buffer zone does not contain elements contributing to Old Town's global significance.

Moved by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Duggan that Council decide on option 1 or option 1.2 for the Blockhouse Hill Development based on the MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd. designs and have them draft the development rules based on the option chosen and then have the chosen lands within that option declared as surplus and no longer required for Town purposes.

Moved by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Duggan to amend the presented motion to read that Council decide on option 1, option 1.2 or option 2 for the Blockhouse Hill Development based on the MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd. designs and have them draft the development rules based on the option chosen and then have the

chosen lands within that option declared as surplus and no longer required for Town purposes.

The Mayor called a recess from 6:27 p.m. until 6:45 p.m.

Councillors asked clarifying questions on design options and plant upgrades.

Councillor Mosher withdrew his presented motion.

Moved by Councillor Halverson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ernst, that Council waive notice to make a motion to amend a motion on Blockhouse Hill design options from the January 23, 2024 meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Councillor Halverson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ernst, that Council amend the motion from the January 23, 2024, meeting to consider Design Option 2 rather than Design Option 1.

The amended motion reads as follows: That Council direct staff to work with MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd. on drafting development rules based on Design Option 2: Out of Sight.

FOR

6 Councillors

AGAINST

1 Councillor (Councillor Mosher)

Motion carried

Moved by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Sanford that Council waive notice to make a motion to declare surplus lands.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Councillor Duggan, seconded by Councillor Sanford, that Council declare the land identified in Attachment A at the January 23, 2024, meeting as surplus and no longer required for Town purposes.

FOR

4 Councillors

AGAINST

3 Councillors (Mayor Myra, Deputy Mayor Ernst and Councillor Birtles)

Motion carried

Cultural Tourism
Economic Impact
Study and Plan

Moved by Councillor Halverson, seconded by Councillor Mosher, that Council approve using the \$50,000 allocated to developing an economic impact study/analysis and the \$137,000 received from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency to develop a Cultural Tourism Economic Impact Study and Sustainable Cultural Tourism Plan.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Councillor Sanford, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ernst, that Council direct Staff to develop Terms of Reference for a Cultural Tourism Working Group toward completing a Cultural Tourism Economic Impact Study and Sustainable Cultural Tourism Plan.

Motion carried unanimously

Notice of motion
and councillor
reports

Concerning a notice of motion provided by Mayor Myra at the March 26, 2024, meeting, Council made the following motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Birtles, that Council direct staff to prepare a comprehensive report on the Town's responsibilities and options concerning short-term housing and that this report addresses potential taxing and zoning options and an evaluation of both positive and negative impacts of short-term housing within the Town of Lunenburg.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Halverson, that Council waive notice of motion to make a decision on donating Town-owned artifacts.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Mosher, that the artifacts belonging to the Town of Lunenburg related to the vessel HMCS Lunenburg be transferred to the Lunenburg Royal Canadian Legion Branch #23.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Sanford gave notice that Council direct staff to make an application to the Federal Infrastructure Fund for funding to action the next phase of the stormwater/wastewater separation project.

Councillor Sanford gave notice that Council direct that staff make an

application to the NSUARB to amend regulation 5.14 to include energy storage in addition to renewable low-impact generators and that regulation 5.14 (b)(i) be amended to add energy storage as an option as defined in the Electricity Act of Nova Scotia section 2(i)(aa); that the Town work collaboratively with ABCO to engage a third party consultant to develop the required documentation to serve as an application to the NSUARB as stated above at ABCO's expense; and that the Town endorse and support this application's submission.

Staff indicated they will review this proposed motion and consult with legal advisors to verify that it can be implemented.

Personnel Matter Moved by Deputy Mayor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Birtles, that Council move in camera at 8 p.m. to discuss agenda item 13.1 Personnel Matter per the Municipal Government Act.

Before discussing any in camera items, Mayor Myra called a brief recess at 8 p.m.

Revert to public meeting & report Council reverted to open meeting at 8:58 p.m. and made the following motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Birtles, that upon a signed Letter of Offer, Hilary Grant will be appointed Interim Chief Administrative Officer effective May 11, 2024 for the duration of 2024.

Motion carried unanimously

Adjournment There being no further business, the April 9, 2024 Council meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

The minutes were read and approved.