



**Minutes
Town of Westville
Regular Council Meeting
Council Chambers
March 27, 2023 – 6:00 pm**

1. Call To Order

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Territorial and African Nova Scotian Acknowledgement

Mayor White recited the Territorial Acknowledgement and acknowledged the history of African Nova Scotians.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Lennie White, Deputy Mayor Mitchell MacGregor, Councillor Clarrie MacKinnon, Councillor Meghan Bragg, Councillor Bernie Murphy, Chief Administrative Officer Scot Weeres, Recording Secretary Kristen Reed, and 8 members of the public and 1 press.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

5. Additions, Deletions and/or Approval of the Tentative Agenda

2023.03.27.690 Moved by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor MacKinnon to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Unanimously Carried

6. Approval of the Minutes

a. Regular Council Meeting February 27, 2023

2023.03.27.691 Moved by Councillor MacKinnon, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacGregor to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting as circulated.

Motion Unanimously Carried

7. Committee Reports

a. General Government

i. Mayor Lennie White –

Mayor White commented that his report was attached and will also be posted online.

ii. Councillors Reports –

1. Deputy Mayor Mitchell MacGregor

Deputy Mayor MacGregor had regular correspondence and attended the Committee of the Whole meeting, Board of Police

Commissioners, and Planning Advisory Committee meetings, the Sports hall of fame meeting and the Flight 144 have all kinds of jobs available, Look them up.

2. Councillor Meghan Bragg

Councillor Bragg had the usual meetings as well as engage Nova Scotia, presented awards at Mariposa figure skating, School advisory board and mental health crisis group.

3. Councillor Clarrie MacKinnon

Councillor MacKinnon announced that residents have raised concerns regarding bed ridden residents can't vote in municipal election and want it addressed. Appreciate bank machine still in Dr. Rivera's office. Recommend a letter of thanks to him. Riverview meeting discussed finances. Continuing to reduce residents at the main residence and need to figure out long term usage for that building.

CAO Scot Weeres

Report was attached, nothing further to add.

b. Protective Services

i. Chief of Police Report

2023.03.27.692 Moved by Deputy Mayor MacGregor, **seconded by** Councillor Murphy to approve the Chief of Police Report as presented.

Motion Unanimously Carried

ii. Fire Department Report

2023.03.27.693 Moved by Councillor MacKinnon, **seconded by** Councillor Bragg to approve the Fire Department Report as presented.

Motion Unanimously Carried

iii. Animal Control Report

2023.03.27.694 Moved by Councillor Murphy, **seconded by** Deputy Mayor MacGregor to accept the Animal Control Report as presented.

Motion Unanimously Carried

c. Recreation, Active Living & Culture Services

i. RACS Coordinator Report

2023.03.27.695 Moved by Councillor MacKinnon, **seconded by** Councillor Bragg to accept the Recreation and Active Living Services Report as presented.

Motion Unanimously Carried

It was an excellent report and a successful seniors café which will likely be done again. Currently in the process of planning a Newcomers event and encourage residents old and new to come out.

Deputy Mayor MacGregor also mentioned the Provincial funding for the rink and thanked all the volunteers that keep the arena running.

d. Transportation & Environmental Health Services

i. Water Report

2023.03.28.696 Moved by Deputy Mayor MacGregor, **seconded by** Councillor Murphy to accept the Water Report as presented.

Motion Unanimously Carried

ii. Public Works Report

2023.03.28.697 Moved by Councillor MacKinnon, **seconded by** Deputy Mayor MacGregor to accept the Public Works Report as presented.

Motion Unanimously Carried

iii. Solid Waste Report

2023.03.28.698 Moved by Councillor Bragg, **seconded by** Councillor Murphy to accept the Solid Waste Report as circulated.

Motion Unanimously Carried

e. Environmental Development

i. Fire Inspection

2023.03.28.699 Moved by Councillor Murphy, **seconded by** Councillor Bragg to accept the Fire Inspection Report as circulated.

Motion Unanimously Carried

ii. Planning Advisory Committee

2023.03.28.700 Moved by Councillor MacKinnon, **seconded by** Councillor Murphy to accept the Planning Advisory Committee Report as circulated.

Motion Unanimously Carried

8. Correspondence

a) Epilepsy Association of the Maritimes

For Information only. March 26th was Purple Day in support of people who live with epilepsy.

b) Chignecto East Regional Science Fair

Students from across Pictou County will be attending the regional science fair on March 30th at the Wellness Centre. They requested a donation and invited Council to attend.

2023.03.27.701 Moved by Councillor Murphy, **seconded by** Councillor MacKinnon to donate \$50 towards the Science Fair.

Motion Unanimously Carried

c) Pictou County Crushers U13

The U13 AAA Hockey Team is representing Nova Scotia at the Atlantic Canadian Championships in Newfoundland. They requested a donation to help cover travel expenses.

2023.03.27.702 Moved by Councillor MacKinnon, **seconded by** Deputy Mayor MacGregor to donate \$100 towards the team travel. Also wish the Team the best of luck!

Motion Unanimously Carried

Mayor White acknowledged that the CAO had sent a letter of thanks to the owner of the office which has left the ATM in place on the Mayor's behalf.

9. New/Unfinished Business

a. Low Income Property Tax Exemption

The Policy recommends evaluating the eligibility threshold annually. The Consumer price index was 6.8%.

2023.03.27.703 Moved by Councillor Bragg, **seconded by** Councillor Murphy to pass the Low Income Property Tax Exemption.

Motion Unanimously Carried

The Province also has a rebate for seniors which the Town will share when we receive it.

b. Tiny House Policy 1st reading

A copy of the policy will be available at the office for review. It has been redrafted several times but staff is now comfortable with it. There are a number of small lots owned by the Town as well as others which are not large enough for a regular house but would be ideal for Tiny Homes. Still need to follow building code and have a foundation that meets with CSA standards. A copy of the policy will be available on the website as well as at the office. The Town invites citizens to send comments and questions to the Town and the 2nd reading will be at the April Meeting.

2023.03.27.704 Moved by Councillor Murphy, **seconded by** Councillor Bragg to pass the First reading of the Tiny Home Policy.

Motion Unanimously Carried

c. Asset Management Committee Membership

Due to the important nature of the Committee, does Council want to adjust the Policy to include all Council Members. It is at the core of the Town and the heart of municipalities.

2023.03.27.705 Moved by Councillor Murphy, **seconded by** Councillor MacKinnon to adjust the policy to include all Council on the Asset Management Committee.

Motion Unanimously Carried

10. Public Engagement/ Delegations

Art Sinclair- need dust suppression on Reservoir St as the dust blows onto the reservoir cover. The Town should also look into if milling would be appropriate and cheaper than current patching and paving practices. Also the Old Highschool liability. The Premier should assist the Town in making that into affordable housing.

Harrold Chabissol- Talked to Mr. Weeres about the ATV act allowing ATVs to access routes which the Town can do now. There are about 200 members of the PC association. If a couple of the streets were open to access restaurants and stores that would help have people stop in Town instead of riding past. The drivers must be 16 yrs old, have insurance and have a license plate, as well as only travel at 25km/h. Could allow groups to meet up in

Town before going on rides. Call other Towns such as Tatamagouche to see how it is working for them.

Mayor White recommended the association putting together a proposal of what streets would be beneficial to them and making a presentation at a future meeting.

Adam Cameron- Park St asked where reports are located. Didn't see them online. And asked if the school is designated for anything. It was explained that if they don't see them online reports can also be picked up from the Town office. There had been a number of possible developments regarding the school but nothing has come to fruition yet.

Morris Campbell- People are building without permits. There was a big announcement about Westville getting housing and it's not in Westville, it's in Alma. CAO explained the announcement was from someone in the housing department not understanding the area. The department and the Deputy Minister have apologized for the error.

11. Next Meetings

a. Committee of the Whole

Westville Council Chambers
April 17, 2023 – 6:00 pm

b. Board of Police Commissioners

Westville Council Chambers
April 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm

c. Planning Advisory Committee

Westville Council Chambers
April 19, 2023 – 6:00 pm

d. Neighbourhood Watch

Westville Police Station Board room
1st Thursday of each month – 6:00 pm

e. Regular Council Meeting

Westville Council Chambers
April 24, 2023 – 6:00 pm

April 29th at 2pm there will be the New Comers Welcome in the Town Gym.

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Mayor: _____ Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Date Approved: _____