

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG  
Minutes of a Meeting of  
**POLICY & STRATEGY COMMITTEE**  
Held in Council Chambers, 210 Aberdeen Road, Bridgewater, NS  
**Tuesday, September 18, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.**

**ATTENDANCE**

Deputy Mayor Martin Bell, Chair  
Councillor Cathy Moore, Vice-Chair  
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson  
Councillor Eric Hustvedt  
Councillor John Veinot  
Councillor Wade Carver  
Councillor Michael Ernst  
Councillor Reid Whynot  
Councillor Errol Knickle

Regrets: Councillor Lee Nauss  
Councillor Claudette Garland

Staff: Kevin Malloy, Chief Administrative Officer  
Trudy Payne, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk (left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.)  
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer  
Joanne Powers, Executive Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Moore called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, RECOGNITION - Nil**

**3. PUBLIC INPUT**

Marion Moore of Lunenburg and Elizabeth Powers of Garden Lots were in attendance and provided public input requesting that municipal governments call for a public inquiry into the pros and cons of offshore drilling. Accompanying them were Byron Rogers and Bob Mertens also residents of Lunenburg County. They are all part of a group of volunteers who formed the organization the Campaign to Protect Offshore Nova Scotia (CPONS), which is a project of the South Shore Chapter of the Council of Canadians, and they recently, along with 20 other organizations, have formed the Offshore Alliance.

The group wanted to add support to agenda Item 9.1 - Municipal Council Resolution on Offshore Drilling being presented by Councillor Ernst.

They spoke about why municipalities should get involved, the risks associated with offshore drilling and why they feel an inquiry is necessary (presentation attached to original minutes).

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was requested that the following items be added to the agenda:

**8.1.4 Dry Wells****11.1 In Camera Contract re Letter of Support Negotiation under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA**

It was also requested that item 9.1, be moved to the first of the agenda.

**Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Knickle that the Agenda be approved as amended with the addition of Items 8.1.4 and 11.1 and to move Item 9.1 to the first of the agenda. Carried unanimously.**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was noted that there is a correction to Section 2.1 of the July 17, 2018 Minutes to be made. The last word of the last paragraph should be “Bald” not “Ball”.

**Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the Minutes of the July 17, 2018 Policy & Strategy Committee meeting be approved as amended. Motion carried.**

**9. MAYOR’S/DEPUTY MAYOR’S/COUNCILLORS’ MATTERS****9.1 Municipal Council Resolution on Offshore Drilling (Councillor Ernst)**

Councillor Ernst discussed the fact that tourism and fisheries are main industries in the area and could possibly stand to be harmed by offshore drilling.

**Moved by Councillor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Knickle that the Policy and Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves the following resolution on offshore drilling and forward a copy of same to Nova Scotia coastal municipalities, local MLAs and MPs:**

**A healthy marine environment is critical to industries, like fishing and tourism, that are the primary lifeblood of Nova Scotia coastal communities.**

**It is our responsibility to protect and nurture our local economies. It is also our right, and the right of our citizens to be consulted on all major developments that might impact those economies.**

**The catastrophic effect of a major oil spill at an offshore drill site is unthinkable, yet public knowledge of the risk and potential consequences of such a spill remains inadequate.**

**We hereby call for a full and independent public inquiry into the pros and cons of oil industry exploration in offshore Nova Scotia to provide our communities, who bear the lion’s share of risk of a disaster in the offshore, a full appreciation of the extent of that risk and of the steps we can take to minimize it.**

**We also call for a moratorium on all further oil and gas exploration in the offshore pending the completion of that inquiry.”**

It was discussed that several municipal units have written letters already.

**Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Moore that the Committee suspend the rules of order to allow the Committee to ask questions of Marion Moore, earlier presenter, for clarification on the proposed resolution on the floor. Carried unanimously.**

Ms. Moore confirmed that the Towns of Lunenburg and Mahone Bay wrote letters because they took action months ago. CPONS intends to contact them to see if they wish to pass a similar resolution asking for public inquiry.

It was suggested that if all municipalities come together and work collaboratively with Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) that it may provide more impact. It was noted that the matter is too late for submission for a resolution to the 2018 NSFM Annual Conference.

It was recommended that the last line of the resolution be changed to include “Nova Scotia” after the word “offshore”.

**Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Moore that the last line of the resolution be amended to say “...exploration in offshore Nova Scotia...”. Carried unanimously.**

**Motion on the floor as amended:**

**Moved by Councillor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Knickle that the Policy and Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves the following resolution on offshore drilling and forward a copy of same to Nova Scotia coastal municipalities, local MLAs and MPs:**

**A healthy marine environment is critical to industries, like fishing and tourism, that are the primary lifeblood of Nova Scotia coastal communities.**

**It is our responsibility to protect and nurture our local economies. It is also our right, and the right of our citizens to be consulted on all major developments that might impact those economies.**

**The catastrophic effect of a major oil spill at an offshore drill site is unthinkable, yet public knowledge of the risk and potential consequences of such a spill remains inadequate.**

**We hereby call for a full and independent public inquiry into the pros and cons of oil industry exploration in offshore Nova Scotia to provide our communities, who bear the lion’s share of risk of a disaster in the offshore, a full appreciation of the extent of that risk and of the steps we can take to minimize it.**

**We also call for a moratorium on all further oil and gas exploration in offshore Nova Scotia pending the completion of that inquiry.”**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

CNSOPB has invited Municipal Council representatives to an Information Session being held at the Rodd Grand Hotel in Yarmouth on September 27, 2018, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The Committee directed Mr. Malloy to send a staff person to the information session.

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES - Nil**

**7. PRESENTATIONS – Nil**

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

**8.1 Administration Department**

**8.1.1 Proposed Amendments to Policy MDL-59 Smoke Free Outdoor Spaces**

Ms. Conrad presented the report (included in the agenda) on Proposed Amendments to Policy MDL-59 Smoke Free Outdoor Spaces. The Policy was amended to include text that would restrict the use of cannabis on outdoor spaces on property owned by the District of Lunenburg.

It was brought to the attention of the Committee that this Policy is not being followed at the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre (LCLC), especially at the main entrance to the facility.

The Committee agreed that a letter be written to the General Manager of the LCLC directing them to enforce the Policy by periodically checking outside the main entrance during hockey games, etc., and by having it announced during events as well.

**Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Hustvedt that the Policy and Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves the proposed amendments to Policy MDL-59 Smoke Free Outdoor Spaces, as presented; and, hereby gives seven (7) days' notice of its intention to approve the proposed amendments to Policy MDL-59 at the September 25, 2018 Council meeting”. Carried unanimously.**

**8.1.2 Disaster Mitigation & Adaptation Fund – Town of Shelburne**

Ms. Payne discussed the letter received from the Town of Shelburne regarding the new Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund launched by the Government of Canada to help reduce the impacts of climate change and better protect Canadians against natural disasters.

Ms. Payne explained that even though the fund is designed for large-scale infrastructure projects with a minimum cost of \$20 million, multiple projects can be submitted as one in order to meet the requirements.

The Committee directed staff to contact the Town of Shelburne to let them know we are interested in discussing this further and make a staff person available who will report back to Council at a later date.

### 8.1.3 NSFM Interim Report on 2018 Resolutions

Ms. Payne explained that the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) released an Interim Report on 2018 Resolutions. The report was a result of feedback received from Councils on their top priorities along with issues raised at regional and caucus meetings. The report was made up of ten resolutions dealing with a variety of topics and Councils were requested to prioritize them.

Ms. Payne provided a PowerPoint presentation (attached to the original minutes) which covered the following ten resolutions:

1. Municipal Funding
2. Roads
3. Capped Assessment Program (CAP)
4. Municipal Modernization
5. Cannabis Legislation
6. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
7. Municipal Responsibilities
8. Policing
9. Surplus Schools
10. Sustainability and Infrastructure Funding Support

Ms. Conrad left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The Committee discussed the resolutions and offered the following additional comments:

3. Capped Assessment Program (CAP):
  - If they delete the CAP, ensure there is another program implemented to address the original concerns.
5. Cannabis Legislation
  - In the second paragraph, it was felt that it should read “net” instead of “new”
  - It is the hope of municipalities that the provinces will pass on revenue generated to municipal units as stated in the second paragraph
  - It was recommended that in the first “therefore”, “sufficient to cover their cost” should be added to the end of the sentence
  - It was unanimous that the last “therefore”, regarding agricultural properties, be dropped
9. Surplus Schools
  - It was noted that the Department of Education presently does not follow Section 93(1) of the Education Act

Ms. Payne had each Committee member rank the ten resolutions in order of importance. The results were as follows:

1. Surplus Schools
2. Municipal Funding
3. Road Funding
4. Policing Costs
5. Cannabis
6. Extended Producer Responsibility for Printed Paper and Packaging (EPR for PPP)
7. Capped Assessment Program (CAP)

8. Sustainability & Infrastructure Funding Support
9. Municipal Responsibilities
10. Municipal Modernization

A written submission to NSFAM will be made containing discussion comments on the resolutions and the order that the Committee ranked them.

Ms. Payne reported that NSFAM is working on several other items including:

- Code of Conduct
- Doctor Recruitment
- Affordable Housing
- Immigration
- Libraries

## **8.2 Recreation Department**

Tissy Bolivar, Acting Director of Recreation, was in attendance at the meeting.

### **8.2.1 Elite Athlete Travel Grant Request – Daniella Kozera**

Ms. Bolivar presented a request for an Elite Athlete Travel Grant for Daniella Kozera to compete in the Sadie Simpson Junior Highland Scholarships to be held in Banff, Alberta, November 2 to 4, 2018.

**Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the Policy and Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves an Elite Athlete Travel Grant in the amount of \$1,500 to Daniella Kozera to compete in the Sadie Simpson Junior Highland Scholarships to be held in Banff, AB from November 2 to 4, 2018.**

The dollar amount remaining in the grant category was discussed and a question was raised as to whether or not this event qualifies as an acceptable event for an Elite Athlete Travel Grant.

**Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Moore that the motion on the floor be amended to be a \$1,000 grant from the Elite Athlete Travel Grant account.**

A request was received for more information before considering the request.

**Both motions on the floor were withdrawn.**

**Moved by Councillor Ernst, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the request for an Elite Athlete Travel Grant be deferred to the September 25, 2018, Council meeting. Carried unanimously.**

#### **8.1.4 Water Program**

Mr. Malloy circulated a report, Drought Situation, 2016 – Water Coupon Program.

It was conveyed that a number of dry wells have been reported due to the lack of rain over the past several months. A program, similar to the one offered in 2016, is being recommended. Residents were provided with water coupons that could be redeemed at a number of grocery stores for a specified amount of water.

**Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Carver that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council direct staff to collaborate with the various retail and other locations to provide free water coupons, water refill stations and shower facilities to municipal residents affected by the drought. Carried unanimously.**

**9. MAYOR'S/DEPUTY MAYOR'S/COUNCILLORS' MATTERS:**

**9.2 Outside Magazine – Cape LaHave Article (Councillor Ernst)**

Councillor Ernst discussed the *Outside Magazine* – Cape LaHave article (included with the agenda).

The article makes reference to the LaHave Islands as a “must see” pristine, municipally-owned area, and encourages paddlers to visit.

Concern was raised that this area should be protected before inundated with tourists. A number of suggestions were put forward:

- Post signs indicating ownership
- Develop guidelines for usage
- Circulate information to businesses that could potentially visit the property
- Question where garbage and effluent are going?
- Post information at launch locations
- Set up a stewardship committee
- Circulate information to provincial agencies, e.g. Sport Nova Scotia, Canoe Nova Scotia, etc.

It was questioned whether this might be a consideration for the Mahone Islands Conservation Association (MICA) and their Stewardship Committee.

**Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Whynot that this item be referred to the Recreation Department for investigation and a recommendation to come back to the Policy & Strategy Committee at a later date.**

**Councillor Ernst declared a Conflict of Interest and removed himself from the table as he is a Board Member of the Mahone Islands Conservation Association (MICA).**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**10. ADDED ITEMS**

**11. IN CAMERA**

**At 12:08 p.m., it was moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Hustvedt that the Policy & Strategy Committee go *In Camera* to discuss Contract Negotiations under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA. Motion carried.**

Policy & Strategy Committee *In Camera* in session.

**At 12:21 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Carver that the Policy & Strategy Committee come out of *In Camera* and return to open session. Carried.**

**12. NEXT MEETING – October 16, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business at 12:21 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Veinot that the meeting adjourn. Carried.**