

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a Special Meeting of
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Held via Tele and Video Conference
Tuesday, July 7, 2020 – 9:18 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Councillor Michael Ernst, District 8, Chair
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2, Vice Chair
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson
Deputy Mayor Eric Hustvedt, District 1
Councillor Lee Nauss, District 3
Councillor John Veinot, District 4
Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5
Councillor Claudette Garland, District 6
Councillor Wade Carver, District 7
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9
Councillor Errol Knickle, District 10

Staff: Tom MacEwan, CAO
Elana Wentzell, Director of Financial Services
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk
Angela Veinot, Manager of Accounting
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer
Tissy Bolivar, Acting Director of Recreation Services
Rachel Hiltz, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Ernst called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/RECOGNITION: (Nil)

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt that the Finance Committee Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES & BOARDS:

4.1 2020-21 Grants

At the last Council meeting, Council made a motion to discuss any late or special grant applications at this Finance Committee Meeting. There was an application from Lunenburg County 4H Council that was received late, which can be discussed at this meeting. No other applications have been received. There is currently \$9,200 left over between the Annual Operating Grant and the Major Recreation Capital Grant accounts.

A discussion was held regarding the Lunenburg County 4H application. They requested \$5,000 and last year they received \$2,500.

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Garland that the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves the late application from Lunenburg County 4H Council for an Annual Operating Grant in the amount of \$2,500 with funding to come from the \$9,200 remaining in the Annual Operating & Recreation Capital Grant accounts. Carried unanimously.

It was noted that at the last Council meeting, additional requests for funding were suggested for the Mahone Bay Centre, Middlewood United Church and the Riverport Fire Department.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Knickle that the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council award a special grant of an additional \$5,000 to the Mahone Bay Centre with funding for same to come from the Council Contingency Fund.

A discussion was held regarding the award of an additional grant of \$5,000 to the Mahone Bay Centre. It was noted that they have already received a \$5,000 grant this year. Concern was raised that Policy MDL-43 is there to provide guidance to Council in awarding of grants and it states the maximum grant an organization can receive is \$5,000. It was commented that the awarding of an additional \$5,000 would go against the Policy.

Mr. MacEwan explained that the funds would be transferred from the Annual Operating and Recreation Capital Funds to the Council Contingency Fund which is not subject to Policy MDL-43.

It was noted that the Mahone Bay Centre is a large building and provides services to the community at large, including residents of the Municipality.

The motion on the floor was voted on and carried. Those opposed: Councillor Garland.

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Garland that the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves the division of the remaining \$1,700 in grant funding into a special grant in the amount of \$850 to the Middlewood United Church and a special grant in the amount of \$850 to the Riverport Fire Department.

Concern was raised that this would deplete the remaining grant funding if any other applications were to come in for the remainder of this fiscal year.

It was noted that the Middlewood United Church has already received a grant, so any other funding would have to come from the Council Contingency Fund.

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Nauss that the motion on the floor be amended to state that the additional funds to the Middlewood United Church and the Riverport Fire Department come from the Council Contingency

Fund. The motion on the floor was voted on and carried. Those opposed: Councillors Bell and Garland.

MOTION ON THE FLOOR AS AMENDED: the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves the division of the remaining \$1,700 in grant funding into a special grant in the amount of \$850 to the Middlewood United Church and a special grant in the amount of \$850 to the Riverport Fire Department and that the funding for same come from the Council Contingency Fund.

Concern was raised that the remaining balance of \$6,700 in the Annual Operating and Recreation Capital grant funds should be transferred to the Council Contingency Fund before any further grants are awarded.

Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Moore that the motion on the floor be tabled until after the motion is made to transfer the funds from the Annual Operating and Major Recreation Capital Grant accounts to the Council Contingency Fund. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approve the transfer of the \$6,700 remaining in the Annual Operating Grant and Major Recreation Capital Grant accounts to the Council Contingency Fund Account. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Bell that the tabled motion be brought back to the floor. Carried unanimously.

TABLED MOTION ON THE FLOOR: That the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approves the division of the remaining \$1,700 in grant funding into a special grant in the amount of \$850 to the Middlewood United Church and a special grant in the amount of \$850 to the Riverport Fire Department and that the funding for same come from the Council Contingency Fund. Carried unanimously.

5. STAFF REPORTS:

5.1 Finance Department

5.1.1 2019-20 Capital Funding and Gas Tax Investment

Ms. Wentzell reviewed a report titled "2019-20 Capital Funding and Gas Tax Investment" (circulated with Agenda).

Ms. Wentzell noted that Council policy is to use third party funds first for capital projects, then MODL funds. Last year reserve funds were used, and Council must approve the use of these reserve funds, as well as the gas tax expenditures.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Bell that the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approve the funding of 2019/20 completed capital projects and Gas Tax Investment as noted in staff's

2019-20 Capital Funding and Gas Tax Investment Report dated July 7, 2020 and as summarized on the attached 2019/20 Capital Project & Gas Tax Investment Plan. Carried unanimously.

6. IN CAMERA: (If Required)

7. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business at 10:15 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Nauss that the meeting adjourn. Carried.