

**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020
MINUTES**

PRESENT: MAYOR GEORGE R. HARDING, DEPUTY MAYOR DAWN DEMINGS-TAYLOR , COUNCILLOR CORY NICKERSON AND TOWN CLERK/TREASURER JOYCE YOUNG.

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR KENT BALISH AND COUNCILLOR DAYLE ESHELBY

The purpose of this Emergency Meeting was to address urgent issues related to the Coronavirus pandemic and also to address a planned waterline repair being completed by the Province of Nova Scotia and Council's role in the process.

1. Call to Order

The Emergency Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Harding at 1:30 p.m.

2. Silence of Electronic Devices

All electronic devices were silenced at this time.

3. *Town Office Closure*

In relation to the Coronavirus pandemic, all five Municipal units within Shelburne County have been in discussions to present a unified plan of action in an attempt to ensure staff and the public are protected against contracting this virus. Decisions and recommendations have been based on the facts provided to us by the Prime Minister, the Premier of Nova Scotia and EMO Nova Scotia.

03-17-20-01

It was duly moved and seconded that the Lockeport Town Office, as well as all Town owned facilities be closed to the public until April 6th, 2020 at which time the situation will be reassessed. Also, all Town organized events are cancelled.

Motion Passed

Due to the fact that the Clerical Administrative Assistant will not be returning to work until early April, the front office will be staffed only by the Accounting Administrative Assistant for this initial time period. In the event that that individual becomes infected with the virus or any other health concern, we will rely on the casual staff if she is available. The Town Clerk/Treasurer will continue to work during this time period, unless circumstances prevent her from coming to work. The offices, during this time,

will be completely closed to the public; however, the public can call for assistance and information. The Public Works Department will continue operations as usual. The public will be kept informed of decisions as they are made through social media, website postings, radio, etc.

4. *Council Meetings*

In an attempt to protect all Council and staff and the public, Council discussed the issue of how to proceed regarding meetings. Until we are directed otherwise by the Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Municipal Government Act does not allow for meetings to be held remotely and all Council Meetings, other than those held “In Camera”, are to be open to the public; therefore, the following motion was made:

03-17-20-02

**It was duly moved and seconded that Council cancel the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for March 23, 2020 and reschedule all Committee meetings until after April 6, 2020, being the date of reassessing the situation.
Motion Passed**

5. *Hayden Lake Water System*

The Nova Scotia Department of Transportation are in the process of developing a repair project to the waterline that leads from Brighton Road, across Calf Island Road, across the back harbour and connects at the end of Bridge Street. They will be installing a temporary line that connects a fire hydrant on Brighton Road to a fire hydrant on Bridge Street to ensure a continuation of service while a repair is completed on a section of the existing waterline that runs under the back harbour.

Currently, there is an agreement in place between the Province and the Town of Lockeport outlining the protocol that each party will follow in the event of a watermain break or service maintenance requirement. In an effort to ensure this project proceeds without any undue delays, the following motion was made:

03-17-20-03

It was duly moved and seconded that Council waive the Memorandum of Agreement with the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation at this time, in reference to the current planned repair to the Hayden Lake Water System waterline, removing the Town’s obligation in carrying out any of the work involved.

Motion Passed

6. *Brighton Road*

In reference to the temporary line that is part of the waterline repair project, the Province has indicated that this will involve making a horizontal drill under Brighton Road so they can hook the line to the fire hydrant. Also, they would like to leave a section of the temporary line in place under the road in the event additional work needs to be done in the future.

03-17-20-04

It was duly moved and seconded that Council provide their approval for the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation to do a horizontal drill under Brighton Road, which is required for the completion of the repair to the waterline. Council also agrees to allow the Department of Transportation to leave a section of the temporary line in place under the road with the understanding that should events arise that indicate anything negative happening to Town property or services, or private properties because of this line, it is at the sole responsibility of the Department of Transportation to address it.

Motion Passed

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, **It was duly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.** Time 2:00 p.m.

Mayor George Harding

Clerk/Treasurer Joyce Young

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