

**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Mayor Darian Huskilson, Deputy Mayor Alonzo Townsend, Councillor Errol L. Williams, Councillor Joann Swimm, Councillor Dayle Eshelby, Town Clerk/Treasurer, Joyce Young and Recording Secretary, June Harding-Scott

1. Call to order

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Huskilson at 7:00 P.M.

2. Approval of Agenda

04-13-15-01

It was duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Passed

3. Approval of previous minutes

- *Regular Council Meeting, Monday, March 9, 2015*

04-13-15-02

It was duly moved and seconded that the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of March 9, 2015 be approved.

Motion Passed

4. Open Mic

The new owners of the Bowling Alley (Allan and Ellen) were present at the meeting and introduced themselves to Council. They discussed future plans for their business with enthusiasm and thanked Council for welcoming them and sharing the beautiful Town of Lockeport with them. They informed Council that they have secured parking across the street from the Bowling Alley which should allay the worries of some of the surrounding businesses. They wish to work with, rather than against the already existing businesses and hope to be up and running in two or three weeks depending on licensing delays. Mayor Huskilson thanked Allan and Ellen for coming, reiterated his welcome and wished them well in their future plans.

Roy MacLeod brought the Old Royal Bank Building and its' dilapidated state to Council's attention. Mr. MacLeod is very concerned about this issue. Mayor Huskilson suggested that this issue be discussed after the Regular Council Meeting is over by calling a Meeting of the Property Assessment Team (Dangerous & Unsightly Premises).

5. Presentations – No presentations scheduled for this evening

6. Recommendations from Other Committees

- *Committee of the Whole, March 23, 2015*
 - *“10 Reasons to Visit Lockeport” brochures*

04-13-15-03

It was duly moved and seconded that Town Clerk/Treasurer, Joyce Young order 500 “10 Reasons to Visit Lockeport” brochures from Ulrich Johanns of Seeblick Printing at an amended cost of \$315.00 plus tax.

Motion Passed

- *List of invoices already paid in the amount of \$113,102.47*

04-13-15-04

It was duly moved and seconded that as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the list of invoices already paid in the amount of \$113,102.47 be approved.

Motion Passed

- *Tourism Website*

04-13-15-05

It was duly moved and seconded that as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, direction be given to the Town Clerk/Treasurer to have the Tourism Website disabled until the corrections are made and approved by Council.

Motion Passed

Councils’ concerns regarding the Tourism Website have already been addressed.

7. Finance

- *Amendment to Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance Resolution (Attached as Schedule “A”) Amended Amount is \$160,000 from \$170,000*

04-13-15-06

It was duly moved and seconded that

WHEREAS Section 91 of the *Municipal Government Act* provides that a Municipality is authorized to borrow money, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

AND WHEREAS the resolution of Council to borrow for \$160,000 was approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs on TBA;

AND WHEREAS clause 91 (1)(b) of the *Municipal Government Act* authorizes the Council to determine the amount and term of, and the rate of interest, on each debenture, when the interest on a debenture is to be paid, and where the principal and interest on a debenture are to be paid;

AND WHEREAS clause 91 (2) of the *Municipal Government Act* states, that in accordance with the *Municipal Finance Corporation Act*, the Mayor or Warden and Clerk or the person designated by Council, by policy, shall sell and deliver the debentures on behalf of the Municipality at the price, in the sums and in the manner deemed proper;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT under the authority of Section 91 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the

Town of Lockeport, Nova Scotia

Borrow by the issue and sale of debentures a sum or sums not exceeding \$160,000, for a period not to exceed 10 years, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the

Town of Lockeport, Nova Scotia

In the amount that the Mayor and Clerk/Treasurer or the person designated by the Council deems proper, provided the average interest rate of the debenture does not exceed the rate of 5.5%;

THAT the debenture be arranged with the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation with interest to be paid semi-annually and principal payments made annually;

THAT this resolution remains in force for a period not exceeding twelve months from the passing of this resolution.

Motion Passed

- *Amendment to Town of Lockeport Temporary Borrowing Resolution (Attached as Schedule "B") Amended Amount is \$160,000 from \$170,000*

04-13-15-07

It was duly moved and seconded that

WHEREAS Section 66 of the *Municipal Government Act* provides that the Town of Lockeport, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, may borrow to expend funds for a capital purpose authorized by statute;

AND WHEREAS clause 65 of the *Municipal Government Act* authorizes the Town of Lockeport to expend funds for the capital purpose of;

- Lighting any part of the Municipality, namely replacement of deteriorated streetlights;
- Acquisition of equipment, materials, vehicles, machinery, apparatus, implements and plant for a municipal purpose, namely public works truck;

AND WHEREAS the specific amounts and descriptions of the projects are contained in Schedule "A" (attached);

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT under the authority of section 66 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Town borrow a sum or sums not exceeding One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000) for the purpose set out above, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Town to such an amount as the Council deems necessary;

THAT the issue of debentures be postponed pursuant to Section 92 of the *Municipal Government Act* and that the Town borrow from time to time a sum or sums not exceeding One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000) in total from any chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia;

THAT the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Twelve (12) Months from the date of approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs of this resolution;

THAT the interest payable on the borrowing be paid at a rate to be agreed upon; and

THAT the amount borrowed be repaid from the proceeds of the debentures when sold.

Motion Passed

8. Other Business

- *Nova Scotia Health Authority*

This item is for information purposes.

- *Pet Waste Disposal Units*

Deputy Mayor Townsend has some concerns as to whether purchasing Pet Waste Disposal Units would actually make those that do not currently act responsibly by picking up after their dogs, be more conscious and get them to pick up and deposit the waste in the Units.

Frances had been in contact with a Company pertaining to the Town of Lockeport participating in a pilot project with similar units.

Council asked Joyce to talk to Frances about this and then this item will be passed on to the Economic Development/Planning Advisory Committee.

- *UNSM Spring Workshop 2015*

Because Council budgets for each Councillor to attend just one Conference per year and Councillor Eshelby wishes to attend both UNSM Conferences, Councillor Eshelby stated that she would pay her own registration to attend the UNSM Spring Workshop and asked Mayor Huskilson if he had any objections. Mayor Huskilson had no objections.

Councillor Swim and Town Clerk/Treasurer, Joyce Young will also be attending the Workshop.

- *Request from the Lockeport & Area Mini Relay for Life Committee*

04-13-15-08

It was duly moved and seconded that the Town of Lockeport agree to allow the Lockeport & Area Mini Relay for Life Committee use of the requested venue free of charge for their June 5th, 2015 Relay. The venue includes the use of SeaCaps Park, including the Lighthouse Stage (with use of the sound system and washrooms).

Motion Passed

The request from the Lockeport & Area Mini Relay for Life Committee also included a request for use of the Fire Hall for their June 5th, 2015 Relay. Council asked Joyce to let the Committee know that this part of the request will have to be directed to the Lockeport Fire Department.

- *Invitation from NS Department of Internal Affairs to attend an Open House re: Source water Protection*

It was suggested that as many of Council who can, should make an effort to attend this meeting on April 28, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

9. Council Reports

- *Deputy Mayor Townsend*
 - *Meeting with Provincial Health Minister, The Honourable Leo A. Glavine (Attached as Schedule "C")*

Deputy Mayor Townsend's report was discussed.

- *Councillor Joann Swimm*
 - *RCMP response to inquiry (Attached as Schedule "D")*

Councillor Swimm's report was discussed.

At this time Mayor Huskilson gave a report on the CAO/CEO Forum that he and the Town Clerk/Treasurer had recently attended. Mayor Huskilson suggested that we should look into the possibility of the development of a Policy for Council Responsibilities. Mayor Huskilson feels that some of Council, including himself have become slack in doing written reports. Mayor Huskilson also feels that in years to come there should be a paper trail so the public can see what Council has been doing.

Mayor Huskilson also stated that Committee of the Whole should be restructured. At present the only reports come from Public Works and Recreation. He feels that the Fire Department and Medical First Responders should also be attending and giving reports.

Mayor Huskilson also feels that the Economic Development/Planning Advisory Committee should consist of the Business Community only.

Mayor Huskilson would like Council to meet to discuss these issues and in the meantime requested Council to put their thoughts on paper to bring to this meeting.

04-13-15-09

It was duly moved and seconded that the correspondence be accepted.

Motion Passed

10. Correspondence

- *Letter to the Honourable Joanne Bernard, Minister of Community Services from George El-Jakl, Chairman of the Barrington and Area Police Advisory Board*

Information purposes only.

- *Letter to the Town of Lockeport from Brenda Cleaver, Secretary for the Barrington/CSI Dialysis Support Group*

Deputy Mayor Townsend and Councillor Eshelby will attend a meeting of the Barrington/CSI Dialysis Support Group and report back to Council.

- *Letter to The Town of Lockeport Mayor & Council from Debra J. Williams, Tax Payer, Town of Lockeport*

Mayor Huskilson read the letter aloud at the meeting as requested by Debra J. Williams, Tax Payer, Town of Lockeport.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the above letter. Some of the topics of discussion are listed below:

- Other Municipal Units pay separate invoices for taxes, area rates, sewer and garbage collection, while the Town of Lockeport has everything included in the tax levy.
- Some think the article under discussion is not quite accurate.
- Amalgamation of the Eastern half of Shelburne County.
- Important to be part of the process to discuss benefits to the tax payers.
- Council should concentrate on the positives.
- Lockeport is the strongest of the three units under discussion based on the FCI.

Mayor Huskilson spoke of the Financial Condition Index (FCI) – **(The Financial Condition Index helps municipal councils and Nova Scotians make sense of municipal financial information by providing a variety of sources of information in a single document. The index is organized into three financial dimensions that focus on where municipalities get their revenue, how they spend their money, and how they manage their finances.**

The index was developed jointly by the Province of Nova Scotia, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, and the Association of Municipal Administrators. Thresholds are based on jurisdictional scans, literature reviews, and municipal consultations.)

Mayor Huskilson suggested that Council let the FCIs do their job and let's just do what is best for the Town. We are already getting a report card so let's work on the priorities. Mayor Huskilson and Joyce will work together on a response to Debra's letter and it will come before Council for perusal before being mailed.

11. Date of next meeting

- *Monday, May 11, 2015*

12. "In Camera"

13. Adjournment

04-13-15-10

**It was duly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Time 8:40 p.m.
Motion Passed**

**Darian Huskilson,
Mayor**

**Joyce Young,
Town Clerk/Treasurer**