

**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 26, 2020
MINUTES**

Present: Mayor George R. Harding, Mayor Elect – Cory Nickerson, Councillor Elect – Dawn DeMings-Taylor, Councillor Elect – Kent Balish, Councillor Elect – Dayle Eshelby, Councillor Elect – Mary Meagher, Community Co-Ordinator – Frances Scott, Town Clerk/Treasurer – Joyce Young, and Recording Secretary – June Harding

1. Call to order

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Harding at 1:00 p.m.

2. Silence Electronic Devices

All electronic devices were silenced at this time.

3. Declaration of Elected Candidates

Mayor George R. Harding declared Cory Nickerson, Kent Balish, Mary Meagher, Dawn DeMings-Taylor and Dayle Eshelby officially elected as Council for the Town of Lockeport for a term of four years.

4. Oath of Allegiance and of Office - Mayor

Municipal Elections were held on October 17, 2020 with all Council acclaimed.

Mayor Elect Cory Nickerson came forward for swearing his Oath of Allegiance and of Office delivered by Mayor George R. Harding.

Oath of Allegiance and of Office – Four Councillors

Councillor Elect Dayle Eshelby came forward for swearing her Oath of Allegiance and of Office delivered by Town Clerk/Treasurer – Joyce Young.

Councillor Elect Dawn DeMings-Taylor came forward for swearing her Oath of Allegiance and of Office delivered by Town Clerk/Treasurer – Joyce Young.

Councillor Elect Kent Balish came forward for swearing his Oath of Allegiance and of Office delivered by Town Clerk/Treasurer – Joyce Young.

Councillor Elect Mary Meagher came forward for swearing her Oath of Allegiance and of Office delivered by Town Clerk/Treasurer – Joyce Young.

Council contact forms were completed at this time.

5. Statement of Commitment to Councillors' Code of Conduct as per Town of Lockeport Policy # L-006

Mayor Nickerson, Councillor Eshelby, Councillor DeMings-Taylor, Councillor Kent Balish and Councillor Mary Meagher all declared their commitment to the Council Code of Conduct.

6. Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Councillor Kent Balish nominated Councillor DeMings-Taylor for Deputy Mayor and she accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations the following motion was made:

10-26-20-01

It was duly moved and seconded that Dawn DeMings-Taylor be named Deputy Mayor for a term of one year.

Motion Passed

7. Approval of Agenda

10-26-20-02

It was duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved with the following addition under Finance: Remembrance Day newspaper Ad.

Motion Passed

8. Approval of minutes

- *Regular Council Minutes, October 13, 2020*

10-26-20-03

It was duly moved and seconded that the Regular Council Minutes from October 13, 2020 be approved.

Motion Passed

9. Department Reports

- *Fire Department*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer reported that she had been asked earlier in the day to check on the status of Fire Chief, Wayne Chetwynd's request for heat pumps to be installed in the Fire hall.

This is a budget item that will be discussed during the next budget deliberations. Before the discussion takes place an assessment and quote for installing heat pumps in the Fire Hall will be requested to determine the cost of this project.

- *Public Works Report*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer reported that Bell Aliant is scheduled to connect Fibre Op at the treatment plant this afternoon. Bell Aliant is beginning the process of burying the Fibre Op cable out along the causeway today.

- *Community Co-Ordinator Report*

The Community Co-Ordinator invited questions regarding her report. She reported that the cleanup that took place at Rood's Head Park on October 24, 2020 went well with about a dozen participants.

Councillor Eshelby asked if there could be another cleanup planned for before the weather gets too bad. The Community Co-Ordinator encouraged anyone who has free time and wants to clean up at Rood's Head at any time, to please do so but she does not feel that another organized cleanup can be scheduled at this time.

The Community Co-Ordinator is not certain at this time what is planned by the Legion members for Remembrance Day. Mayor Nickerson will investigate this matter further. It was agreed that the Town of Lockport will purchase a wreath as always and it can be laid at a later date if necessary.

The Town Clerk/Treasurer reported that Bob Baker provided the equipment that was required to replace the rope on the existing flag pole located at the cenotaph.

- *Community Works Project Report*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer reviewed the Community Works Project Report.

It was noted that a member of this Council will be assigned to the Joint Accessibility Committee at the November 9, 2020 Council Meeting when the rest of the Committee list is reviewed.

It was decided that the newly built benches and wooden planters will be stored away in the Fire Hall before Halloween night.

- *Administration Report*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer reviewed her report. The following motions are required:

o *Transfers Required*

10-26-20-04

It was duly moved and seconded that \$200,444.00 be transferred from the General Operating Account to the Operating Reserve Account.

Motion Passed

10-26-20-05

It was duly moved and seconded that \$30,011.00 be transferred from the General Operating Account to the Capital Reserve Account.

Motion Passed

10-26-20-06

It was duly moved and seconded that \$4334.00 be transferred from the Operating Reserve Account to the Capital Reserve Account.

Motion Passed

o *Resolution for Debenture for Wastewater System & Trail Upgrades*

10-26-20-07

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 (hereinafter “the Minister”);

AND WHEREAS the resolution of Council to borrow for Wastewater System & Trail Upgrades was approved by the Minister;

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 the 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 borrow by the issue and sale of debentures a sum or sums not exceeding \$71,396.00, for a period not to exceed ten years, subject to the approval of the Minister;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Town of Lockeport in the amount that the Mayor or Warden and Clerk 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

- *Waste Diversion Officer Report*

Council is pleased to be receiving regular reports from the Waste Diversion Officer.

10. Finance

- *Resolution re: Bankers and Signing Officers*

10-26-20-08

It was duly moved and seconded that Mayor Nickerson replace former Mayor Harding as Signing Officer for the Town of Lockeport along with Councillor Balish, Town Clerk/Treasurer-Joyce Young and Accounting Administrative Assistant-Louise DeMings.

Motion Passed

- *List of invoices already paid in the amount of \$59,422.29*

Joyce explained to Council that most invoices that are paid are for items already budgeted for.

The list of invoices was reviewed with no questions arising.

- *Remembrance Day Ad*

At this time the Town Clerk/Treasurer reported that she has received an email from the Southwest Wire asking if the Town of Lockeport is interested in placing an ad in the paper for Remembrance Day. After some discussion the following motion was made:

10-26-20-09

It was duly moved and seconded that a mail out be sent to residents and a picture sandwich board done in honour of Remembrance Day rather than placing an expensive newspaper Ad.

Motion Passed

11. Other Business

- *Financial Management for Elected Officials Workshop Series*

It was decided that Council will pass on this Virtual Training.

The Town Clerk/Treasurer will forward dates and an agenda on the new Council Orientation to everyone.

- *Shared Services Orientation*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer will respond to Erin at the Municipality of the District of Shelburne, letting her know that all of this Council is interested in attending a Joint Council Orientation Session for our shared services components.

12. Information Only

- *Public Notice Town of Lockeport*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer has prepared a notice that she wanted to read to Council prior to posting online. It reads as follows:

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF LOCKEPORT

Effective immediately, future Regular Council Meetings will resume in Council Chambers.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the limited space we have in Council Chambers; the public is required to **pre-register** with the Town Office by **4:00 p.m. on the Friday** prior to the scheduled meeting.

In the event numbers exceed the space we have in Council Chambers, the meeting will be held in an alternate location.

To register, please call (902) 656-2216

Council agreed that we should try this and see how it works out.

14. Date of next meeting

- *Monday, November 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.*

15. “In Camera”

10-26-20-10

It was duly moved and seconded that Council go “In Camera” to discuss the following items:

- *Low Income Tax Exemption applications*
- *Labour Relations*

Motion Passed

Council returned to regular session and the following motion was made:

10-26-20-11

It was duly moved and seconded that the Low Income Tax Exemption applications that had the complete information attached and that meet all the criteria for a tax exemption, be approved.

Motion Passed

16. Adjournment

10-26-20-12

There being no further business to discuss, it was duly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Time 2:25 p.m.

Motion Passed

**Cory Nickerson,
Mayor**

**Joyce Young,
Town Clerk/Treasurer**