

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF CRAPAUD
Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Crapaud Community Hall
Tuesday, October 17, 2023
7:00 pm

Present: Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy; Councillors Della Ferguson, Savannah Dugay, Dean MacDonald and Tom Patterson via telephone; Interim CAO Susan Williams Bulman; Guest Speaker Michelle Burge, Partner at MRSB

Regrets: Mayor Joanne Harvey

Residents: Stan Baker, Steven Carey, Doug Ferguson, Ivan Lowther, Janet Lowther

Guests: Lisa Gallant, Crapaud Fire Chief Raymond MacDonald, Sharlene MacEachern, Connie MacKinnon, Evelyn Rogerson, Randy Shaw, District 17 MLA Jamie Fox

1. **Call to Order** – Deputy Mayor Armsworthy called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm noting that the Mayor was away on vacation.
2. **Approval of Agenda for Tuesday, October 17, 2023** – Moved by Councillor Della Ferguson and seconded by Councillor Tom Patterson to approve the agenda for Tuesday, October 17, 2023. Unanimously Carried.
3. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest** – None declared.
4. **The Rural Municipality of Crapaud Consolidated Financial Statements for the period ended March 31, 2023 were presented by Michelle Burge.** Michelle thanked the municipality for the opportunity to be the auditors for the year ended March 31, 2023. The consolidated statements include General Government, the Fire Department and the Water and Sewer Utilities.
 - The floor was then opened up to the public to ask questions of Michelle. Randy Shaw asked how amortization was calculated. Michelle referred to page of 9 of the financials where standard amortization rates were noted.
 - Deputy Mayor Armsworthy questioned why amortization was not budgeted. Michelle responded that it is not a requirement to budget amortization as it is a non-cash item in the budget.
 - Jamie Fox questioned how there could be bad debt in the Sewer account. Michelle said unfortunately, CAOs at the time gave incorrect balancing owing information to law firms when properties were being sold.

It was moved by Della Ferguson and seconded by Dean MacDonald to accept the consolidated financial statements for the period ended March 31, 2023 as presented by Michelle Burge of MRSB. Motion unanimously carried.

5. **Approval of Minutes from the September 19, 2023 Regular Council Meeting** – It was moved by Councillor Savannah Dugay and seconded by Councillor Dean MacDonald to approve the September 19, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

6. **Approval of Minutes from the September 27, 2023 Special Council Meeting** – It was moved by Councillor Della Ferguson and seconded by Councillor Tom Patterson to approve the September 27, 2023 Special Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- Councillor Della Ferguson reported that the municipality signed a 5-year lease with the province for the property across from the Crapaud General Store. We are waiting for Maritime Electric to quote a price on installing electricity at the property.
- Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy noted that she initially misread information regarding the appointment of the Interim CAO therefore a special meeting was needed to appoint the Interim CAO.

8. Deputy Mayor's Report

- Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy reported that the municipality received \$19,500 in March from the New Horizons for Seniors funding program. Funding included \$5,500 for senior activities, \$9,000 for projectors and tables and \$5,000 for an outdoor gazebo
- She also reported that funding had been approved from the Community Revitalization Program for \$250,000 for Pam's Playground at Englewood School, a pergola, heat pumps, a dishwasher, new ramp, and fire department equipment.
- Funding has also been approved from the PEI Seniors Secretariat in the amount of \$1,500 for seniors' activities – games, movies, etc.

9. New Business

It was moved by Councillor Della Ferguson and seconded by Savannah Dugay to ask for a donation from the Bank of Nova Scotia in the amount of \$175,000. We recognize the many years of service by the Bank of Nova Scotia to the South Shore area and it is greatly appreciated. Motion unanimously carried.

10. Councillor Reports

- Councillor Dean MacDonald brought forward issues of transportation to medical appointments and food insecurity in the South Shore area. If the area was to become involved with Meals on Wheels, volunteers would be needed to deliver meals. South Shore Health & Wellness Inc. noted their organization would be willing to work with Council on the transportation issue.

It was moved by Councillor Della Ferguson and seconded by Tom Patterson to move forward and look into transportation and food insecurity. Motion unanimously carried.

11. Public Section

- Connie MacKinnon suggested a public meeting regarding transportation and food insecurity issues to see who is interested in volunteering to help alleviate these issues in South Shore area.
- Councillor Margaret Armsworthy and resident Steven Carey spoke of their positive experiences with the Meals on Wheels program in other areas.
- Lisa Gallant, representing South Shore Health & Wellness Inc., noted that copies of the SSHWI Update were available at the Hall.
- Resident Doug Ferguson asked about the donation request from the Bank of Nova Scotia. Jamie Fox responded that the donation is not a cash donation but a donation of the Scotiabank building on the TCH to the municipality. Jamie Fox said the donation would include some furniture and thought it would be great for the municipality to have a proper space for meetings and administrative offices. He said there was a possibility that the bank machine could stay and that Scotiabank representatives might still meet clients there if needed.

Next Council Meeting – November 21, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment – Moved by Councillor Dean MacDonald to adjourn meeting at 8:20 pm.