



**REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF YARMOUTH
Wednesday, March 26, 2025**

A Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth was held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Warden John Cunningham with the following in attendance: Deputy Warden Trevor Cunningham, Councillor Jim Baxter, Councillor Daniel Muise, Councillor Loren Cushing, Councillor Phil Mooney, Councillor Trevor Perry, Victoria Brooks CAO, and Jenny Porter, Deputy Municipal Clerk.

Caroline Robertson, Municipal Planner, was in attendance for a portion of the meeting.

2. Land Acknowledgement - I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the traditional lands of the Wasoqopa'q First Nation, part of Mi'kma'ki (meeg-ma-gee), the ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

3. Singing of O Canada

4. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Councillor Loren Cushing to approve the agenda as circulated.

Motion carried.

5. Declarations of any conflicts of interest

6. Approval of Minutes

6.1 February 24, 2025, Special Council Meeting

6.2 March 5, 2025, Regular Council Meeting

Where there were no errors or omissions, the Chair declared the meeting minutes adopted.

7. Old Business

7.1 Council Appointments to Boards & Committees

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Jim Baxter to adopt the Committee and Board appointments as presented.

Motion carried.

8. New Business

8.1 Recommendations from COTW

8.1.1 Draft 2025-2029 Strategic Plan

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Daniel Muise to approve the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan, as presented.

Motion carried.

8.1.2 Draft 2025-2028 Accessibility Plan

It was moved by Councillor Jim Baxter, seconded by Councillor Daniel Muise to approve the 2025-2028 Accessibility Plan, as presented.

Motion carried.

8.1.3 Draft 2025 Equity & Anti-Racism Plan

It was moved by Councillor Jim Baxter, seconded by Councillor Phil Mooney to approve the 2025-2028 Equity & Anti-Racism Plan, with the amendment to update the mission, vision, and values aligning with Council's newly adopted Strategic Plan.

Motion carried.

8.1.4 Draft 2025-2026 Capital Investment Plan

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Councillor Phil Mooney to approve the 2025-2026 Capital Investment Plan, as presented.

Motion carried.

8.1.5 Draft Access to Information Policy A-033-21

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Jim Baxter to approve the amendments to Access to Information Policy A-033-21, as presented.

Part 6 Third-party Information

6.1 The Municipality shall not disclose, share, or release any information related to a Third-party unless authorized or required by Part XX of the Municipal Government Act or otherwise authorized or required by law.

Motion carried.

8.1.6 Draft Audit Committee Policy A-0210-18

It was moved by Councillor Jim Baxter, seconded by Councillor Loren Cushing to approve the amendments to Audit Committee Policy A-0210-18 as presented.

3.1 The audit committee shall consist of 2 Council members (plus one alternate) and 4 up to 3 citizen appointments (refer to policy C-026-05 Citizen Appointment to Committees, Commissions and Boards and Audit Committee Terms of Reference). The citizen appointment should be an individual with financial experience or background. The Chair shall be a member of Council.

4.3.1 The Committee shall meet at least twice in a fiscal year;

Motion carried.

8.1.7 Repeal of Tax Sale Policy T-082-01

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Jim Baxter to repeal Tax Sale Policy T-082-01.

Motion carried.

8.1.8 Request for Decision – Barb’s Bench

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Councillor Phil Mooney that the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth procure and install 2 Barb’s Benches (total cost \$4,000 plus non-refundable HST); one at Cape Forchu in a highly visible area not vulnerable to sea level rise & storm surge AND one in a highly visible location near the Administration Building; that the project be categorized as a “Marquee Council Project” in the Place Making Grants program per Section 5.7 of the Grants Policy G-068-09 in the 2025-26 fiscal year, and to also fund the

event taking place on June 4, 2025, the amount of \$750.00.

Motion carried.

8.2 Recommendations from PAC

Caroline Robertson, Municipal Planner, joined the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

8.2.1 RV Site Plan Approval – LUB Amendment

8.2.1.1 Report to PAC

It was moved by Councillor Loren Cushing, seconded by Councillor Phil Mooney to approve First Reading of the RV Site Plan Approval Land Use By-Law Amendment and hold a Public Hearing.

Motion carried.

8.2.2 Wyman Road Rezoning

8.2.2.1 Report to PAC

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Councillor Loren Cushing to approve First Reading of the Wyman Road Rezoning Land Use By-Law Amendment and hold a Public Hearing.

Motion carried.

8.2.3 Coastal Protection Issue Paper

8.2.3.1 Report to PAC

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Daniel Muise that the Municipality retain the existing policies in the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law regarding sensitive environments, floodplains, and watercourses while awaiting updated data from the Province.

Motion carried.

Caroline Robertson left the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

8.3 Grants Policy G-068-09

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Jim Baxter to approve the amendments to Grant Policy G-068-09, as presented.

5.3 Applications from religious organizations and political organizations will not be entertained unless it is with respect to a Heritage Building, **or** recreational facility, **or a broad based community initiative**;

Motion carried.

8.4 May 2025 Meeting Dates

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Councillor Loren Cushing to change the May Regular Council meeting date to Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion carried.

8.5 Emergency Preparedness Project

It was moved by Councillor Jim Baxter, seconded by Councillor Phil Mooney that,

WHEREAS the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth (MODY) has the following interests:

- As a member of Yarmouth County Regional Emergency Management Organization, to improve Emergency Planning and Preparedness;*
- To create a world-class, dynamic Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment using cutting-edge technology;*
- To create a prioritized, risk-based climate adaptation plan that reflects the unique characteristics of our municipality;*
- To ensure that the diversity of our people, our economy, our culture, and our environment are protected through risk-informed planning, operations, and emergency management;*

AND;

WHEREAS the MODY intends to complete the project without capital nor ongoing costs;

AND;

WHEREAS the project shall be conducted in a manner that enables discretionary information and data sharing with other municipalities so as to explore common experiences and adaptation opportunities that build tomorrow's resilience, today;

AND;

WHEREAS the MODY seeks to undertake "A Climate Risk Assessment and Prioritized Adaptation Plan for The Municipality of the District of Yarmouth" in coordination with thirteen other municipalities across Nova Scotia and Newfoundland & Labrador; all of whom are partnering with McAllister & Craig Disaster Management for highly technical project elements and technical expertise;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth directs staff to apply for a funding opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation initiative for A Climate Risk

Assessment and Prioritized Adaptation Plan for the Municipality of Yarmouth.

Motion carried.

9. Correspondence

9.1 For Action

9.2 For Information

9.2.1 Update on Municipal Disaster Financial Assistance Program

9.2.2 Letters to Mayors and Wardens re Code of Conduct

9.2.3 Yarmouth County Trail Development Association Accountability Report

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Loren Cushing to receive the correspondence for information and place on file.

Motion carried.

10. Reports

10.1 CAO's Report

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Councillor Loren Cushing to accept the CAO's report as presented.

Motion carried.

10.2 Warden's Report

The Warden provided a verbal report.

10.3 Dangerous & Unsightly Report – FYI

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Jim Baxter to receive the Dangerous & Unsightly Report as presented.

Motion carried.

10.4 Legal Entities

10.4.1 Mariners Centre Expansion Board – Councillor Muise provided a verbal update.

10.4.2 Mariners Centre Management Authority

- 10.4.3 **Regional Solid Waste Authority**
- 10.4.4 **Western Counties Regional Library** – Councillor Mooney provided a verbal report.
- 10.4.5 **Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission**
- 10.4.6 **Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association**
- 10.4.7 **Yarmouth International Airport Corporation**
- 10.4.8 **Western Regional Enterprise Network Liason and Oversight Committee**

Deputy Warden Trevor Cunningham arrived at 7:04 p.m.

10.5 Advisory

- 10.5.1 **Audit Committee** – Councillor Baxter provided a verbal update.
- 10.5.2 **Accessibility Advisory Committee** - Councillor Baxter provided a verbal update.
- 10.5.3 **CAO Committee**
- 10.5.4 **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee** - Councillor Baxter provided a verbal update.
- 10.5.5 **Doctor Recruitment and Retention Committee**
- 10.5.6 **REMO Executive Committee**
- 10.5.7 **Joint Green Energy Committee**
- 10.5.8 **Joint Police Advisory Committee** – Councillor Muise provided a verbal update.
- 10.5.9 **Planning Advisory Committee** – Deputy Warden Cunningham provided a verbal update.
- 10.5.10 **Marketing Promotions Levy Advisory Committee** – Warden Cunningham provided a verbal report.
- 10.5.11 **Yarmouth Recreation Committee** – Deputy Warden Cunningham provided a verbal update.

10.6 Ad-Hoc

- 10.6.1 **Fence Arbitration Committee**

11. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Deputy Warden Trevor Cunningham to hold a 5-minute recess.

Motion carried.

The Chair called the meeting back to order at 7:25 p.m.

12. In-Camera

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Councillor Loren Cushing to move in-camera at 7:26 p.m.

Motion carried.

12.1 Parkland Dedication – MGA 22:2 (a)

12.2 Personnel – MGA 22:2 (c)

12.3 Personnel – MGA 22:2 (c)

Consensus was reached by Council to move out of in-camera at 8:37 p.m.

The Chair called the meeting back to order at 8:37 p.m.

13. In-Camera Recommendations

Parkland Dedication

It was moved by Councillor Daniel Muise, seconded by Warden John Cunningham that the Municipality accept the sum of \$1200.00, equivalent to 5% of the market value of Lot JW-5 as Parkland Dedication, for File 10005.

Motion carried.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Deputy Warden Trevor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Phil Mooney to appoint the following as Citizen Representatives to committees, effective immediately:

Rob Stevenson to the Planning Advisory Committee for a two-year term;

Anne Jones to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for a two-year term;

John Aldrich to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for a two-year term;

John Aldrich to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee for a four-year term;

Bian Wu to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee for a four-year term; and

Brandy Jarvis-Nickerson to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee for a four-year term.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Councillor Phil Mooney, seconded by Councillor Trevor Perry to send a letter of thanks to Monette Comeau for her service to the Accessibility Advisory Committee, and advise that Council will be sending a letter to Minister Druhan requesting the Accessibility Act be reviewed and consider amending to allow for broader membership to Accessibility Advisory Committees.

Motion carried.

14. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Warden John Cunningham

Victoria Brooks, CAO

Jenny Porter, Deputy Municipal Clerk