



**TOWN OF LOCKPORT
COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2024.
MINUTES**

Present: Mayor Cory Nickerson, Deputy Mayor Dawn DeMings-Taylor, Councillor Dayle Eshelby, Councillor Kent Balish, Councillor Mary Meagher and Recording Secretary Jill Cassibo.

Regrets: Town Clerk/Treasurer June Harding

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Nickerson

2. Silence Electronic Devices

All electronic devices were silenced at that time.

3. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions

02-12-24-01

It was duly moved and seconded that Council approves the agenda for the February 12, 2024, Meeting as presented. Motion Passed

4. Approval of Minutes from the January 22, 2024, Regular Council Meeting

02-12-24-02

It was duly moved and seconded that Council approve the January 22, 2024, Meeting Minutes as circulated. Motion Passed

5. Business arising from previous Minutes.

There were several questions from ratepayer/Suzanne Crosby at the last Meeting:

1. Consolidation Discussions - The preliminary discussion sessions have not been scheduled yet and will not be open to the Public but there will be Public Consultation throughout the process.

2. Recording names of Motion movers and seconders – This process was changed several years ago. Motions are either passed or not. If any member of Council is not in favour of a Motion and wishes it recorded, they will ask that it be reflected in the Minutes.
3. Grant Applications for Summer Staff – The report put forward in the previous Meeting was incorrect. There have been two Grant applications submitted to Canada Summer Jobs for summer staffing, June 17 to August 23, 2024 (10 weeks). They will both be Festivals/Recreation, if they are approved.
4. Council intends to hire a person to open the Little School Museum for the summer of 2024, paid for entirely by the Town of Lockeport.
5. The Boardwalk has been identified as a Capital Project. It is a high priority and will hopefully coincide with the dune restoration.
6. The Debenture that is listed as a Dunes Restoration Project is unallocated funding from the Fall 2023 Debenture. It is our intention to utilize this funding to pay for/leverage the dune restoration. We also have correspondence out to the Ministers of Public Works, Environment, Natural Resources, Municipal Affairs, and Transportation, Nolan Young, MLA, and Rick Perkins, MP, asking for help with this priority situation.
7. The exact amount received from the Canada Community Building Fund (AKA Gas Tax) for 2023/2024 so far is \$20,816.50. There should be another payment of the same amount in March, 2024 for the same fiscal year.
8. There is no reason why the financial statements cannot be posted annually after they have been approved.
9. Additional tax revenues for 2024/2025 will be approximately \$107,000.00. This figure does not reflect any assessment appeals that may be approved. Also, important to note is, with increased revenue comes rising costs to the Town for services, supplies, wages etc.
Council recognizes that there are some major issues that need to be addressed and are working diligently to do so.

6. Community Forum (Open Mic)

- 20 Minutes Maximum
- Each resident is allowed a maximum of five minutes.
- The resident is to speak directly to the Council.
- There will be no interaction by Council at this time.
- If questions are posed by residents the question will be recorded to be researched.

7. Presentations

There were no presentations scheduled for this evening.

8. Finance

- List of Invoices already paid in the amount of \$85,035.65

There was one question that was answered in regards to the invoices paid.

- Motion to transfer \$24,747.50 (Gas Tax Received), from the Operating Reserve Account to the General Operating Account to cover the additional cost of Shoreline Protection of the Sewer Plant Road.

02-12-24-03

It was duly moved and seconded that Council approves the transfer of \$24,747.50 from the Operating Reserve Account to the General Operating Account to cover the additional cost of the Shoreline Protection of the Sewer Plant Road. Motion Passed.

The total cost of the Chetwynd's Beach/Sewer Plant Road Project was \$46,747.50.

- Request to buy Advertisement for Burger Bonanza

02-12-24-04

It was duly moved and seconded that Council pass on the opportunity to pay for advertising Burger Bonanza. Motion Passed

9. Other Business

- Crescent Beach Centre Rental Policy

02-12-24-04

It was duly moved and seconded that Council adopt the Crescent Beach Centre Rental Policy with the new rates, as presented. Motion Passed

- Complaints Handling Policy

02-12-24-05

It was duly moved that Council adopt the Town of Lockeport Complaint Handling Policy as presented. Motion Passed

- Housing needs Assessment Presentation

02-12-24-06

It was duly moved and seconded that Council direct the Town Clerk/Treasurer to contact Tunde Awoyliga, Director for Economics & Statistics to express Councils' interest in having a Housing Needs Assessment presentation done. Motion Passed

10. Council Reports

- Mayor Cory Nickerson
- Deputy Mayor Dawn DeMings-Taylor
 - o December list of meeting

From the RCMP meeting Deputy Mayor DeMings-Taylor suggested that an ad be posted on Facebook for a representative of the community to join the Advisory Board.

- Councillor Dayle Eshelby
- Councillor Kent Balish
- Councillor Mary Meagher
 - o Shelburne County Mental Health & Wellness Association

11. Correspondence

- Letter of Support for the Trail Connection Project in Shelburne County from the Shelburne & Area Chamber of Commerce

02-12-24-07

It was duly moved and seconded that Council direct the Town Clerk/Treasurer to write a letter of support for the Trail Connection Project. Motion Passed

- Statement from the President of NSFAM regarding the recent snow storm

12. Information Only

13. Date of next meeting

- Monday February 26, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

14. "In Camera"

15. Adjournment

02-12-24-08

There being no further business, it was duly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Time 6:26 p.m. Motion Passed

Mayor, Cory Nickerson

Town Clerk/Treasurer, June Harding