

**Regular Town Council
March 18, 2024
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor L. Boucher
Deputy Mayor W. Cormier
Councillor S. Cameron
Councillor M. Farrell
Councillor A. Murray
Councillor D. Roberts

Media
Members of the Galley

Absent with Regret

Councillor D. MacInnis

Call to Order

Mayor L. Boucher called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Agenda

“it was Moved and Seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.” Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Regular and In Camera meeting Minutes of February 26, 2024, Planning Appeal Hearing of February 29, 2024, and emergency In Camera meeting of March 8, 2024.” Motion carried.

Proclamations/Presentations/Flag Raising

- Antigonish Highland Society; Request to raise the Gaelic flag May 1-31st for Gaelic Awareness Month

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the request to raise the Gaelic flag May 1-31st at Chisholm Park as requested.” Motion carried.

- Positive Action for Keppoch (J. Chaisson)

J. Chaisson took to the podium and provided council with an update on recent activities of Positive Action for Keppoch.

Council was advised that the organization was able to leverage the \$25,000 received from the Town of Antigonish into \$600,000.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided showing damage from hurricane Fiona, along with additional slides featuring visitors and events at Keppoch. J. Chaisson provided details on upcoming activities this year.

J. Chaisson noted that a grant application has been submitted and requested Council support their financial request and responded to questions from Council.

- Accessibility Presentation (K. MacInnis)

K. Gorman took to the podium and provided Council with an update on matters related to Accessibility.

Council was provided with details on two items for budget consideration including (1) the relaunch of the Town and Challenger Baseball program and (2) to undertake engagement and update the Town's Accessibility Plan.

Councillor D. Roberts requested copies of the presentation prior to making a decision.

Discussion took place.

On behalf of Councillor D. MacInnis, Councillor M. Farrell put forth the following motions:

"That Town Council consider reserving \$10,000 in the 2024-25 operating budget for the Accessible Antigonish Project partnership with Challenger Baseball." Motion carried.

"That Town Council consider allocating up to \$15,000. in funding in the 2024-25 operating budget to complete the Town's Accessibility Plan." Motion carried.

Business from Minutes

- Maritime Municipal Electric Utility Alliance Memorandum of Understanding
Following brief discussion the following motion was put forward:

"That the Town of Antigonish sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Maritime Municipal Electric Utility Alliance as presented." Motion carried.

- Councillor D. Roberts Re: Minutes

Councillor D. Roberts raised concern with a motion from the February Council meeting. In response, the Acting CAO noted that she was still awaiting a response from the Town's legal counsel.

Councillor D. Roberts stated that in 2022 the practice of rotating the Deputy Mayor ceased and questioned why. Mayor L. Boucher responded noting the term is for one (1) year, but not necessarily rotating.

Brief discussion took place, with Mayor L. Boucher noting that should Councillor D. Roberts wish to have the Policy amended she should request it be brought to Council.

New Business

- C. Dunbar Appeal Hearing Decision; Proposed Development College Street
Mayor L. Boucher provided background information on the proposed development by C. Dunbar noting that an appeal hearing was held on February 29th.

Following brief discussion, the following motion was put forward:

"That the Town of Antigonish overturn the decision of the Eastern District Planning Commission Development Officer and approve the variance for a setback as requested." Motion carried.

- Write-off of Old Electric Utility & Water Accounts (M. Barkhouse)

M. Barkhouse distributed a list of old electric utility and water accounts to be written-off. She took to the podium and provided Council with details for a total of \$59,929.30.

“It was Moved and Seconded that the following accounts be written-off:

ELECTRIC AND WATER UTILITY ACCOUNTS FOR WRITE-OFF MARCH 2024

Utility Account #	Month of Last Bill	Year	O/S Balance	Utility Account #	Month of Last Bill	Year	O/S Balance
203000.06	2014	Jul	1,034.47	163800.07	2016	Mar	0.01
328250.02	2014	Jul	214.63	164650.03	2016	Mar	417.03
164600.02	2015	Dec	53.13	164800.03	2016	Apr	161.52
192400.04	2015	May	1,738.88	165500.00	2016	Mar	0.70
233600.00	2015	Jul	276.12	165600.04	2016	Sep	572.23
101750.06	2016	Jan	204.31	170305.04	2016	Jul	649.27
101900.07	2016	Jun	152.85	177800.01	2016	May	1.57
102500.04	2016	Mar	348.19	181050.00	2016	Jul	2.56
105955.02	2016	May	129.89	181600.07	2016	Aug	606.48
107300.06	2016	Mar	550.12	181700.03	2016	Dec	481.47
113100.05	2016	Jul	256.37	183050.02	2016	Mar	18.33
115960.04	2016	Mar	1,067.55	183051.02	2016	Mar	462.37
115981.01	2016	Mar	9.76	184300.04	2016	Mar	143.28
116450.01	2016	Jan	1,022.09	186800.03	2016	Oct	769.83
117750.01	2016	Apr	6.87	188200.07	2016	Jul	5.34
123400.04	2016	Aug	0.63	194950.07	2016	Apr	4.26
127100.06	2016	Dec	2,322.85	199000.00	2016	Aug	1,748.51
133100.04	2016	Mar	1,461.05	205650.04	2016	Jan	719.06
133100.05	2016	Nov	571.50	208300.02	2016	Mar	0.97
133300.00	2016	Jul	1,000.01	208500.02	2016	Dec	922.24
134700.05	2016	Apr	0.03	215300.00	2016	Jul	0.53
134950.00	2016	Mar	6.54	215650.03	2016	Mar	6.60
135000.00	2016	Mar	4.35	216550.05	2016	Jul	0.62
135300.02	2016	Oct	16.31	221200.00	2016	Sep	0.50
135700.01	2016	Jun	4.78	223650.03	2016	Oct	3.26
136550.01	2016	Apr	521.50	241200.05	2016	Jul	311.94
138350.02	2016	Jun	2.46	263150.02	2016	Jun	3,214.10
144500.01	2016	Jun	8.46	266800.00	2016	Jul	2.05
146150.06	2016	Nov	0.77	269650.04	2016	Jul	1,263.27
152150.02	2016	Mar	1,266.55	272000.00	2016	Jun	1.05
160200.03	2016	Mar	127.27	275500.03	2016	Mar	1.78
162300.03	2016	Apr	14.52	276150.00	2016	Feb	6,589.74
162300.05	2016	Jun	137.85	277400.01	2016	Nov	0.03

Column total 14,532.66

Column total 19,082.50

Utility Account #	Month of Last Bill	Year	O/S Balance
277550.06	2016	Feb	902.57
278850.02	2016	Jan	21.30
280100.03	2016	Jul	0.94
281400.03	2016	May	387.98
291550.00	2016	Mar	0.39
296455.01	2016	Mar	4.06
299900.08	2016	Nov	0.46
301000.03	2016	Aug	1,159.43
308700.02	2016	Oct	11.74
310000.03	2016	Mar	1,129.16
316050.02	2016	May	2.13
320805.03	2016	Apr	5.04
322050.01	2016	Nov	3,163.73
322450.00	2016	Dec	9.31
324550.07	2016	Apr	2.29
324600.04	2016	Aug	2.97
325255.04	2016	Nov	1.34
327650.02	2016	May	1,717.65
328250.05	2016	Feb	0.54
330700.11	2016	Aug	688.89
333000.03	2016	Feb	5.32
342200.03	2016	Jun	1.91
348050.05	2016	Nov	1,307.41
350650.01	2016	May	731.00
351700.01	2016	Jun	0.99
354355.03	2016	Aug	0.91
355200.03	2016	Apr	1,336.00
355550.04	2016	Apr	1.38
357300.04	2016	Apr	699.46
357750.02	2016	Sep	1,102.18
360050.00	2016	Jul	9.14
360200.03	2016	Jan	0.85
360200.04	2016	May	511.15

Column total 14,919.62

Utility Account #	Month of Last Bill	Year	O/S Balance
363600.03	2016	Mar	375.74
802200.00	2016	Jan	1.78
817700.00	2016	Apr	1.63
855200.00	2016	Apr	1.35
860500.00	2016	Jul	7.68
861100.00	2016	Jul	1.07
899700.00	2016	Apr	4.25
899800.00	2016	Jul	114.28
933600.01	2016	Apr	0.50
949300.00	2016	Sep	10.40
103353.03	2017	Mar	158.84
103356.07	2017	Mar	20.11
110500.01	2017	Feb	73.16
117550.03	2017	Mar	244.97
127100.07	2017	Feb	101.63
128600.04	2017	Mar	173.85
136050.02	2017	Feb	1,013.19
137300.05	2017	Mar	12.09
173850.04	2017	Mar	1,507.47
183100.03	2017	Jan	2.05
184350.02	2017	Jan	0.06
187850.06	2017	Mar	0.04
199450.05	2017	Feb	623.70
200502.01	2017	Feb	13.40
217750.03	2017	Jan	117.25
272405.03	2017	Mar	69.25
292300.04	2017	Feb	1,122.85
303550.02	2017	Mar	3,387.99
304150.05	2017	Feb	2,206.12
304600.01	2017	Jan	10.94
346350.05	2017	Mar	15.74
360950.06	2017	Jan	1.14

Column total 11,394.52

Grand Total \$59,929.30

.Motion carried.”

Correspondence

To be added to the April 2025 agenda.

Staff Reports

- CAO Report

“It was Moved and Seconded to accept the CAO Report as presented.” Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Eastern District Planning Commission (EDPC)

Councillor M. Farrell noted that the next Planning Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 8th.

- Solid Waste Management

Councillor D. Roberts noted one of the Waste Committee’s goals is to divert good material from being landfilled and noted the CACL and a representative of St. FX are both on board to work with the Town on an event in this regard. She noted that the Committee would be seeking assistance with promoting the event and provided additional details.

- Community Enhancement Committee (CEC)

Councillor A. Murray noted the CEC did not meet due to a lack of a quorum. He noted work is ongoing for the upcoming flower planting season, that details on new Town signage will be coming soon, and that details on the Pioneer Cemetery project are upcoming.

Councillor A. Murray spoke briefly on a Lego contest being sponsored by the Antigonish Heritage Museum.

- Fire Committee

Councillor S. Cameron noted that the Fire Committee did not meet, that the Antigonish County Adult Learning Association (ACALA) Director will be going on maternity leave and that a replacement is being sought. He noted that there was a great exhibit and activities for youngsters at the library during March Break.

- Police & License Committee

Deputy Mayor W. Cormier provided comment on a St. Patrick’s Day event this past Saturday and upcoming meetings to further discuss the event and future direction.

Councillor S. Cameron requested costs for additional officers be distributed.

With there being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM

Committee Reports