

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Barrington Municipal Council held in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., on Tuesday, July 25, 2023. The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:12 p.m., with the following members present:

- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
  - Deputy Warden Jody Crook
  - Councillor Shaun Hatfield
  - Councillor Andrea Mood-Nickerson
  - Councillor George El-Jakl – Absent due to vacation.
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- Chris Frotten, CAO
  - Lesa Rossetti, Municipal Clerk

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Being duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held May 23<sup>rd</sup> and Special Council Meetings held May 29<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup> and June 27, 2023, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising from previous meetings.

#### REPORT OF WARDEN

The Warden provided a brief report on his activities since the last meeting of Council.

#### REPORT OF COUNCILLORS

Deputy Warden Crook and each Councillor provided a brief report on their activities since the last meeting of Council.

#### REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Councillor Hatfield reported on recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Council.

Audit Committee Vacancies

Resolution C230701

Being duly moved and seconded that Donna LeBlanc-Messenger and Bradley Goreham be appointed to serve on the Audit Committee for a two year term to expire March 31, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

Federal Fuel Charge Exemption

The Island and Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department has asked Council to request the Federal Government to exempt fire departments from the new fuel charge.

Resolution C230702

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter be written to the Federal Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, requesting that volunteer emergency service providers be exempt from the new fuel charge and the letter be copied to FCM, NSFM, MP Rick Perkins, MLA Nolan Young and all municipal units in Nova Scotia.

Motion carried unanimously.

Request for Letter of Support Re: Seal Island Lighthouse

Sonia Symonds-Newell, Concern Citizens for the Seal Island Lighthouse, is requesting Council to send a letter in support of their efforts to have the deplorable condition of the Seal Island Lighthouse addressed.

Resolution C230703

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter be sent to MP Rick Perkins advocating to keep the light on the federal list of lighthouses that they continue to maintain and the letter be copied to MP Chris d'Entremont.

Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Request – Bonny Castle Cemetery

Resolution C230704

Being duly moved and seconded that a grant in the amount of \$500.00, for the 2023/24 fiscal year, be provided to the Bonny Castle Cemetery.

Motion carried unanimously.

IBPVFD Guarantee Resolution – Fire Truck Purchase

Resolution C230705

Being duly moved and seconded that:

**WHEREAS** the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department is a registered fire department with the Municipality of the District of Barrington;

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**WHEREAS** the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department is incorporated by the Societies Act;

**WHEREAS** the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department has determined to borrow the aggregate principal amount of One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) for the purpose of Fire Truck by special resolution on the 4 day of April, 2023, as per Section 10 (d) of the Societies Act;

**WHEREAS** the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department has requested the Municipality of the District of Barrington to guarantee the said borrowing;

**WHEREAS** Section 294(6) of the Municipal Government Act provides that a municipality may grant or lend money to, or guarantee a loan for, a registered fire department for operating or capital purposes; and

**WHEREAS** Section 88(3) of the Municipal Government Act provides that no guarantee of a borrowing by a municipality shall have effect unless the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved of the proposed borrowing or debenture and of the proposed guarantee;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**

**THAT** the Municipality of the District of Barrington does hereby approve the borrowing by the Island & Barrington Passage Volunteer Fire Department of One Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) for the purpose set out above;

**THAT** subject to the approval of the Minister of the Municipal Affairs and Housing of the guarantee, the Municipality unconditionally guarantee repayment of the principal and interest of the borrowing so made;

**THAT** upon the issue of the debentures, the Warden and Clerk of the Municipality do sign the guarantee attached to each of the debentures and affix thereto the corporate seal of the Municipality.

Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Requests

Resolution C230706

Being duly moved and seconded that a grant in the amount of \$500.00, for the 2023/24 fiscal year, be provided to the Samuel Wood Historical Society, Shelburne County Archives and Genealogical Society, Clyde River Society and Cemetery, Barrington Hillside Cemetery Society, Old Farm Cemetery Society and Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution C230707

Being duly moved and seconded that a Special Events Grant in the amount of \$500.00, for the 2023/24 fiscal year, be provided to the Barrington and Area Chamber of Commerce.

Motion carried unanimously.

Request – Purchase and Installation of Webcam at Baccaro Lighthouse Picnic Park

Correspondence has been received from Keepers of the Baccaro Light requesting the Municipality to purchase and install a Nova Scotia Webcam at Baccaro Point. They are willing to provide a contribution of \$2,500.00 towards the project which will cover the cost of the camera. The Municipality would be responsible to provide a power source, internet and cover the monthly cost of the camera moving forward.

Resolution C230708

Being duly moved and seconded that the Municipality approved the request of the Keepers of the Baccaro Light to purchase and install a webcam at Baccaro Point and some flexibility be allowed for staff to consider live streaming and a more robust camera, if necessary, and any additional costs be brought back to committee for consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

Monitoring Contract for Floating Dock at McGray Avenue, North East PointResolution C230709

Being duly moved and seconded that a monitoring contract for the floating dock at McGray Avenue, in North East Point, be entered into with Carl Stewart for another two year period to expire September 30, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

Local Clam FlatsResolution C230710

Being duly moved and seconded that:

**WHEREAS** there is a growing problem with food-insecurity in our community and local residents could supplement their food supply through recreational clamming;

**WHEREAS** steamer clams (& quahogs) along our tidal flats are not considered a species under threat;

**WHEREAS** recreational clamming has been a traditional activity and safe practice in the Municipality of Barrington for centuries;

**WHEREAS** toxicity concerns have not prompted any Federal or Provincial Agency to prohibit the recreational harvesting of wild mushrooms; and

**WHEREAS** safety concerns around the recreational harvesting of wild mushrooms is left solely to the knowledge, common sense, experience, and safe practices of individual mushroom harvesters; and

**WHEREAS** recreational clam harvesters possess equal levels of knowledge, common sense, experience, and safe practice around the clam resource, as do harvesters of the wild mushroom resource do; and

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**WHEREAS** there appears to be no reason to classify our local clam flats since not one Federal Agency - including the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Environment and Climate Change Canada or Fisheries and Oceans Canada - are accepting any current responsibility for testing such areas for resource toxicity nor for resource safety;

**WHEREAS** if the Federal Government has any concern about toxicity in the absence of ongoing testing, then recreational clamming licenses could be required at no cost before anyone is permitted to engage in this activity and, along with the issuance of such licenses, recreational harvesters could also sign a waiver indicating that they are aware of possible shellfish toxicity and that they indemnify and save harmless anyone from harvesting clams or preparing them solely at their own risk.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program - administered jointly by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada - be requested by Council to declassify coastal clam flats within the Municipality of Barrington and to open those traditional sites for recreational clamming purposes.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the correspondence request to declassify coastal clam flats within the Municipality of Barrington be directed to the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program, including all federal departments who share in the administration of this program. And, that this correspondence also be cc'd to our Federal Member of Parliament and to other municipal councils within the Tri-Counties.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Petition to Name Private Lane Re: Civic Numbering

#### Resolution C230711

Being duly moved and seconded that the private road in Barrington, in Forest View Estates, be named "Lillian Drive" as requested by petition signed by property owners.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### STAFF REPORT

The Chief Administrative Officer provided his report to members in advance to the meeting for the period ending July 25, 2023 of which a copy is attached and forms part of the minutes.

#### NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

#### Schedule "B" Destruction of Documents

#### Resolution C230712

Being duly moved and seconded that:

WHEREAS the documents and records of the Municipality of the District of Barrington as set out in the Affidavit of Chris Frotten, the Chief Administrative Officer, sworn to the 10th day of July, A.D., 2023, are no longer required;

AND WHEREAS according to the said Affidavit the said documents and records have been personally examined by the said CAO and he has determined that there is nothing of value therein and that the said documents and records do not include any documents or records which are exempt from destruction pursuant to Section 3 of the Destruction of Documents By-law;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the said documents and records as set out in the said Affidavit of the said CAO be forthwith removed and destroyed.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Adoption of "Volunteer Policy"

In advance of the meeting members were provided with a draft "Volunteer Policy" for consideration of members. The policy provides staff and volunteers with guidance to ensure a safe, meaningful and productive volunteer experience with the Municipality and recognizes the essential role that volunteers play in building a healthy and vibrant community. The policy also specifies that volunteers participating in activities working directly with vulnerable populations in an unsupervised environment will be required to provide a Criminal Records Check, Vulnerable Sector Check and Child Abuse Registry Check prior to commencement of duties. Updated checks will be required every 3 years.

Notice of consideration was given at the Committee of the Whole Council Meeting held July 11, 2023.

Resolution C230713

Being duly moved and seconded that the "Volunteer Policy" be approved as presented.

AFFIRMATIVE

Jody Crook  
Shaun Hatfield  
Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson

NEGATIVE

Andrea Mood-Nickerson

Motion carried.

First Reading – By-law No. 9 "Noise By-law"

It is proposed that a new Noise By-law be adopted to replace the existing one.

Being duly moved and seconded that the adoption of the new "Noise By-law" be approved in First Reading.

Being duly moved and seconded that the above motion be tabled and the new "Noise By-law" be taken back to committee for further consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

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#### Petition for Road Name Re: Civic Numbering

A Petition has been received from property owners on a private lane located in Barrington Passage. Property owners are requesting their road be recognized as “Nickerson Lane” for civic numbering purposes.

#### Resolution C230714

Being duly moved and seconded that the private road in Barrington Passage be named “Nickerson Lane” as requested by petition signed by property owners.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

##### Provincial New Housing Development Projects

Correspondence has been received from the Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing advising that Nova Scotia is facing a challenge regarding the availability and affordability of housing. The Minister is asking us to share a list of any municipally owned, serviced (or easily serviceable) land that may be suitable for any type of new housing development that may be available.

It was agreed that this matter be referred to the Committee of the Whole Council for further consideration and staff provide a list of suitable properties.

##### Correspondence Re: NSEMO Emergency Management Preparedness Officer

The Municipality of Yarmouth has expressed concern to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the NSEMO Emergency Management Preparedness Officer for Region 3 resigned on May 25, 2023 and no information has been received on their plans to fill the position or announcement of a new appointment. This vacancy leaves a large gap in having the resources needed for municipalities to plan and prepare for emergency management.

An update was provided by Lori Errington advising that she continues to act as the EMPO for Region 3 and reaffirmed that NSEMO will be filling the vacancy and the position has not been eliminated.

It was agreed that no action be taken on this matter at the present time.

#### AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the following item be added to a future agenda:

- Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library Program. (Andrea Mood-Nickerson)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

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Warden

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Chief Administrative Officer

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Secretary for the Meeting



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## KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

### 1. Growing our Economy

#### *3.1 Attract Accommodations*

We continue to facilitate discussions between a hotel management and development company and a local developer in the hopes of increasing the number of accommodations in the Municipality.

#### *3.2 Invest in our Beaches and Parks*

We have begun our preliminary plans of getting power and lighting at Stoney Island Beach as well as water at both Stoney Island and North East Point beaches.

#### *3.3 Improved Cell Service*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *3.4 Municipal Property Development*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *3.5 Renewable Energy*

Nothing new to report at this time.

### 2. Investing in our People

#### *2.1 Community Health Centre*

The proposals received following our Request for Proposals for architect services have now been evaluated by staff and a recommendation will be made in August.

#### *2.2 Doctor Recruitment & Retention*

We have participated in a few doctor recruitment activities in the past few month by providing gift baskets or snacks for residents or medical students.

#### *2.3 Public Transit*

Nothing new to report at this time.

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### **3. Strengthening our Communities**

#### *3.1 Infrastructure Renewal*

We've completed and approved our new Asset Management Plan. Work will now begin on integrating the plan in our day to day operations and our budget development process.

#### *3.2 Housing*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *3.3 Improved Wastewater Services*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *3.4 Accessibility*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *3.5 Diversity and Inclusion*

Nothing new to report at this time.

### **4. Operating Efficiently**

#### *4.1 Develop an Employee Retention Program*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *4.2 Create an Economic Development Office*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *4.3 Consider the Expansion of the C&D Site*

The final draft of the 2023/2024 budget includes funds to undertake a life cycle assessment of our Site. The results of this assessment will help us determine what steps will be required to continue its operation into the future.

#### *4.4 Transparency*

Nothing new to report at this time.



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## **5. Keeping Barrington Moving**

### *5.1 Enhance Recreation Programs*

Nothing new to report at this time.

### *5.2 Sherose Island Recreation Complex Strategy*

Nothing new to report at this time.

### *5.3 Increase the Number of Outdoor Spaces Strategy*

Nothing new to report at this time.

### *5.4 Trail Expansion*

In the month of June, the trail seen 332 people on the trail. This has been the lowest amount in a while, however this was during the time that usage on trails was banned due to forest fires. June 22<sup>nd</sup> was the most popular day with 92 people recorded.

### *5.5 Sidewalk Expansion*

Nothing new to report at this time.

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**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> TO JULY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

**TOPICS**

**Nova Scotia Marathon**

The 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Nova Scotia Marathon took place this past Sunday. Overall, the event went very well - the weather cooperated, and the volunteers and the runners enjoyed themselves. The addition of the Youth Run on Saturday by committee volunteers was a great addition to the event and we hosted more people in-person than ever before! In the end, we had a total of 554 total participants within the following categories:

Registration	Number
Full Marathon	122
Half Marathon	138
10 km	123
6 km	84
Youth Run – 350 m	11
Youth Run – 700 m	25
Virtual – All Distances	51
Total	554

We'd like to thank our sponsors, partner organizations - Atlantic Chip and Run Nova Scotia, all of the volunteers and the members of our organizing committee who worked all year to ensure our marathon was successful and continues to grow. Their knowledge and experience on the organization and coordination of marathons was very helpful again this year and we can't wait to host the 53<sup>rd</sup> edition next year on July 21, 2024. For those interested in participating, registration is already open at <https://raceroster.com/events/2024/78165/53rd-annual-nova-scotia-marathon!>



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### **Summer Newsletter**

Our summer newsletter was mailed out last week to all residents of the Municipality. It can be accessed online at <https://bit.ly/43HbJHx>. If anyone would like a few copies to have on hand, please let us know as we always have extra.

### **Recreation Programming**

The Recreation Department is in full swing at this time of the year. We are offering weekly camps for 3 different age groups. Each camp runs Monday to Thursday and is built around special interests and activities. The full outline is on the website: <https://barringtonmunicipality.com/Recreation/summer-programs>.

Swimming lessons are underway, and we have some new programming available: mermaid swimming and a swim team. Aqua dance is also coming soon. We are training young leaders in lifesaving to build a future aquatic staff team.

We are offering several outdoor recreation opportunities: kayaking, stand-up paddleboard, hikes, and Friday community beach days. We also have a story trail up at the Sherose Island Rocks Trail in partnership with the Barrington Library.

We have made some accessibility upgrades to the community garden as a service to our older adult users. We had several garden plots cleaned out (invasive weeds had taken over) and built up to an easier height to work.

Our Physical Activity Coordinator has hosted free kayaking clinics for the general public in the month of July. The purpose of the clinics is to enhance people's ability to kayak, and expose them to our equipment loan program.

Our Coordinator has also been gathering gardening kits for seniors. These kits are being distributed for free to residents in our municipality to enhance physical activity levels as gardening is a great form of low intensity physical activity. Finally, we will be hosting a walking poker activity, which will be held on the Barrington Bay Trail. This will encourage seniors to come for a walk and move their bodies in a fun social setting.

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### **Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement**

From June 18 to July 15, 42 permits were issued for a total value of \$2,594,500. This is an increase of \$1,483,600 compared to the same period last year. 90 building inspections along with 12 fire inspections and 5 fire re-inspections were carried out during this period.

8 new civic number were issued – four of which were a result of a new private road that was created, and four structures were renumbered off this private road from Highway 3. 8 properties were visited to discuss civic numbering.

We received one new subdivision applications and three were sent for registration. We presently have two outstanding subdivisions that we continue to work on.

Three new by-law complaints were received, and one were resolved. This leaves us with 8 open complaints that we continue to work on. We also received two streetlight complaints this period and we continue to work to resolve those.

### **Fire Services & Emergency Management**

The end of May and beginning of June was a challenging time for everyone but we all came together and got through it. Our fire service really stepped up to deal with the wildfires and should be commended for the roles they played in dealing with a rapidly changing and complex event.

Otherwise, the new rescue truck for the IBPFD should be delivered this month which is a bit behind schedule.

Our Coordinator is compiling the data from surveys sent out to staff and external partners for our after-action review of the wildfire response and has been rescheduling courses that were impacted by the wildfire.

The amount of rain we have had since the first of June has lessened the chance of any drought issues this summer.

This past May and June, the Fire Departments responded to 94 calls, compared to 33 in May and June of 2022. Here is the data for these past two months:

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<b>BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE</b>							
<b>EMERGENCY CALLS June 2023</b>							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	16					2	<b>18</b>
Island Barrington Passage FD	6	6	1		1	2	<b>16</b>
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD	2	6	1	1	1	5	<b>16</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>50</b>
B/PLT -							
IBP -							
WH/SH-							

<b>BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE</b>							
<b>EMERGENCY CALLS June 2023</b>							
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire	Mut	Auto	MFR	MVC	Other	TOTAL
		Aid	Aid				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	16					2	<b>18</b>
Island Barrington Passage FD	6	6	1		1	2	<b>16</b>
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD	2	6	1	1	1	5	<b>16</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>50</b>
B/PLT -							
IBP -							
WH/SH-							



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**CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE**

Here is an update on our 2023-2024 Capital Projects:

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Status</b>
4	Beach Facilities Water Drilling	Not Started
6	Arena Shower/Flooring	Not Started
10	Lobster Sculptures	Not Started
1	Recreation Centre	In Progress
2	Community Healthcare Centre	In Progress
3	Pool Liner/Pool Lift	In Progress
5	Lighting/Power Stoney Island Beach	In Progress
7	Property Services Building Heat Pump	Completed
8	Goose Lake Road Improvements	In Progress
9	Brass Hill Clarifier	Completed

