

Cape Breton Regional Municipality
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2025
10:01 a.m. at City Hall Council Chambers

Council

Mayor Cecil P. Clarke
Councillor Gordon MacDonald
Councillor Earlene MacMullin
Councillor Esmond "Blue" Marshall
Councillor Steve Gillespie
Deputy Mayor Eldon MacDonald
Councillor Glenn Paruch
Councillor Steve Parsons
Councillor Steven MacNeil
Councillor Dave MacKeigan
Councillor Paul Nickituk
Councillor Darren O'Quinn
Councillor Kim Sheppard-Campbell

Staff

Demetri Kachafanas, KC, Chief Administrative Officer
Christa Dicks, Director of Corporate Information Services / Municipal Clerk
Tyson Simms, Director of Planning and Development
Mark Bettens, Fire Chief and Director of Fire and Emergency Services
Craig MacNeil, Deputy Fire Chief
Toni Delorenzo, Principle Secretary, Mayor's Office
Sean Tobin, Chief of Staff
John Phalen, Senior Manager of Public Works Central
Matthew Viva, Senior Manager of Engineering Services
Christina Lamey, Communications Manager
Cory Youden, Manager of Engineering Services
Karen Neville, Senior Planner
Peter Vandermeulen, Planner
Jenna MacQueen, Communications Advisor
Spencer Merrill, Information Technology Technician
Kelly McDonald, Administrative Assistant
Yuecong Cao, Recording Secretary

The following does not represent a word for word record of the proceedings of this meeting. The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at www.cbrm.ns.ca.

Mayor Cecil P. Clarke called the meeting to order.

Land Acknowledgement

Roll Call

Moment of Silence: Malcolm Blaise Currie, CBRM Public Works

Maintenance Coordinator

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Deputy Mayor Eldon MacDonald to approve the April 1, 2025, committee of the whole agenda and addendum as presented.

Motion Carried

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Moved by Councillor MacMullin, seconded by Councillor Paruch, to approve the CBRM minutes from:

- Committee of the Whole Minutes – March 4, 2025

Motion Carried

3. By-Laws & Motions

3.1 First Reading

i) Annual Amendments to CBRM's Land Use By-law

Senior Planner Karen Neville presented the Cape Breton Regional Municipality's Land Use By-law and recommendation, included in the agenda package. Discussion took place regarding clarification of the amendments. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor MacMullin, seconded by Councillor MacKeigan, that a recommendation be made to Council to consider approval of the proposed amendments to the CBRM Forward Land Use By-law, as set out in Attachment A, which is included in the April 1, 2025, Committee of the Whole agenda, and schedule a public hearing.

Discussion:

- Definition clarification

Motion Carried**4. Presentations****4.1 Local Response to United States & Chinese Tariffs Overview**

Representatives of Cape Breton Partnership provided a presentation titled, "Local Response to United States & Chinese Tariffs Overview". Discussions took place regarding tourism, fisheries, manufacturing, interprovincial trade barriers and the effort to remove it.

For information only

5. Corporate Services Issues**5.1 Land Expropriation – PID 15006901, New Waterford**

Cory Youden, Manager of Engineering Services, reviewed the report and recommendation included in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor O'Quinn, seconded by Councillor Nickituk, that a recommendation be made to Council to direct staff to proceed with the expropriation of PID 15006901 to advance the construction of the collector sewer project and ensure uninterrupted service delivery.

Motion Carried**6. Council Agenda Requests****6.1 Boundary Review for Reinstalment of French Road Area in CBRM District 7**

Councillor Parsons reviewed the council agenda request and recommendation included in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Deputy Mayor Eldon MacDonald, that a recommendation be made to Council to consider the area of French Road that was recently realigned before the last municipal election be reviewed by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for reinstatement back into CBRM District 7.

Motion Carried

6.2 Snow Clearing of Provincial Roadways in Suburban Areas

Councillor Parsons reviewed the council agenda request and recommendation included in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Councillor Gordon MacDonald, that a recommendation be made to Council that when the time arrives that CBRM Staff opens up the discussions surrounding a new Service Agreement with the Province, that Standards of Snow Clearing and maintenance be enforced as they are for all provincial roads regardless who is awarded the contract by provincial Public Works Department.

Motion Carried**6.3 Improved Cellular Service**

Mayor Clarke reviewed the council agenda request and recommendation included in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Deputy Mayor Eldon Macdonald, seconded by Councillor MacKeigan, that a recommendation be made to Council to request Build Nova Scotia to improve cellular service connectivity and capacity within the Municipality (Cape Breton County), including the three highest traffic volume roadways with unreliable service:

- Sydney – Glace Bay Highway – Reserve Mines / Sydney Airport; and
- Route 4 – the Meadows / Kings Road; and
- Highway 125 – Campbell's Hill / Balls Creek / Leitches Creek

Motion Carried**ADDENDUM****6.4 Traffic Safety Act Consultation Process**

Mayor Clarke reviewed the council agenda request and recommendation included in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Paruch, seconded by Deputy Mayor Eldon MacDonald, that a recommendation be made to Council to direct staff to register the Municipality's interest in participating in the Government of Nova Scotia's *Traffic Safety Act* consultation process, and to report back to Council with any relevant findings or recommendations arising from these discussions.

Motion Carried

7. Correspondence

7.1 Request for Review of PVSC Assessment Criteria for Residential Properties

7.2 Request that CBRM Adopt a Bylaw to Control Hateful Protests

For Information Only

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Cecil P. Clarke
Mayor

Christa Dicks
Municipal Clerk
/yc