

## **Cape Breton Regional Municipality**

Council Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2024

6:01 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers

### **Council**

Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill

Councillor Gordon MacDonald

Councillor Earlene MacMullin

Councillor Cyril MacDonald

Councillor Steve Gillespie

Councillor Eldon MacDonald

Councillor Glenn Paruch

Councillor Steve Parsons

Deputy Mayor James Edwards

Councillor Ken Tracey

Councillor Darren O'Quinn

Councillor Lorne Green

### **Staff**

Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer

Wayne MacDonald, Director of Engineering and Public Works

Demetri Kachafanas, KC, Regional Solicitor

Karen Neville, Acting Director of Planning and Development/Senior Planner

Stephen MacKinnon, Deputy Chief of Police

Sheila Kolanko, Property Manager

Peter Vandermeulen, Planner

Sharon MacSween, Senior Administrative Assistant

Kelly McDonald, Recording Secretary

### **Absent**

Councillor Darren Bruckschwaiger (regrets)

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](http://www.cbrm.ns.ca).

**Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill called the meeting to order.**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Roll Call**

**O' Canada**

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Mayor McDougall-Merrill informed item number 5.3 will be removed from the agenda, postponed for a future meeting.

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Councillor Paruch, to approve the March 12, 2024, council agenda as presented.

**Motion Carried**

**2. Proclamations**

**2.1 World Down Syndrome Day**

**Motion**

Moved by Mayor McDougall-Merrill, seconded by Councillor Cyril MacDonald, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, as World Down Syndrome Day in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and encourage all residents of the CBRM to join together and celebrate this day and proclaim the message, "End The Stereotypes".

**Motion Carried**

**2.2 International Day for the Elimination of Racial  
Discrimination**

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor Green, seconded by Councillor O'Quinn, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, as "International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination" in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

**Motion Carried**

### **2.3 World Water Day**

#### **Motion**

Moved by Councillor Eldon MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Paruch, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, as “World Water Day” in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality in hopes that residents will be inspired and encouraged to act in their own lives to change the way they use, consume, and manage water; and to focus on the critical role water plays in the stability and prosperity of the world; and to celebrate by remembering our necessity for clean water to support the most basic human needs.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **2.4 National Impaired Driving Prevention Week**

#### **Motion**

Moved by Councillor Steve Gillespie, seconded by Councillor Cyril MacDonald, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim March 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, as National Impaired Driving Prevention Week in collaboration with MADD in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

#### **Motion Carried**

Councillor Gillespie acknowledged the Teal to Heal Cape Breton campaign to recognize gynecological cancer, this event happens on Mother’s Day each year.

### **3. Planning Issue**

#### **3.1 Public Hearing**

##### **a) Land Use By-law Amendment – 001094 Lot Coverage Requirements for Accessory Buildings**

Peter Vandermeulen, Planner, reviewed the issue paper and recommendation in the agenda package. Mayor McDougall-Merrill called three times for any members of the public wishing to speak on the matter, no speakers came forth. The following motion was then put forward:

#### **Motion**

Moved by Councillor Tracey, seconded by Councillor O’Quinn, final approval of the proposed amendments, as indicated in the March 12, 2024, agenda package, to the Accessory Building General Provisions of the Land Use By-law, case 001094.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **4. Presentation**

#### **4.1 Pitu’paq**

Stan Johnson, Interim Coordinator, provided a presentation titled, “Pitu’paq”. Discussion took place regarding the goals of the Pitu’paq organization, impacts of sewage, impacts of climate change, projects, and partnerships. Mayor McDougall-Merrill mentioned potential for future conversation regarding the *Coastal Protection Act* at an upcoming meeting.

### **5. Corporate Services Issues**

#### **5.1 Request from New Aberdeen Revitalization Affordable Housing Society PID 15439375 – Fifth Street, Glace Bay (District 10) (Vacant land)**

Sheila Kolanko, Property Manager, reviewed the issue paper and recommendation in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor Tracey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Edwards, to approve the sale of the subject property, identified as PID 15439375, to the New Aberdeen Revitalization Society for \$1.00, subject to the application for a building permit within one (1) year. All costs will be the responsibility of the Society.

**Motion Carried**

**5.2 Former North Sydney Train Station – 87 Station Street,  
North Sydney (District 2)**

Sheila Kolanko, Property Manager, reviewed the issue paper and recommendation in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor MacMullin, seconded by Councillor Gordon MacDonald, to declare the former North Sydney Train Station Site (PID 15905714) surplus to the needs of the municipality and sold at market value. The sale shall be subject to an Easement in favor of CBRM for the existing sewer line.

**Motion Carried**

**5.3 Membertou Policing Agreement**

This item has been removed from the agenda.

**5.4 Port of Sydney Development Corporation**

Lorna Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, provided an overview of the Port of Sydney Development Corporations governance and operational proposal. Discussion took place and the following motion was then put forward:

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Councillor Cyril MacDonald, to approve the request by the Port of Sydney Development Corporation governance and operational proposal as presented.

Discussion:

- Autonomy, process, and terms for Board of Directors
- Rent calculation formula
- Employment and future employment opportunities
- Agreement extension importance
- Community benefits

### **Motion Carried**

## **6. Councillor Agenda Request**

### **6.1 Current Dog By-laws – Issue Paper**

Councillor Parsons reviewed the councillor agenda request form in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

#### **Motion**

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Councillor Green, to direct staff to provide an issue paper (complete review) of CBRM's Dog By-law to ensure a review is completed as time permits the CBRM Planning Department to undertake including internal staff, working group along with public engagement.

Discussion:

- Public Property By-Law clarification

### **Motion Carried**

### **6.2 One Way In and One Way Out – Issue Paper**

Councillor Parsons reviewed the councillor agenda request form in the agenda package and corrected a typo that the forest fires in Halifax occurred during summer of 2023. The following motion was then put forward:

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Deputy Mayor Edwards, to direct staff to provide an issue paper to identify areas of CBRM that are subject to the restrictions of one way in and one way out exit routes; and once all areas have been identified within the limits of CBRM, that Council and staff discuss an action plan on developing exit plans for residents in times of natural disasters and evacuating these specific locations.

Discussion:

- Clarification of areas to be identified
- Update and inquiry regarding provincial efforts on their one way in and one way out action plan
- Planning and Development Department perspective on process
- Engineering and Public Works Department perspective on process

**Motion Carried**

**7. Review of Action Items from this Meeting**

Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill noted the following action item:

- To send a letter to the Provincial Government to request an update on efforts regarding their one way in and one way out action plans.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.**

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**Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill**  
**Mayor**

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**Christa Dicks**  
**Municipal Clerk**

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