

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Council Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2023

9:34 a.m. at City Hall Council Chambers

Council

Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill

Councillor Gordon MacDonald

Councillor Earlene MacMullin

Councillor Steve Gillespie

Councillor Eldon MacDonald

Councillor Glenn Paruch

Deputy Mayor James Edwards

Councillor Ken Tracey

Councillor Darren Bruckschwaiger

Councillor Darren O'Quinn

Councillor Lorne Green

Staff

Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer

Jennifer Campbell, Chief Financial Officer

Christa Dicks, Municipal Clerk

Demetri Kachafanas, KC, Regional Solicitor

Michael Ruus, Director of Planning and Development

Kirk Durning, Director of Recreation, Parks and Grounds, and Buildings and Facilities

Deanna Evely, Director of Human Resources

Raymond Boudreau, Senior Manager of Public Works

Francis Campbell, Manager of Solid Waste

Sharon MacSween, Senior Administrative Assistant

Kelly McDonald, Recording Secretary

Absent

Councillor Cyril MacDonald (Regrets)

Councillor Steve Parsons (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.

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

Land Acknowledgement

Roll Call

O' Canada

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion

Moved by Deputy Mayor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Green, to approve the October 24, 2023, Council Agenda and Addendum as presented.

Motion Carried

2. Proclamations

2.1 Kiwanis Club of Sydney 100th Anniversary

Motion

Moved by Councillor Gillespie, seconded by Councillor Green, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim the month of November 2023, as Kiwanis Club of Sydney Month in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality to celebrate their 100th anniversary of building a better community as Serving the Children of the World.

Motion Carried

2.2 Lung Cancer Awareness Month

Motion

Moved by Councillor O’Quinn, seconded by Councillor Tracey, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim November 2023, as Lung Cancer Awareness Month in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and encourage all citizens to learn about lung cancer and early detection through lung screening.

Motion Carried

2.3 Pancreatic Cancer Awareness

Motion

Moved by Councillor Paruch, seconded by Councillor Gordon MacDonald, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim November as National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and November 16th, 2023, as World Pancreatic Cancer Day in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

Motion Carried

2.4 Crohn’s and Colitis Awareness Month

Motion

Moved by Councill Gillespie, seconded by Councillor Paruch, that CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim the month of November 2023, to be Crohn’s and Colitis Awareness Month in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and urge people to learn more about Crohn’s and Colitis Canada and the work the organization does by visiting their website: www.crohnsandcolitis.ca.

Motion Carried

3. Presentation

3.1 CBRM Accessibility Plan

Tova Sherman, CEO of reachAbility Association, provided a presentation titled, "Cape Breton Regional Municipality and You Moving Accessibility Forward". Discussion took place between Council, staff, and Tova on resolutions to bring accessibility forward in the CBRM. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Paruch, seconded by Councillor Eldon MacDonald, to accept the report provided by reachability regarding the CBRM Accessibility Plan.

Motion Carried

4. Corporate Service Issues

4.1 Election/Selection of Deputy Mayor

Christa Dicks, Municipal Clerk, reviewed the memo dated October 3, 2023, in the agenda package and informed of the Policy Respecting the Deputy Mayor was attached to the memo. Mayor called for nominations for Deputy Mayor. Councillor Tracey nominated Deputy Mayor Edwards who accepted the nomination for another one-year term of Deputy Mayor.

Hearing that there were no further nominations, Deputy Mayor James Edwards was declared Deputy Mayor for another one-year term.

4.2 Borrowing Resolution – Lease Facility 2023/2024

Jennifer Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the memo dated October 11, 2023, in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Green, seconded by Councillor Paruch, to approve the renewal of a Lease Facility with a limit of \$2,000,000 with the Bank of Montreal for the 2023/2024 fiscal year to allow CBRM departments to opt to finance equipment purchases through a capital lease agreement.

Motion Carried

4.3 Borrowing Resolution – Operating Line of Credit 2023/2024

Jennifer Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the memo dated October 11, 2023, in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Paruch, seconded by Councillor Eldon MacDonald, to approve the renewal of the Borrowing Resolution for the Operating Line of Credit in the amount of \$44,000,000 with the Bank of Montreal (BMO) for the 2023/2024 fiscal year to finance short term operations and bridge financing for capital projects.

Motion Carried

4.4 Facility Naming Rights and Sponsorship Policy

Director Durning reminded Council that the Facility Naming Rights and Sponsorship Policy was introduced at the Council meeting held October 10, 2023. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Gordon MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Paruch, to approve the Facility Naming Rights and Sponsorship Policy as presented in the agenda package to be adopted at the October 24, 2023, Council meeting to formalize and guide the process for the agreements.

4.5 Proposal: Revised CBRM Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Governance Policy

Director Evelyn reviewed the revised CBRM Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Governance Policy for recommendation. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Councillor Paruch, seconded by Councillor Bruckschwaiger, to approve the existing CBRM Diversity Committee Governance Policy be amended as presented and a call for citizen representatives takes place in accordance with existing process.

Discussion:

- Previous committee members be notified of the call for membership.
- The need for strategic planning to define goals, define roles, and ensure necessary tools are available to the committee.

Motion Carried

5. Report

5.1 Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Update

Francis Campbell, Manager of Solid Waste, provided a presentation titled, "Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Update – CBRM Solid Waste Department Fall 2023".

For Information Only

6. Committee Reports – None

7. Review of Action Items from This Meeting

Discussion took place to inform the public about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the CBRM and the Province of Nova Scotia. CBRM Council will be attending Law Amendments to discuss Bill 340.

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill
Mayor
/km

Christa Dicks
Municipal Clerk