

CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
Emergency Council Meeting – Minutes

**Friday,
March 27, 2020
11:06 a.m.**

Mayor Cecil P. Clarke called the meeting to order and noted the following participants in the Video/Teleconferencing:

Council:

Mayor Cecil P. Clarke
Councillor Clarence Prince
Councillor Earlene MacMullin
Councillor Esmond Marshall
Councillor Steve Gillespie
Councillor Eldon MacDonald
Deputy Mayor Ivan Doncaster
Councillor Amanda McDougall
Councillor George MacDonald
Councillor Darren Bruckschwaiger
Councillor Jim MacLeod (arrived 11:09 a.m.)

Staff:

Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer
Jennifer Campbell, Chief Financial Officer
John MacKinnon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Deborah Campbell Ryan, Municipal Clerk
Demetri Kachafanas, Regional Solicitor
Wayne MacDonald, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Bruce Hardy, Manager of Engineering Services
Matt Viva, Manager of Waste water Operations
Sheilah MacDonald, Communications Officer – Mayor’s Office
Mark Bettens, EA to the Mayor
Kurt Ferguson, Information Technology Department
Angela Ross, Clerk’s Department
Tanya Nicholson, Clerk’s Department
Sharon MacSween, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Councillor Ray Paruch (Leave of Absence)
Councillor Kendra Coombes (Resigned)

Summary of Decisions

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the March 27, 2020 Emergency Council Agenda as circulated.
Carried.

2. Deferral Measures in Response to COVID-19:

Motion to approve the Deferral Measures in Response to COVID-19 as follows:

- for the next 90 days, CBRM will defer tax sale procedure and disconnection of water utility customers for non-payment;
- CBRM is committed to being flexible by extending payment due dates and providing options for residential and small business customers affected by protection measures undertaken by the Province of Nova Scotia;
- any further deferral will be reassessed in June, 2020, or when a province-wide proposal is developed for consideration.

Carried.

3. Provincial Infrastructure Funding – Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Motion to authorize Mayor Cecil Clarke to execute the letter from Minister Lloyd Hines on behalf of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality to accept and agree to the Terms and Conditions set out in the said letter for the Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure – Cape Breton Regional Municipality and Glace Bay area Water and Wastewater Project, subject to formal Provincial approval. **Carried.**

4. 2020-21 Capital Budget:

Motion to approve the \$47,500,000 underground infrastructure plan, including the \$8 million dollar infrastructure contribution as part of the Glace Bay and Area Water and Wastewater Project included in the letter of offer from Minister Lloyd Hines, with Council to consider and approve recommended project activities for the remaining \$39,500,000. **Carried.**

Adjournment

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion:

Moved by Councillor George MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Marshall, to approve the March 27, 2020 Emergency Council Meeting Agenda as circulated.

Motion Carried.

2. Deferral Measures in Response to COVID-19:

The Chief Financial Officer introduced and provided background information on this issue.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor MacMullin, seconded by Councillor MacLeod, to approve the Deferral Measures in Response to COVID-19 as follows:

- for the next 90 days, CBRM will defer tax sale procedure and disconnection of water utility customers for non-payment;
- CBRM is committed to being flexible by extending payment due dates and providing options for residential and small business customers affected by protection measures undertaken by the Province of Nova Scotia;
- any further deferral will be reassessed in June, 2020 or when a province-wide proposal is developed for consideration.

Motion Carried.

3. Provincial Infrastructure Funding – Cape Breton Regional Municipality:

The letter from Honourable Lloyd Hines, NS Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, was introduced by Mayor Clarke regarding proposed Provincial Infrastructure Funding.

Mr. Wayne MacDonald, Director of Engineering and Public Works, reviewed documentation regarding the list of proposed ICIP Infrastructure Projects which were circulated prior to the meeting.

Continued...

Provincial Infrastructure Funding – Cape Breton Regional Municipality (Cont'd):

After discussion, the following motion was put forward:

Motion:

Moved by Councillor McDougall, seconded by Councillor Eldon MacDonald, to authorize Mayor Cecil Clarke to execute the letter from Minister Lloyd Hines on behalf of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality to accept and agree to the Terms and Conditions set out in the said letter for the Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure – Cape Breton Regional Municipality and Glace Bay area Water and Wastewater Project, subject to formal Provincial approval.

Motion Carried.

4. 2020-21 Capital Budget:

Mayor Clarke introduced this issue.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor George MacDonald, seconded by Councillor MacMullin, to approve the \$47,500,000 underground infrastructure plan, including the \$8 million dollar infrastructure contribution as part of the Glace Bay and Area Water and Wastewater Project included in the letter of offer from Minister Lloyd Hines, with Council to consider and approve recommended project activities for the remaining \$39,500,000.

Motion Carried.

At this point in the meeting, Mayor Clarke advised that a date will be set for the 2020-2021 Operating and Capital Budget deliberations once CBRM receives confirmation from Provincial and Federal Governments regarding response initiatives relating to COVID-19 and infrastructure.

An opportunity for questions and answers was provided and a discussion regarding employee safety in terms of COVID-19 took place.

Meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Mayor Cecil P. Clarke

/slm

**Deborah Campbell Ryan
Municipal Clerk**