

**REGION OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY  
REGULAR COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015  
9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Christopher Clarke, Chair  
Councillor Darlene Norman  
Councillor Susan MacLeod  
Councillor Brian Fralic  
Councillor Raymond Fiske  
Councillor Jack Fancy  
Councillor Peter Waterman  
Kathleen Rafuse, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance  
Shelley Connolly, Executive Secretary

**REGRETS:** Councillor Bruce Inglis

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2.0 CHANGES / APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor Norman that the Agenda be approved with the following two additions:

- 8.2 Regional Enterprise Network – Appointment of Inaugural Board
- 12.1 African Heritage Month

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**3.0 PRESENTATION(S):**

There were no presentations held at this meeting.

**4.0 TABLING OF PETITIONS:**

There were no petitions to come before this meeting.

**5.0 PUBLIC QUESTION / COMMENT SESSION:**

There were no questions or comments from the public.

**6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

6.1 Regular Council Minutes – January 26, 2015

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor MacLeod:

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on January 26, 2015, be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**7.0 DANGEROUS OR UNSIGHTLY PREMISES:**

**7.1 11827 (Lot 1 ABC) Highway 8, Kempt – TET MING HSU**

It was moved by Councillor Waterman and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT Council declares the property located at 11827 (Lot 1 ABC) Highway 8, Kempt, Queens County, Nova Scotia as dangerous and unsightly as defined in the *Municipal Government Act of Nova Scotia*.

AND THAT Council causes an Order to be served upon the owner of the property located at 11827 (Lot 1 ABC) Highway 8, Kempt, Queens County, Nova Scotia requiring that within thirty (30) days of the date of the service of the Order, the following work be carried out:

- (1) Secure all doors and windows and paint all coverings;
- (2) Remove deteriorated fascia boards hanging from roof;

AND THAT upon serving of the order, one derelict vehicle be removed immediately, due to posing threat to public safety;

AND THAT within one hundred twenty (120) days, of the date of service:

- (1) Scrape and paint front, exterior of building (facing Highway 8)
- (2) Cut bushes surrounding dwelling

AND FURTHER that if the owner fails to comply with the Order, the Administrator may cause the requirements of the Order to be carried out and all expenses incurred by the Region of Queens Municipality become the responsibility of the owner.

Kelley-Anne Hurley, Bylaw Enforcement Officer, advised Council that a formal complaint on this property was made in the fall of 2014. The property has been vacant for several years and attempts have been made to contact the owner through telephone and registered mail. This property is unsightly and does not meet Neighborhood Standards. This property is also on the Roster for tax sale.

MOTION CARRIED with 6 for and 1 against.

**8.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

**8.1 Explore Queens Guide 2015 (Pre-Budget Approval)**

It was moved by Councillor Norman and seconded by Councillor Fralic:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality grants pre-budget approval for the Economic Development department's investment in the 2015 Explore Queens County Guide at a cost of \$3500.00 (plus applicable taxes) from the Brochure Update and Productions line in the 2015/16 budget.

Jill Cruikshank, Assistant Director of Economic Development, stated that the Department of Economic Development has partnered with the Queens County Advance in the production of the Explore Queens County Guide for over 10 years. This Guide has a print run of 10,000 and is one of the core elements in their attraction packages. They are working with TC Media to have an electronic version available for viewing/download online. The cost of production is unchanged for 2015.

The deadline for organizations to have information compiled in this Brochure is mid March.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

8.2 Regional Enterprise Network – Appointment of Inaugural Board

Mayor Clarke reported that the South Shore Regional Enterprise Network has its inaugural board in place. Regional Enterprise Network Liaison and Oversight Committee appointed 11 members to the 13 member Board on January 26, 2015.

The Board Members appointed are:

- Andrew Tanner, Town of Bridgewater
- Annette St-Onge, Town of Mahone Bay
- Anthony Smith, District of Chester
- Cyril Meagher, Town of Lockeport
- Darlene Norman, Region of Queens
- David Levy, District of Shelburne
- Jim Eisenhauer, Town of Lunenburg
- Joanne Veinotte, Region of Queens
- Martin Balcome, District of Lunenburg
- Michael Ernst, District of Lunenburg
- Robert Oakley, Town of Bridgewater

Two seats remain vacant and will be filled by representatives from the District of Shelburne and the Town of Shelburne. The Liaison and Oversight Committee will continue to recruit from the business community in those municipalities to fill those two positions.

The South Shore Regional Enterprise Network is an inter-municipal organization with a mandate to provide regional leadership on economic development priorities, with a focus on supporting business growth and retention, investment readiness and tourism. The office of the Regional Enterprise Network will be located in Bridgewater.

Councillor Norman mentioned that there is a Meet and Greet for the Board members and Liaison and Oversight Committee on Thursday, February 19 at 7pm at the Best Western Plus Bridgewater Hotel and Convention Centre.

**9.0 CORPORATE SERVICES:**

9.1 Tax Exemption Bylaw

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor MacLeod:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality gives first reading to a Bylaw respecting Tax Exemptions.

Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance, stated that each year Council reviews properties that are included under the Region's Tax Exemption Bylaw for possible additions and deletions.

Councillor Norman would like to have more information with regard to the Greater Molega Lake Lot Owners Association.

It was moved by Councillor MacLeod and seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality table the recommendation to approve first reading to a Bylaw respecting Tax Exemptions in order to gather more information for the next Council meeting.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**10.0 ENGINEERING AND WORKS:**

10.1 Region 6 Solid Waste Management – 2015/16 Budget

It was moved by Councillor MacLeod and seconded by Councillor Waterman:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approves the Region 6 Solid Waste Management proposed budget for the year 2015/16.

Scott LeBlanc, Solid Waste Management Clerk, provided Council with budget highlights:

- RRFB education money includes \$3,000 to offset costs of providing education and awareness to the public
- Diversion credits payable to Region 6 increases by 1.7%
- Events and outreach to increase by 10.2%
- Increase of 9.2% in professional fees
- Overall budget increase of 0.7% in operations and 1.4% in education services

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Clarke turned the Chair over to Deputy Mayor Norman so he could report on the Finance Department in Councillor Inglis' absence.

**11.0 FINANCE:**

11.1 Administrative Policy No. 9 – Respecting Tax Exemption

It was moved by Mayor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approves the Administrative Policy 9 respecting tax exemptions, as amended (copy attached).

The applicable income level for 2014/15 fiscal year was \$22,080, the exemption was \$250.00 and we had 241 qualified applicants. This recommendation increases the minimum income level to \$22,560 while the exemption remains at \$250.00, based on levels in neighboring municipalities.

It was mentioned that there is also a Provincial program that offered up to a maximum of \$800.00 in 2014 refunded. This application can be picked up in the Region of Queens.

Fuel rebate forms can be picked up at Community Services.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Councillor MacLeod declared conflict of interest and left the room 9:30 a.m. while Item 11.2 – Area Rate Requests was being discussed.

11.2 Area Rate Requests – Brooklyn Recreation & Cemetery Committees

It was moved by Mayor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Fralic:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality consider the area rate requests for the Brooklyn Recreation Committee and the Brooklyn Cemetery Committee as part of the overall budget approval.

The Brooklyn Recreation Committee received a 4 ½ cent area rate for the 2014'15 fiscal year and they are requesting the same for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Brooklyn Cemetery Committee is requesting a 1 ½ cent area rate for the 2015/16 fiscal year, unchanged from the previous year.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

The Chair was turned back to Mayor Clarke at this time.

## **12.0 RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES:**

### **12.1 African Heritage Month**

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor Waterman:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS the year 2015 is the 31<sup>st</sup> year that the month of February has been recognized as "African Heritage Month" in Nova Scotia;

AND WHEREAS "African Heritage Month" has been commemorated in Canada for 89 years;

AND WHEREAS on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the United Nations officially declared the decade of 2015 – 2024 the "International Decade for People of African Descent: Recognition, Justice and Development", to recognize that the people of African descent represent a distinct group whose human rights must be promoted and protected;

AND WHEREAS Barbary (Barbara) Cuffy was the only black person among the proprietors of the township of Liverpool, listed on the 1764 grant confirming ownership of shares in the township;

AND WHEREAS many of the families residing in Queens County today can trace their roots back to the earliest arrival of settlers of Nova Scotia, and have made their homes, lives and livelihood in our community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality recognizes the outstanding achievements and contributions of African Nova Scotians in Queens County throughout our history. Those of African Descent in our community have contributed their culture and experiences, and made our community richer for their involvement in it. Council looks to the future and the continued impact and positive influences that those of African descent make in our community and further afield.

Councillor Fralic attended the Southwest African Heritage Month Launch at the Digby Municipal Building on January 29, 2015.

Councillors Norman, MacLeod and Fiske attended the South Shore African Heritage Month Launch at the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre in Shelburne on February 5, 2015.

## **13.0 PLANNING:**

There were no items to be discussed.

## **14.0 QUEENS PLACE EMERA CENTRE:**

Councillor Fancy reported that he attended the launching of the SouSho Sci-Fi Festival at Queens Place on February 5, 2015. This festival will be taking place from June 12-14, 2015 at Queens Place Emera Centre. Tickets will be sold through Ticket Pro.

Councillor Fralic stated that the Dave Dobson/Philip Harding music event was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Mayor Clarke turned the Chair over to Deputy Mayor Norman.

**15.0 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

15.1 Re-Appointment to Western Regional Housing Authority Board

It was moved by Mayor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Waterman:

THAT the Nominating Committee recommend to the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality that Marie MacLeod be recommended for re-appointment as the Region's representative on the Western Regional Housing Authority Board.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

15.2 Amendments to the Rules of Order

It was moved by Mayor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT the Nominating Committee recommends to the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality that the Rules of Order be amended as presented.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

The Chair was turned back to Mayor Clarke at this time.

**16.0 OTHER:**

There were no other items to be discussed at this meeting.

**17.0 IN-CAMERA ITEMS:**

The meeting recessed at 9:45 a.m. and resumed at 10:00 a.m.

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor Fiske that the proceedings go "In-Camera" at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the following:

- 17.1 Contract Negotiations
- 17.2 Contract Negotiation

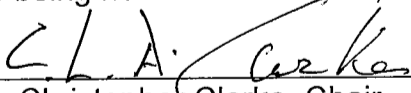
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

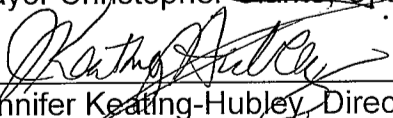
It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor MacLeod that the proceedings come out of "In-Camera" at 11:10 a.m.

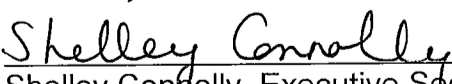
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**18.0 ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

  
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Mayor Christopher Clarke, Chair

  
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Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance

  
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Shelley Conolly, Executive Secretary

Date approved: Feb. 24/15