

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF CRAPAUD
Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Crapaud Community Hall
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Joanne Harvey, Councillors Margaret Armsworthy, Della Ferguson, Dean MacDonald and Tom Patterson; Interim CAO Susan Williams Bulman

Regrets: Savannah Dugay

Residents: Jennifer Brown, Steven Carey, Mary Heckbert, Ivan Lowther, Janet Lower, Neila Auld

Guests: Connie MacKinnon

1. Call to Order – Mayor Harvey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Approval of Agenda for Tuesday, September 19, 2023 – Moved by Councillor Della Ferguson and seconded by Councillor Tom Patterson to approve the agenda for Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Unanimously Carried.
3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest – No conflict of interest was declared.
4. Approval of Changes to the May 23, 2023 Special Council Meeting Minutes – Moved by Councillor Tom Patterson and seconded by Councillor Margaret Armsworthy to approve the changes to the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting on May 23, 2023. Unanimously Carried.
5. Approval of Minutes from the June 20, 2023 Regular Council Meeting – Mayor Harvey called for the approval of the June 20, 2023 Regular Council Meeting. Moved by Councillor Della Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Tom Patterson. Unanimously Carried.
6. Business Arising from previous Minutes – None
7. Mayors Report
 - Mayor Harvey announced the departure of CAO Jamie Stride and the appointment of Susan Williams Bulman as Interim CAO which all took place in August.
 - She noted that the Open House for Dr. Cameron and the Nurse Practitioners on Sunday, September 17 was a well-attended lovely afternoon at the hall. On behalf of Council, she thanked Connie MacKinnon and her team of volunteers for all their hard work in organizing this event.
 - The ramp at the hall will be replaced in the next few weeks, followed by the install of heat pumps.

- Council would like to thank Councillor Della Ferguson for all her work on EMO this past weekend. The Mayor feels it gives our residents comfort knowing we are only a phone call away. She also thanked Ivan Lowther and Dennis Lowther for their part in ensuring the municipality was prepared for a weather event. It shows that when we work as a team, anything is possible.

8. New Business

- There was an email request from a resident asking the Municipality of Crapaud to consider flying a Pride Flag during the months of June and July beginning in 2024. Councillors did not have any objection to this but no further discussion ensued.
- Provincial Land Use Plan – A Provincial Land Use Plan is in the works for the province and the municipality is unsure how that will affect the municipality's plan. The Interim CAO is in discussions with Danny Jenkins of Municipal Affairs and Megan Williams, Manager of Land Use Planning, PEI Department of Housing, Land and Communities.

9. Councillor Reports

- Councillor Margaret Armsworthy noted the Interim CAO is meeting the accountant, Michelle Burge of MRSB on Thursday, September 21 to review the draft financials for the period ended March 31, 2023.
- Councillor Della Ferguson reported on a number of issues
 - The EMO is in the final stages of being finalized. I met with the Red Cross and they did an inspection of the hall and they will let us know what we need to get. I have the report from the Red Cross and I would like to present it to Council for approval. With the approval of this report, we can move forward and get the hall registered as a warming/reception centre. We had a good response from residents in the area for donations for blankets, etc. There Kinsmen groups from Alberta and NB that collected money and the funds were sent to the Kinsman Club in Kensington. The Kensington Club picked 20 communities on the Island to give supplies to for a reception centre and Crapaud was one of them. We received a container full of batteries, toilet paper, etc. We really appreciate the donation. Councillor Della Ferguson made a motion to accept the Red Cross Shelter/Reception Centre Survey; seconded by Councillor Armsworthy. Motion carried unanimously.
 - I have been talking to Andy Wilson and Daryl Evans from the province regarding the property across from the Crapaud General Store. They are looking into a 100-year lease which the municipality was told was in place. If no such lease exists, we will be asking for a lease agreement so we can look after the property. There was electricity to the property but it was removed when the bridge work was done. They knew there was electricity running to the property and are looking into the history of it and if it was put in properly. The provincial government gave the municipality \$1,000 in 2021 to replace what was on the property but that did not include electrical. They are going to cap the well that is on the property.

- I had a meeting in August with Kevin McCardle of Municipal Affairs concerning two computers that were returned to the municipal office that were wiped clean. The computers are now in the hands of Municipal Affairs and they will look at them and see what steps need to be taken.
- The old trailer in the field beside the exhibition grounds has been removed. Your council is working on a lot of things and we need the support of residents to make our community the best it can be.

10. Public Section

- Resident Jennifer Brown informed Council and guests that the mural being done on the side of the Crapaud General Store has a design change. It will now be two squares side by side (now & then) with a half circle above the squares. It will be made on metal plates for outdoor signage. Resident Corey Gavin, a graphic designer is donating his talents to this project.
- Resident Steven Carey asked many questions about the hiring of Interim CAO, Susan Williams Bulman. He questioned the process to which she was hired – was the job advertised, that she was hired because she was a friend of the Mayor. Resident Janet Lowther said Susan Williams Bulman was a friend of the community. Councillor Margaret Armsworthy said the Interim CAO was filling a position temporarily and therefore it did not have to be advertised. Resident Jennifer Brown likened it to being a substitute teacher.
- Resident Steven Carey also voiced his objection to the municipality flying a Pride Flag, stating it was a political statement. Jennifer Brown voiced her opinion, stating it was a social statement, not a political statement.

Next Council Meeting – October 17, 2023.

Adjournment – Moved by Councillor Della Ferguson, Seconded by Councillor Tom Patterson to adjourn meeting at 7:30 pm.