

Rural Municipality of Crapaud

Special Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

6:30 pm

Crapaud Community Hall

Minutes

Present: Mayor Joanne Harvey; Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy; Councillor Della Ferguson, Councillor Dean MacDonald, Councillor Tom Patterson, Councillor Savannah Dugay; CAO Alana Searle

1. **Call to Order** - Mayor Joanne Harvey called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda** - Approval of Agenda for Tuesday, February 27, 2024 – Moved by Councillor Della Ferguson and seconded by Councillor Tom Patterson to approve the agenda.
3. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest** – Nil
4. **Approval of Financial Plan 2024-25 (Motion #2024-09)**

Motion Carried 5-0

Moved by Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy

Seconded by Councillor Della Ferguson

WHEREAS – the proposed financial plan was presented on February 20, 2024, and

WHEREAS – there was no negative feedback from the public,

BE IT RESOLVED - The Council for the Rural Municipality of Crapaud approves the Financial Plan 2024-25. Motion unanimously carried.

5. **Tax Rate 2024 (Motion #2024-10)**

Motion Carried 4-1

Moved by Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy

Seconded by Councillor Della Ferguson

WHEREAS - in accordance with MGA (160) (1) (A) Non-Commercial Properties Tax Rate will be raised from \$0.50 per \$100.00 of assessment to \$0.75 per \$100.00 of assessment, and

WHEREAS Commercial Properties Tax Rate will be raised from \$0.55 per \$100.00 of assessment to \$0.95 per \$100.00 of assessment to raise revenue sufficient to defray projected municipal expenditures for this year including any deficit carried forward from the previous year,

BE IT RESOLVED - CAO Alana Searle will notify the Provincial Tax Commissioner in accordance with the Real Property Tax Act respecting the approved tax rate(s).

Motion carried (4-1).

- 6. Sewer and Water Rate 2024** – In accordance with MGA Section (153) Deficit prohibited. Council will raise existing Sewer Rate of \$385 per household by \$100 in 2024, an additional \$50 per household in 2025 and \$50 per household in 2026. Water Rate will be increased by 20% in 2024. Item deferred to next Council Meeting scheduled for March 19, 2024.
- 7. Bylaw Water & Sewer Corporation #2022-03** - It was brought to the attention of council that a First Reading of Bylaw #2022-03 was presented for the first time June 21, 2022, but due to Official Trustee taking over in July of 2022 it did not have a Second Reading nor was it Approved and Adopted by Council. CAO Alana Searle will review previous bylaw “Establishment of Crapaud Sewage Collection and Treatment: 1988-06-06” and Bylaw #2022-03 and advise council of updates/changes at Council Meeting March 19, 2024.
- 8. By-election 2024 (Motion #2024-11)**

Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Councillor Savannah Dugay

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy

WHEREAS - in accordance with MGA Sub-section (60)(1)(a) – where a vacancy occurs on a council, the council shall declare a by-election to fill the vacancy.

BE IT RESOLVED - By-election date set for April 1, 2024, with advance poll on Saturday March 30, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

9. RMC Financial

The Council reviewed the high costs and low quality of customer service the municipality is receiving from Scotiabank and referred to the Deputy Mayor Margaret Armsworthy to research alternative financial institutions.

10. Adjournment - Moved by Councillor Tom Patterson to adjourn meeting at 7:00 pm.

Joanne Harvey _____

Mayor

Alana Searle _____

Chief Administrative Officer