

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 O' Canada

Warden Hunter called the April 20 16, 2016 Council session of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland to Order at 2:05 p.m. The meeting was held at the E. D. Fullerton Municipal Building. O'Canada was sung.

1.2 Roll Call

Municipal Clerk, Brenda Moore, called the roll with the following Councillors being present: Councillor Smith, Councillor Kellegrew, Warden Hunter, Councillor Gillis, Councillor Welton, Councillor Baker, Councillor Rector, Deputy Warden Gilbert, Councillor Fletcher, Councillor Williams, and Councillor Jackson

Councillors Absent: Councillor McLellan, Councillor Baker

2. **ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES**

2.1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the Addition(s)/Deletion(s) of:

Addition(s):	3.3	Capital Budget
	4.2	Financial Statements
	6.8	Oh Canada
	6.9	Audit Committee Rec
	6.10	Land Acquisitions
	6.11	Cumberland Energy Authority
	6.12	TOR for Anne Murray Center Con
	6.13	Community Development Grants
	6.14	Fire Department Audits

Deletion(s): 2.4; 2.5

2.2 Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2016

The minutes of the April 6, 2016 Council session were approved as amended to include the amounts in the Community Development Grants.

2.3 Business Arising from the April 6, 2016 Council Session

2.4 Delegations, Presentations, Petitions, Proclamations

There were no presentations for today's meeting.

2.5 Public Hearings

There were no public hearings for today's meeting.

3. **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ISSUES**

3.1 Marine Renewables/Cumberland Energy Authority

A presentation on the Supplier Engagement Initiative is scheduled for May 17, 2016 at the Springhill Community Centre.

3.2 Building Canada Fund Agreement

Director Waugh-Cress informed Council of the terms of the Building Canada Fund Agreement put forth by the Federal Government for the Pugwash and Area Water Supply Project.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew seconded by Councillor Gillis to approve the Building Fund Canada Agreement for the Federal Contributions to the Pugwash water supply and direct Warden Hunter to sign said agreement.

MOTION CARRIED #16-081

3.3 Capital Budget for 2016/2017

Director of Finance Andrew MacDonald and Director of Engineering and Operations Justin Waugh-Cress reviewed the Capital Budget with Council. Director Waugh-Cress outlined the process the Capital Budget Committee undertook to develop the budget for this year. The directors fielded questions regarding specific items on the list.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Fletcher and seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to approve the Capital Budget in principal, with the addition of the Leicester Fire Hall.

MOTION CARRIED #16-082

Councillor Smith asked his nay vote be recorded

4. **MAJOR ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES**

4.1 MGA Review

CAO Bugley reported that a number of Councillors had read the proposed housekeeping amendments to the MGA, and were in agreement with them.

4.2 Financial Statements

Financial Statements were given to Councillors and reviewed by Director MacDonald. This will facilitate discussion and approval at a later meeting.

5. **ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY/BY-LAW ISSUES**

5.1 Low Income Exemption

Director Andrew MacDonald and Revenue Officer Jennifer Moore proposed changes to the Low Income Exemption Policy. Their recommendations are the threshold amounts be increased by the Consumer Price Index this year; a paragraph be added to the Policy authorizing the Finance department to annually calculate and update the amounts for the exemptions using the annual CPI; and that the Revenue Officer ensure the documentation supporting this exemption calculation is updated and maintained in laserfiche.

Municipality of Cumberland Policy Low Income Tax Exemption Policy

Section 69 of the Municipal Government Act allows Council to establish a Policy for granting an exemption from tax for a person whose income is below a specified amount. This policy will establish the amount of the tax exemption, who is eligible and the process for applying for the exemption.

“Income” means a person’s total income from all sources for the calendar year preceding the fiscal year of the Municipality, and includes the income of all other members of the same family residing in the same household, but does not include an allowance paid pursuant to the *War Veterans Allowance Act* (Canada) or pension paid pursuant to the *Pension Act* (Canada)

1. **Amount of Exemption**

When the income of the person, spouse and other household members combined is less than \$17,957 the exemption shall be \$306.

When the income of the person, spouse and other household members combined is between \$17,958 and \$20,332 the exemption shall be \$211.

Income cut off levels and exemption amounts shall increase by an amount equal to the annual average percentage change in the Consumer Price Index, all-items, for the Province of Nova Scotia for the previous calendar year, as determined by Statistics Canada. If that index is negative in any given year, the amount of the increase will be zero.

2. **To Qualify for the Exemption**

The exemption shall apply only to property of a ratepayer occupied by him or her as his or her principal residence.

The applicant shall complete the application regarding the household income for the previous calendar year. A Councillor, a Commissioner of Oaths or the Municipal Clerk must witness the applicant’s signature on the application.

3. **To receive the Exemption**

An application for a fiscal year shall be submitted by December 31st of that fiscal year.

General

(1) County Staff shall annually send out a reminder letter and an application form to all persons who received the exemption the previous year.

- (2) The operating budget shall make allowance for this exemption on a yearly basis.
- (3) Should a person's total tax bill for that year be less than the exemption for that year, then the exemption will be equal to the full amount of the tax bill for that year.
- (4) The Municipality requires a copy of the prior year's Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment for all household members prior to approving an application.
- (5) The deadline for applications and any other pertinent information shall be advertised, at least once, in the local paper.
- (6) Total income is based on Line 150 of the T1 Income Tax and Benefit return for all household members.
- (7) This Policy is effective upon adoption and replaces any previous Low Income Exemption Policies

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis and seconded by Councillor Welton to provide notice that Council will consider adopting the amended Low Income Tax Exemption Policy at the May 11, 2016 Council session.

MOTION CARRIED #16-083

6. BUSINESS ISSUES

6.1 Community Economic Development Update

A report from the Community Development Coordinator, Michelle Byers, was included in the Council package. Michelle gave a brief report from the Citizens Economic Network Committee meeting held today at noon.

6.2 Tax Collection Memo

A report from Jen Moore was included in the Council package.

6.3 Cumberland Public Libraries Report

The report was included for Councils information.

6.4 Energy East Pipeline Project

A response from M.P. Bill Casey to Council's correspondence was included in your package.

6.5 General Borrowing Resolution

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew and seconded by Deputy Warden Gilbert to authorize the borrowing of certain moneys from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce to meet the current expenditure of the Corporation of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland (hereinafter called "the Corporation") for the year ending March 31, 2017.

WHEREAS it is necessary to borrow the sum of \$6,000,000 (six million dollars) from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce to meet the new current expenditures of the Corporation until such time as the taxes to be levied therefore can be collected;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Corporation as follows:

1. THAT the Warden and the Treasurer of the Corporation be, and they are hereby authorized under the seal of the Corporation to borrow from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce up to the sum of \$6,000,000 (six million dollars) as the same may be required from time to time to meet the now current expenditures of the Corporation which said expenditures has been duly authorized by Council; and

2. THAT the said Warden with the Treasurer aforesaid, be, and they are hereby authorized to pay or allow to the said bank, interest on the sum of \$6,000,000 (six million dollars) at Prime Rate per annum, which may be paid or allowed in advance by way of discount or otherwise howsoever as they may deem best; and

3. THAT the said sum of \$6,000,000 (six million dollars) so to be borrowed shall be made payable on or before the 31st day of March, 2017, and the promissory note or notes of the Corporation, if any, given therefore, if made payable before the said 31st day of March, 2017, may be renewed by the said Warden and Treasurer from time to time, but no renewal thereof shall fall due later than the said 31st day of March, 2017; and

4. THAT the said promissory note or notes of the Corporation, sealed with the corporate seal and signed by the Warden and Treasurer of the Corporation be given from time to time as required, in security for the amounts borrowed from time to time under the provisions of this resolution; and

5. THAT giving of such renewal note or notes, as aforesaid, shall not be deemed satisfaction to the said bank of the said advance or interest, but as evidence only in indebtedness.

MOTION CARRIED #16-084

6.6 Remittals

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis and seconded by Councillor Smith to approve a remittal in the amount of \$3, 243.00 for taxes and interest on duplicate tax account #07445414.

MOTION CARRIED #16-085

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Rector and seconded by Councillor Welton to approve a remittal in the amount of \$1,146.49 for interest accumulated on account #02949407 since 2014.

MOTION CARRIED #16-086

WAS MOVED by Councillor Rector and seconded by Councillor Fletcher to approve the remittal in the amount of \$230.52 for tax account # 606599.

MOTION CARRIED #16-087

6.7 UNSM Spring Workshop

The UNSM 2016 Spring Workshop Program Outline was in Councillor's mailboxes.

6.8 O Canada and God Save The Queen

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor Welton and seconded by Councillor Rector to dispense with singing O Canada and God Save the Queen at Council meetings.

MOTION DEFEATED #16-088

6.9 Audit Committee Report

Councillor Smith provided a report from the Audit Committee. The audit committee made recommendations that \$100,000 be budgeted in the 2016/2017 fiscal year to hire an internal auditor and that operating budgets not increase more than the average change in CPINS for the previous calendar year. The audit committee will provide more information for Council in the near future.

6.10 Land Acquisition Pugwash Water Supply Project

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew and seconded by Councillor Gillis

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, S.N.S. 1998, c.18 as amended, and, the *Expropriation Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c156, as amended, the Municipality of the County of Cumberland has authority to expropriate real property for a public purpose;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of the County of Cumberland considers the creation of a drinking water well facility, Cumberland County, to be a public purpose for the public good;

AND WHEREAS the expropriation of a portion of lands formerly owned by Owners Unknown situate in West Pugwash, Cumberland County, Province of Nova Scotia, bearing Property Identification Number 25498239, is required for the purpose of construction of a drinking water well facility, Cumberland County, Nova Scotia;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Municipality of the County of Cumberland held a duly called meeting on April 20, 2016 at which time the Council made the decision to approve the expropriation of a portion of lands formerly owned by Owner Unknown, as described at Appendix A to this Resolution, for the purposes of the construction of drinking water well facility; aforesaid;

BE IT RHEREFORE RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Cumberland shall expropriate a portion of the lands formerly of Owner Unknown, aforesaid; in accordance with the authority and provisions of the *Expropriation Act* and the *Municipal Government Act*.

MOTION CARRIED #16-089

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis and seconded by Councillor Welton to accept the claim of Clair and Bruce Peers on the conditions that they release any further claims against the Municipality with respect to Lot 3U on Plan of Pugwash Water Supply prepared by Michael J Gould N.S.L.S., and they sign an indemnity agreement that the clamant will pay the money back should it be determined that they are not entitled to the money; and that the Municipality not pay legal fees incurred by Clair and Bruce Peers as it would set precedent for future cases where a claim is made against expropriated land.

MOTION CARRIED #16-090

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis and seconded by Councillor Rector to purchase Parcel M on Plan of Pugwash Water Supply prepared by Michael J Gould N.S.L.S., for \$80,000.

MOTION CARRIED #16-091

6.11 Cumberland Energy Authority

The Board of the CEA approved a recommendation to respective Councils, Cumberland and Parrsboro, that the structure of the CEA should continue as an incorporated entity.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Fletcher and seconded by Councillor Williams that Council support the continuation of the CEA as a legally incorporated body and that staff commence the process of revising the legal documents as required.

MOTION CARRIED #16-092

6.12 Anne Murray Center

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Jackson and seconded by Councillor Williams to approve the Terms of Reference for hiring consultant Jim Campbell, as an extension of his contract with the Municipality, to work with the Anne Murray Center Board to develop a new vision for the center, as well as viable business and governance models for the vision; with a budget limit of \$10,000 including HST for the project.

MOTION CARRIED #16-093

6.13 Community Development Grants

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Welton and seconded by Councillor Gillis to approve a grant for the Malagash Area Development Association in the amount of \$3000.

MOTION CARRIED #16-094

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Smith and seconded by Deputy Warden Gilbert to approve a grant for the Cumberland Spartans Swim Club for \$40 per child up to a maximum of \$3000.

MOTION CARRIED #16-095

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Fletcher seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to approve a grant for the Age of Sail Marathon in the amount of \$1500.

MOTION CARRIED #16-096

6.14 Fire Department Audits

Andrew MacDonald, Director of Finance reported that McIsaac –Darragh submitted the only response to the RFP for Fire Department Audits.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew and seconded by Councillor Smith to award the Contract for the fire department audits to McIsaac –Darragh.

MOTION CARRIED #16-097

7. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

7.1 FCM Budget Analysis

This document was distributed for information.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Welton to take the *Councillor’s Attendance at UNSM and FCM Conferences Policy 93-22* to the Policy and Bylaw Committee for review and revision.

MOTION CARRIED #16-098

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

8.1 The Queen

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45p.m. God Save the Queen was sung.

Warden Keith Hunter

Municipal Clerk Brenda Moore