

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Warden Gillis called the April 22, 2020 Council session of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland to Order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held via teleconference.

Shelley Hoeg, Communications and Executive Assistant to the CAO called the roll with the following Councillors present: Councillor Paul Porter, Councillor Marlon Chase, Councillor Joe van Vulpen, Warden Al Gillis, Councillor Lynne Welton, Councillor Barbara Palmer, Councillor Dan Rector, Deputy Warden Ernie Gilbert, Councillor Mike McLellan, Councillor Don Fletcher, Councillor Doug Williams, Councillor Maryanne Jackson, and Councillor Norman Rafuse.

Staff present: Andrew MacDonald, Director of Finance; Stephen Ferguson, Director of Community Development; Justin Waugh-Cress, Director of Engineering and Operations; Eric Levy, HR and Organizational Development; Amanda MacLeod, Sustainable Communities Marketing Officer; and Brenda Moore, Municipal Clerk who recorded the meeting.

Media: Bill Martin from Six Rivers News

2. BUSINESS ISSUES

Warden's Statement and Moment of Silence

Warden Gillis provided the following statement regarding the tragedy which occurred in Nova Scotia on April 18th and 19th, 2020, which was followed by a Moment of Silence for the victims.

This is probably one of the shortest Council meetings ever held in the Municipality, but it is also the most important one ever held.

The events of April 18th and 19th have forever changed our municipality, our neighbouring municipalities, our province, and our country. The senseless act of one man has cost us 22 lives. These individuals were vibrant family, friends and neighbours who were all a part of the very fabric of their communities.

Barb Palmer, Councillor of District 6 has asked if I would share a few words on her behalf. Councillor Palmer says:

I want to send my condolences to the family and friends of the victims, not only in Wentworth, but to all who have been affected by this tragedy. My heart goes out to everyone during this time of sadness, sorrow and grief as our community mourns this tremendous loss. The residents of this community have really come together as best they can during this time of isolation to support the families who have lost loved ones. We need to send a heartfelt thanks to the first responders who have been at the forefront of this devastation and to everyone who, through kindness, provided food and beverages for them while they worked through this trying time. As we begin the healing process, we need to remember that help is available for everyone and that we are not alone.

Thank you, Councillor Palmer, for representing your community with these words.

I ask you now to join me in a moment of silence for each of the victims who have been taken from us too soon.

moment of silence

It is often said during tragedies like this that words cannot express our grief. Now, in the middle of a pandemic where we are unable to mourn face to face, words have become so incredibly important. I encourage everyone to tell your family and friends what they mean to you. To talk to each other, especially talk with those who mourn. Sing a song or write a poem to express what you are feeling. On the Municipality of Cumberland website, you can find phone numbers for organizations who can help you work through this tragic experience. Together, we will be Nova Scotia Strong.

3. ADJOURNMENT

- 8.1 The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Warden Allison Gillis

Municipal Clerk Brenda Moore