

MUNICIPALITY OF
**EASTERN
CHARLOTTE**

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 18, 2023
7:00 p.m.
Magaguadavic Place Community Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Craig
Councillor Alexa Detorakis
Councillor Adam Hatt
Councillor David R. Hatt
Councillor Terry Lee
Councillor Wayne MacQuarrie
Councillor Lisa McKay
Councillor Darrell Tidd
Councillor Michael Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: Jason Gaudet, CAO / Clerk
Cara Hatt, Parks & Recreation Coordinator

GUESTS PRESENT: Vicki Hogarth, Dale Wells, Florence Mitchell (CHCO-TV)
Gallery: 26

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Council for Eastern Charlotte held on Wednesday January 18, 2023, at Magaguadavic Place, was called to order by Mayor Craig at 7:00 pm.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FOR EASTERN CHARLOTTE (RECORDING OF OATHS AND/OR AFFIRMATIONS).

CAO entered into the record the members of Council for Eastern Charlotte were sworn-in on Monday, December 19, 2022, and in accordance with the *Local Governance Act, c. 18*, all Members have signed the "Form 1" and all forms are on record at the Municipal Office.


CLERK

MAYOR

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: That the meeting agenda be adopted as presented to Council.

Moved by: Councillor Tidd

Seconded by: Councillor Lee

Motion carried unanimously.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

None

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING(S)

Mayor Craig advised there are no minutes as this was the first meeting of Council.

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

None

7. DELEGATIONS

None

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**a. General Government Report**

CAO presented the following for the month of January, 2023:

- Staff have been busy working on the amalgamation of the two former municipalities.
- The Municipal Office at 1 School Street in St. George has been under renovation, including the return of the Mayor's Office, as well as work on a new common kitchen area for staff, Public Works and Fire.
- Event planning and review is taking place for what has happened in the past in the former municipalities and rural areas.

Mayor Craig advised additional reports will return next month.

9. ACCOUNTS PAID AND PAYABLE

CAO advised this would apply to accounts payable from the previous month. There is nothing for Eastern Charlotte for the previous month. Accounts payable for the previous municipalities are on file with the Municipal Office.

10. OLD BUSINESS

None

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Selection of Deputy Mayor

Mayor Craig called for nominations for Deputy Mayor.

- Councillor Thompson nominated Councillor D. Hatt.
- Councillor D. Hatt accepted the nomination.

Mayor Craig called for any additional nominations for Deputy Mayor.

- Councillor A. Hatt nominated himself

Mayor Craig called for any additional nominations for Deputy Mayor two more times.

- Councillor Tidd nominated himself

Mayor Craig called for any additional nominations for Deputy Mayor three more times.

Motion: That nominations for Deputy Mayor be closed.

Moved by: Councillor MacQuarrie

Seconded by: Councillor Detorakis

Motion carried unanimously.

Nominees spoke on behalf of their candidacy.

Voting Results:

	Councillor Detorakis	Councillor A. Hatt	Councillor D. Hatt	Councillor Lee	Councillor MacQuarrie	Councillor McKay	Councillor Thompson	Councillor Tidd	Mayor Craig
Councillor D. Hatt	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Councillor A. Hatt		X							
Councillor Tidd								X	

Councillor David R. Hatt elected to serve as Deputy Mayor.

JG.
CLERK
JG.
MAYOR

b. Municipal Designation, “Rural Community”

Motion: That Eastern Charlotte be designated as a “town”.

Moved by: Councillor Tidd

Seconded by: Councillor Lee

CAO provided background on the process of designating the municipality as a “rural community” versus a “town” or “village”.

Vote on the Motion:

	Councillor Detorakis	Councillor A. Hatt	Deputy Mayor D. Hatt	Councillor Lee	Councillor MacQuarrie	Councillor McKay	Councillor Thompson	Councillor Tidd	Mayor Craig (tie-breaker)
Aye (in favour)		X	X	X				X	X
Nay (opposed)	X				X	X	X		

Motion carried.

c. Municipality Name

Motion: That the name be changed from “Eastern Charlotte” to “Coastal Charlotte”.

Moved by: Councillor Thompson

Seconded by: Councillor Detorakis

Councillor Thompson presented information leading him to suggest the change.

Council debated the motion.

Vote on the Motion:

	Councillor Detorakis	Councillor A. Hatt	Deputy Mayor D. Hatt	Councillor Lee	Councillor MacQuarrie	Councillor McKay	Councillor Thompson	Councillor Tidd	Mayor Craig (tie-breaker)
Aye (in favour)	X		X			X	X		
Nay (opposed)		X		X	X			X	X

Motion defeated.

- d. **Resolution of Council to transfer \$197,684 from Blacks Harbour Utility Reserve to the Utility Operations for the purposes to completing payment on project#222813.00A Sanitary Sewer Renewals.**

Motion: BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of Eastern Charlotte of Council approves the transfer of \$197,684 from Blacks Harbour Utility Reserve to the Utility Operations for the purposes to completing payment on Project # 222813.00A, Sanitary Sewer Renewals for Blacks Harbour.

Moved by: Councillor Lee

Seconded by: Councillor A. Hatt

Councillor Detorakis asked for details of the project. CAO explained this project was completed by Fairville Construction with engineering by CBCL, involving manhole access points within the Village. Work was completed in November, 2022.

Motion carried.

- e. **Resolution of Council for the Employee Benefit Pension Plan to be administered by the New Brunswick Municipal Employees Pension Plan.**

Motion:

WHEREAS, the majority of Eastern Charlotte employees are already enrolled the Employee Benefit Pension Plan administered by New Brunswick Municipal Employee Pension Plan,

BE IT RESOLVED That all employees of the Municipality of Eastern Charlotte enter into the New Brunswick Municipal Employee Pension Plan effective January 1, 2023.

Moved by: Councillor A. Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor MacQuarrie

CAO advised a majority of staff are already members of the plan, and the rest of staff are using RRSPs. This would bring all into the Plan, which is benefiting a majority of municipalities across the Province.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Appointments**(1) Clerk****Motion:**

WHEREAS the *Act Respecting Local Governance Reform* has dissolved the municipalities of the Town of St. George and the Village of Blacks Harbour, and created the local government of Eastern Charlotte, and

WHEREAS paragraph 71(1) of the *Local Governance Act* requires every local government to appoint a CAO & Clerk, and

WHEREAS accordance with paragraph 11(2)(h) of an *Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, Min. Daniel Allain, Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform, has previously made this appointment on December 8, 2022; BE IT RESOLVED that **Jason N. Gaudet** is appointed CAO & Clerk of the municipality of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor Detorakis

Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

Motion carried unanimously.

(2) Treasurer**Motion:**

WHEREAS the *Act Respecting Local Governance Reform* has dissolved the municipalities of the Town of St. George and the Village of Blacks Harbour, and created the local government of Eastern Charlotte, and

WHEREAS paragraph 71(1) of the *Local Governance Act* requires every local government to appoint a Treasurer, and

WHEREAS accordance with paragraph 11(2)(h) of an *Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, Min. Daniel Allain, Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform, has previously made this appointment on December 8, 2022; BE IT RESOLVED that Cathy Neves is appointed Treasurer of the municipality of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor McKay

Seconded by: Councillor Detorakis

Motion carried unanimously.

(3) Building Inspectors**Motion:**

WHEREAS the municipality of Eastern Charlotte has contracted with the Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission to obtain professional building inspection services;

BE IT RESOLVED that **Keith Vernon Faulkner** is a building inspector for the municipality of Eastern Charlotte;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Keith Vernon Faulkner shall remain a building inspector for the municipality of Eastern Charlotte so long as he remains an employee of the Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Keith Vernon Faulkner shall remain a building inspector for the municipality of Eastern Charlotte so long as the Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission remains contracted to provide building inspection services to the Rural Community of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor Tidd

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Hatt

Councillor Hatt asked if Council has chosen SNBSC or if we were told we have to use them. CAO explained they have not been chosen but we are going from what was used for the former rural communities, the Town of St. George, and the Village of Blacks Harbour. Did put a callout for other building inspectors. The former inspector for Blacks Harbour resigned and did not want to serve Eastern Charlotte. In the future if we find someone and decide we want to change the inspectors we can go back to the Service Commission and make changes to our services.

Motion carried unanimously

Motion:

WHEREAS the municipality of Eastern Charlotte has contracted with the Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission to obtain professional building inspection services;

BE IT RESOLVED that **Michael Joseph Kyle Hall** is a building inspector for the municipality of Eastern Charlotte;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Michael Joseph Kyle Hall shall remain a building inspector for the municipality of Eastern Charlotte so long as he remains an employee of the Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Michael Joseph Kyle Hall shall remain a building inspector for the municipality of Eastern Charlotte so long as the Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission remains contracted to provide building inspection services to the Rural Community of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor Tidd

Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

In answer to a question from Councillor Hatt, CAO confirmed Eastern Charlotte has two (2) building inspectors.

Motion carried unanimously

(4) By-Law Enforcement Officer

Motion:

WHEREAS the municipality of Eastern Charlotte has local by-laws that were enacted under the former Village of Blacks Harbour and the former Town of St. George; and

WHEREAS the local by-laws remain active and enacted within the boundaries of the former municipalities until such time that they are either repealed and/or replaced; and

WHEREAS the local by-laws may require enforcement;

BE IT RESOLVED that **Jason N. Gaudet** is appointed By-Law Enforcement Officer of the municipality of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor Lee

Seconded by: Councillor McKay

Discussion regarding the duties of the By-Law Enforcement Officer.

CAO also advised he does not intend to stay in the role; there are budgeted funds for a By-Law Enforcement Officer. We are currently in talks with St. Andrews about possibly joining together to hire one. His duties as CAO and Clerk do not leave a lot

of time. This ensures there is someone who can fill the gap. There are still some dangerous and unsightly files open in the former Village and former Town.

Motion carried unanimously.

(5) EMO Director

Motion:

WHEREAS the municipality of Eastern Charlotte maintains a Municipal Emergency Response Plan; and

WHEREAS the municipality works in conjunction with the Department of Justice and Public Safety, New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization;

BE IT RESOLVED that **Jason Gaudet** is appointed EMO Director of the municipality of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor Lee

CAO advised this is also something he does not intend to keep for long, hopefully within the next year to have someone. In the case of an emergency there is someone to serve as an intermediary between the municipality and the Province and other agencies.

Councillor Hatt asked if there was an EMO director for the former Town and Village. CAO answered it was him for the Town of St. George, and possibly Fire Chief Shaw in Blacks Harbour.

Motion carried unanimously.

(6) Animal Protection

Motion:

WHEREAS under the *New Brunswick SPCA Act*, SPCA Animal Protection Officers have the authority to seize animals, conduct investigations, and (in co-operation with other law enforcement agencies and the Crown Prosecutors Office) bring charges under the SPCA Act and the Criminal Code of Canada; and

WHEREAS the NB SPCA provided animal protection and enforcement for former Village of Blacks Harbour, the former Town of St. George and the former LSD areas;
BE IT RESOLVED that **New Brunswick SPCA** is appointed Animal Protection of the municipality of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor McKay

Seconded by: Councillor Tidd

Motion carried unanimously.

(7) Auditor for 2022 Fiscal Year

Motion:

WHEREAS the *Act Respecting Local Governance Reform* has dissolved the municipalities of the Town of St. George and the Village of Blacks Harbour, and created the local government of Eastern Charlotte; and

WHEREAS paragraph 71(1) of the *Local Governance Act* requires every local government to appoint an Auditor; and

WHEREAS the auditor for the former Village of Blacks Harbour and the former Town of St. George for the fiscal 2021 year was Teed Saunders Doyle;

BE IT RESOLVED that **Teed Saunders Doyle** is appointed Auditor of the municipality of Eastern Charlotte, for the fiscal year 2022.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor McKay

CAO advised the municipality is able to use optional years with the auditor. We would usually tender it out, even though it is under the required tendering levels. It is a recommendation from the Province due to the confusing nature of auditing through the 2023 year, and then we would return to tendering for the 2024 year.

Motion carried unanimously.

g. Resolution of Council for CHCO-TV to record Council Meetings.

Motion: BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of Eastern Charlotte approve CHCO-TV to record and broadcast all Regular and Special Meetings of Council of Eastern Charlotte.

Moved by: Councillor Lee

Seconded by: Councillor Tidd

Motion carried unanimously.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

None

13. PUBLIC PRESENTATION/APPEARANCES

None

14. STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- a. **Mayor Craig** read a prepared statement (attached).
- b. **Councillor Detorakis**
 - Congratulations to Deputy Mayor Hatt.
 - This was our first meeting and I would like thank everyone who came out tonight. Going forward I look forward to working with all of the Councillors, each and every one of you, and with the Mayor. When I was previously on Council I took pride in advocating for transparent government that was receptive to the questions and needs of our community. I look forward to round two of the same thing.
- c. **Councillor A. Hatt** declined to comment.
- d. **Deputy Mayor Hatt**
 - I would like to thank the community and the Council for all of your support. I will do my best to be fair and just, open to help grow our wonderful Eastern Charlotte.
- e. **Councillor Thompson** declined to comment.
- f. **Councillor MacQuarrie** declined to comment.
- g. **Councillor Lee**
 - I would like to say, this is my first time being on Council and we have a great team. Hopefully we will live up to what our expectations are. Thank you all for coming tonight.

h. Councillor Tidd

- Thanks everyone for coming. I'm sure it will be a learning curve for a lot of us. I look forward to working with Council and Mayor on behalf of the community to work out some kinks. Bear with us and we will do our best.

i. Councillor McKay

- I want to thank you all for coming tonight. It is good to see so many faces. I want to say congratulations to Deputy Mayor Hatt. I look forward to working with this great, wonderful group of people. It is a pleasure to be able to sit up here and serve you, and I want to thank you.

15. DATE & LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

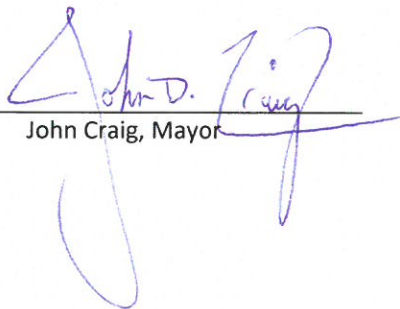
Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 7:00 pm, at Magaguadavic Place Community Center

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

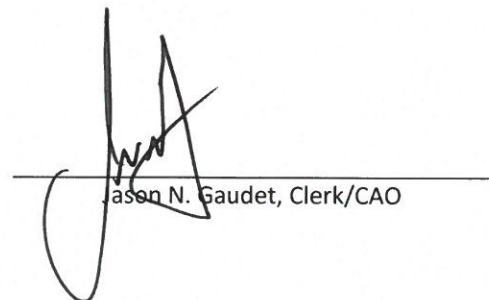
Moved by: Councillor Detorakis

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Hatt



John D. Craig

John Craig, Mayor



Jason N. Gaudet, Clerk/CAO

Jason N. Gaudet, Clerk/CAO

Tonight I wish to announce the committees of Council:

Finance Committee	Councillor Lee (Chair) Councillor A. Hatt Deputy Mayor Hatt
Public Works Committee	Councillor MacQuarrie (Chair) Councillor Lee Councillor Tidd
Parks & Recreation Committee	Councillor A. Hatt (Chair) Councillor Thompson Councillor McKay
Public Safety Committee	Deputy Mayor Hatt (Chair) Councillor Tidd Councillor MacQuarrie
Fire Services Committee	Councillor Thompson (Chair) Deputy Mayor Hatt Councillor Detorakis
Personnel Committee	Councillor Tidd (Chair) Councillor Lee Councillor Detorakis
Administration Committee	Councillor McKay (Chair) Councillor MacQuarrie Councillor Thompson
Health Services Committee	Councillor Detorakis (Chair) Councillor McKay Councillor A. Hatt

On behalf of Eastern Charlotte, I would like to send out a very happy birthday 80th birthday to Ernie Hanley from Back Bay, who celebrates next week on January 25. There will be a party for him in the Back Bay area this Friday evening a 6:00 pm.

On behalf of Council and myself, I send out our sincerest congratulations to Charles and Janet Leavitt of Back Bay, who on January 12 celebrated 60 years of marriage. Councillor Thompson and myself delivered a certificate to them this past Saturday.

On Saturday, January 7, I and all Council attended a full day of orientation which were exceptional. I want to thank our CAO Jason Gaudet and Chris MacKinnon for all the work setting this up for Council. Council learned a considerable amount and feel a little more comfortable after that full day.

On January 11, I attended the Personnel Committee meeting Councillor Lee, Councillor Detorakis, and CAO, chaired by Councillor Tidd.

Thursday, January 12, in the morning I attended the sub-regional meetings with Her Worship Bonnie Morse of Grand Manan, His Worship Denny Cogswell from Fundy Shores, along with their respective CAOs. In the evening of the same day, along with our CAO, I attended the Southwest Service Commission's special board meeting in St. Stephen with all of the mayors, including His Worship Brad Henderson of St. Andrews, His Worship Allan MacEachern of St. Stephen, His Worship Ken Stannix of McAdam. During the meeting I was elected the Vice-Chair of the Service Commission meetings after being nominated by Mayor Morse of Grand Manan. Good news from that meeting is that because of our larger population, St. Stephen Mayor and myself have two votes on the board for the operation and administration of common services. Next week I am back in St. Stephen to meet with the Southwest Service Commission and all of the mayors again for the monthly board meeting.

Tomorrow afternoon (January 19) I will be in St. Andrews for an interview with CHCO on Your Town Matters. Vicki is here tonight, "she is the star of CHCO."

On behalf of myself and the Council of Eastern Charlotte, I send out sympathies to the family of Billy Nickerson of Pennfield who passed away on January 7, and is survived by his wife Linda Nickerson of Pennfield, who was his partner for 53 years, Lee Avery Nickerson, William "Bill" Jr. Nickerson, and daughter Betty Nickerson of Blacks Harbour.

Glen J. Larsen, husband of the late Sandra Larsen, passed away peacefully at his home in St. George, New Brunswick, on January 10, after a courageous battle with cancer. Glen is survived by his three boys: Christian of Pennfield, Todd of St. George, and Jeff of Whitehorse, Yukon.

I send out sympathies to the family of Ralph Emerson Holland, who passed away very unexpectedly this past weekend. Ralph is survived by his partner Nancy Ouellet of Back Bay, son Dominic of Utopia, and daughter Autumn of Back Bay.

The passing of Norva Hatt, formerly of Pennfield and St. George, and wife of the late Donald Hatt, occurred at the Passamaquoddy Lodge in St. Andrews on January 16, 2023. She was in her 101st year. Norva is survived by her daughter Barbara Connell of St. George. Norva was a lifelong resident of Pennfield where she was a long-time member of the Pennfield Baptist Church, and she was also a former member of the Fundy Tide Seniors Club.

I send sympathies also to the families of Jerry Norman Paul, Ronald James Ellsworth, Joyce Campbell Justason, Muriel Elizabeth Lomax, and Walter Allen McDowell.

Also tonight we send sympathies out to the family of Dale Shaw, Sr., who was very involved with the community. He was husband the husband of Crystal, his son Eastern Charlotte Fire Chief Dale Shaw of Pennfield, daughters Jan Gallant of Amherst, Bev Leavitt of Blacks Harbour, and Sandy Gillespie of Pennfield. Prior to his retirement Dale came to the St. George area in the late 50s and bought his first business, BA Service Station in Utopia. He then went and worked for Connors Brothers in Blacks Harbour and served as Constable on the police force. Dale eventually left the police force to manage the garage at Connors Brothers. His management roll expanded from not only operating the garage, but to the warehouse and trucking division. During the 1980s, he became president of Blacks Harbour Transfer. Dale was always community minded. He served as a long-time member of the Blacks Harbour Fire Department and became chief in 1979 until 1986. Some of the attributes he brought to the fire

department as chief were an addition to the fire station, pagers and a communication system, as well as a campaign to raise money for the Jaws of Life, which was one of the first Jaws of Life in Charlotte County, which was badly needed extrication equipment. Dale also created a proper chain of command structure. He had a huge involvement in hockey in Blacks Harbour, both with the minor hockey association where he served as an executive member and coached. Dale was always the go-to-guy in the minor hockey association for any and all transportation needs. He also was a manager for several years for the Blacks Harbour Silver King Organization. Dale also was instrumental in the formation of the Fundy League, a successful in-house hockey league out of the Blacks Harbour arena for several years where he served as President. He was a life time member of the PC Party of New Brunswick, and was always willing to talk politics.

Council will be meeting next Wednesday evening with the Eastern Charlotte Community Development, and they will be presenting to Council.