

MUNICIPALITY OF  
**EASTERN  
CHARLOTTE**

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**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 15, 2023  
7:00 p.m.  
Magaguadavic Place Community Center

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jason Gaudet, CAO / Clerk  
Christ MacKinnon, Assistant Clerk

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Vicki Hogarth, Florence Mitchell, Dale Wells (CHCO-TV)  
Alex Henderson, Planning Director (SNBSC)  
Gallery: 10

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting of the Council for Eastern Charlotte held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at Magaguadavic Place, was called to order by Mayor Craig at 7:00 pm.

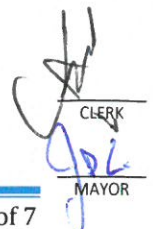
**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** That the meeting agenda be adopted with the addition of item 11.b., correspondence from Karen Tracy.

**Moved by:** Deputy Mayor Hatt

**Seconded by:** Councillor Tidd

**Motion carried unanimously.**

  
CLERK  
MAYOR

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

- Councillor McKay referred to the Local Governance Act, 90.f., “A member or a senior officer does not have a conflict of interest and does not violate section 96 by reason only that the member, senior officer, or family associate is, as the case may be ... a person having an interest in land valued in use as farmland or farm woodlot under the Assessment Act or being registered under the farm land identification program under the Real Property Tax Act”. Councillor McKay further advised she was not comfortable in declaring a conflict of interest until she formally sit down with the municipal lawyer.

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING(S)**

**a. February 15, 2023 – Regular Meeting of Council**

**Motion:** To accept the Minutes of February 15, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council

**Moved by:** Councillor Thompson

**Seconded by:** Councillor Lee

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES**

None

**6. DELEGATIONS**

None

**7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**a. General Government Report**

CAO presented the General Government Report for the month of February, 2023 (attached).

**b. Building and Planning Report**

Alex Henderson, Planning Director, Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission, read the Building and Planning Report for the month of February, 2023 (attached).



CLERK  
MAYOR

**c. Fire Department Report**

The Fire Report was prepared by Cara Hatt, Fire Services Administrator, for the month of February, 2023 (attached).

Councillor Thompson commented regarding the Fire Department:

- We have talked with all three departments for their wants and needs for the next 4 to 5 years. We are taking everything into consideration.
- There is a need to streamline going forward, with three departments all being individualized before. We have to bring them all together.
- We have also talked with the three departments about inter-department training. That will happen, it will just take us some time to get to that point.
- Fire calls for this month:
  - St. George: 17
  - Blacks Harbour: 7
  - Back Bay: 6

**d. Public Works Report**

Councillor MacQuarrie read the Public Works report for Blacks Harbour as prepared by Richard Leavitt, foreman in Blacks Harbour, and for St. George as prepared by Ron Groom, foreman in St. George, for the month of February, 2023 (attached).

- Mayor Craig commented that the public works crews were busy.
- CAO advised the two crews are now integrated and give examples of workers going between both crews.
- Discussion regarding the source of the grease issue on Wallace Street.

**8. ACCOUNTS PAID AND PAYABLE**

- CAO advised the continued wait for a merged financial system and his attempts to contact Townsuite regarding completion of the merge.
- Mayor Craig commented Cathy Neves and Bambi Scott-Leavitt are doing an admirable job. There are not many places in New Brunswick that have had to go through what we have. Bills are paid and employees are paid.
- CAO advised the process for paying the bills.
- Discussion regarding the cost of the accounting system.



CLERK  
MAYOR

**9. OLD BUSINESS****a. Municipality Designation**

Mayor Craig read a letter received from the Minister [of Environment and Local Government] regarding the request to redesignate Eastern Charlotte as a Town.

**10. NEW BUSINESS****a. Date for Public Presentation by Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission**

Alex Henderson (Planning Director, SNBSC) advised there is a recommendation for a municipal plan amendment regarding a rezoning request on Mt. Pleasant Road. This is a step to begin the process. Will look at the bylaws, the different parts of the proposal, to give the public the details and an opportunity to reflect on the proposal, and then for the public to advise Council of their opinions.

**Motion:** That the matter be tabled until Councillor McKay is able to find out if she is in conflict of interest.

**Moved by:** Councillor McKay

**Seconded by:** Councillor Detorakis

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**11. CORRESPONDENCE****a. Anglophone South School District – St. Stephen Education Centre Turnaround Achievement Awards**

Mayor Craig read the letter in full.

**Motion:** That the letter be given to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation.

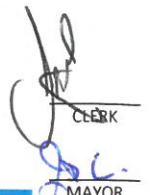
**Moved by:** Councillor Lee

**Seconded by:** Councillor Thompson

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**b. Karen Tracy – New Brunswick Dart Association Sponsorship**

Mayor Craig read the letter asking for support.



CLERK  
MAYOR

**Motion:** That the letter be given to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation.

**Moved by:** Councillor Hatt

**Seconded by:** Councillor Lee

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 12. PUBLIC PRESENTATION/APPEARANCES

None

## 13. STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- a. **Mayor Craig** read a prepared statement (attached).
- b. **Deputy Mayor Hatt:** The municipality has received a presentation from Quad NB on a proposed route in the St. George area. We are still working with the group on finalizing the route, as they work with other stakeholders, such as Dexter Highway Corp. and the Department of Transportation. It is an ongoing process.
- c. **Councillor Thompson** declined to comment.
- d. **Councillor Hatt:** Thank you to everybody in Eastern Charlotte for making another successful season at the Arena in Blacks Harbour (Patrick Connors Recreational Complex), and a special thanks to all the public works crew who keep the ice running.


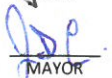
Sunday, March 19, is the last day of the season. Looking forward to a new control system to run the ice and to control the ice better for the ice next season.

Friday, March 17, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM, there will be a final public skating for the season. It is St. Patrick's Day, so wear your green.

Saturday, March 25, there will be an Easter craft market at the Arena, located on the curling club side.

For any information on these events please visit the Eastern Charlotte Parks & Recreation page and hit "like" or join the page. Everything that is going on for recreation is posted there.

Friday, March 31 the Easter Bunny will be at Magaguadavic Place from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM.

  
CLERK  
  
MAYOR

Merven [Hanselacker] who was working with us from the YMCA has accepted a position elsewhere. He has done a great job partnering with the Village of Blacks Harbour and now Eastern Charlotte. We do have a new coordinator through the YMCA, Kara, and there is a blurb about her on the Parks & Recreation page. Met with her on Monday; she is very excited and has a background in kids and programming.



- e. **Councillor Deterakis:** The Health Services Committee met on Tuesday, February 21, to consider Winnie Paul's request for Council to consider weekly pickups in St. George as they do in Blacks Harbour. CAO contacted FERO to request the cost of adding a fourth week.

She received a call from Ms. Linda Holmes of Pennfield, who is concerned about the lack of doctors in our area and she is wondering what is the municipality's strategy for improvement. It is something we should look into.

Last month the Council was asked individually what were their top 3 priorities. My first priority is on Brunswick Street. There are all sorts of complaints about the number of potholes. To make sure Council is considering that work and setting it as a priority. Second is overall maintenance of our recreational spaces. We need to make sure the baseball field at Magaguadavic Place is dragged and raked regularly, and we need to extend that "TLC" to other recreational spaces in Eastern Charlotte. The current floating dock at the Day Adventure Center has been reported as incompatible and dangerous. The last is future-proofing development and rezoning, which means no unnecessary development on agricultural land. Amalgamation is not an excuse to lose our identity. All development must have a high standard quality of life, otherwise it defeats the purpose of building.

- f. **Councillor MacQuarrie** declined to comment.
- g. **Councillor Lee:** Thank you for coming out tonight. He always appreciates seeing everyone.
- h. **Councillor McKay:** Thanks to all for coming out; sees a lot of the same faces and some new faces. Would like to see it full. Send out deepest sympathies to the Allan Kinney family, who passed away suddenly on Friday.

On the topic of our priorities, her priority is also the protection of farmland. Once it is gone it is gone and you can never get it back. Another priority is seniors, because without them this municipality would not exist. Also the youth; they are the future and if we don't do something to help our youth, get them off the streets, and keep them away from meth, we aren't going to have a future, either.

  
CLERK  
  
MAYOR

- i. **Councillor Tidd:** The collective agreement was signed and ratified by the public works department. Interviews took place for the public works position and the successful application has been selected, Codey McDonald. Thanks to everyone for coming in.

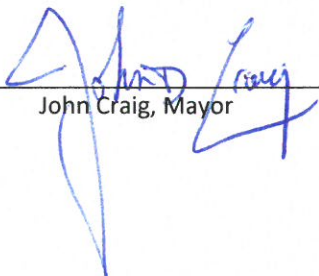
**14. DATE & LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 7:00 pm, at Magaguadavic Place Community Center

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

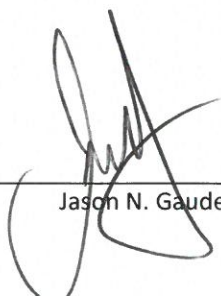
**Motion:** That the meeting be adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

**Moved by:** Councillor Hatt



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John Craig, Mayor



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Jason N. Gaudet, Clerk/CAO