



SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, June 3, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Magaguadavic Place Community Center

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

STAFF PRESENT: Jason N. Gaudet, CAO/Clerk
Cathy Neves, Treasurer
Chris MacKinnon, Assistant Clerk

GUESTS PRESENT: Mark Porter, Municipal Accountant
Vicki Hogarth, Florence Mitchell, Lukas Kohler, CHCO-TV
Gallery: 32 (at call to order)

Minutes of Council meetings are required and described in Eastern Charlotte Bylaw # EC-01, Proceedings of Council:

- a) The minutes shall record, without note or comment:
 - i) The place, date and time of the meeting,
 - ii) The name of the presiding officer and the attendance of Council Members,
 - iii) The reading, if required, correction and adoption of the minutes of prior meetings, and
 - iv) All resolutions, decisions and proceedings of the meeting.

Video recordings of meetings are available by link at <https://easterncharlotte.ca/council/council-meetings>, or on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/@easterncharlotte>.


CLERK

MAYOR

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Council for Eastern Charlotte held on Wednesday, June 3, 2025, at Magaguadavic Place, was called to order by Mayor Craig at 6:30 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: THAT Council adopt the agenda for the meeting of June 3, 2025, Special Meeting of Council, with addition of time for Councillor concerns and public comment.

Moved by: Councillor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor Lee

Motion carried unanimously.

3. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

a. Blacks Harbour Water System

- Mayor Craig welcomed the gallery and introduced the members of Council.
- Mayor Craig offered opening comments regarding Council's commitment to the issue of water in Blacks Harbour. Apologized that future meetings regarding Blacks/Beaver water will be in Blacks Harbour.
- Councillor Hatt read a letter received from Logan Martin in its entirety (attached).
- Mayor Craig offered an information timeline for the water in Blacks Harbour. Councillor Hatt provided additional information.
- Discussion regarding correspondence.
- Mark Porter, municipal accountant, provided information regarding borrowing to cover deferred costs and its impact on future billing. Discussion regarding water vs. sewer portions of billing, and rates per user.
- Public Comment by the following residents:
 - Paul Blanchard
 - Donna Moses
 - Patricia Vieira
 - Madison Hutchison
 - Rebecca McNally (The Kitchen)
 - Betty Stuart (Stewart)
 - Ian McLatchie

- Comments from Councillors
 - Deputy Mayor Hatt: Council has hired experts to bring a solution; must be difficult; trying our best; Councillor Hatt is the most vocal but all are on the people's side.
 - Councillor Thompson: Remembers when Blacks Harbour had the best quality water; people deserve water; will get the process moving to get new water.
 - Councillor Hatt: Commented the problem has been over 30 years; questioned municipal ability to clean water tower and to flush lines at any time; commented on statements by members of the public.

Motion: THAT Council pause for 30 days billing for water use only, until there is a formal plan presented to the residents of Blacks Harbour, and if no plan has been presented by that time, billing will be paused for another 30 days to allow presentation of a formal plan.

Moved by: Councillor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor Tidd

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: THAT Council meet to discuss the future of the consulting/engineering company, Englobe, and that if nothing is completed within 30 days to look at termination of the contract.

Moved by: Councillor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor McKay

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a formal letter to the Minister of Local Government that we need assistance as we are incapable of seeing this project completed in a timely manner, and to request their help and expertise, to be written within 30 days.

Moved by: Councillor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: THAT the Mayor write a letter to industry to sit with all members of Council to come up with a plan to be able to work together with transparency, how to operate the water system and when maintenance is required that Council be told as soon as possible, and the letter be written within 30 days.

Moved by: Councillor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: THAT a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) be developed so that all residents in Blacks Harbour or Beaver Harbour, or anyone affected by the water source, be notified in a timely manner. (i.e. That residents are made known when Council knows or when Council is aware of direction being taken for an issue or maintenance.

Moved by: Councillor Hatt

Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

Motion carried unanimously.

- Councillor Hatt: Commented this is a good Council; Offered thanks and apologies to residents, and thanks to every member of Council.
- Councillor Detorakis: Thanked all who came and shared; working together to find a solution; will take time and money; is a bad situation we shouldn't be in and need to do more.
- Councillor MacQuarrie: Commented he has lived here for 27 years and did not know about the water system until being on Council.
- Councillor Lee: Commented that all of Council cares; it is frustrating and they have felt resident frustrations; a lot of time working on it; going to take it to the Province.
- Councillor Tidd: Thanks to all for coming; problem after 37 years; communication between industry and Council has not been good; the source is good but the lines coming in are not good.
- Councillor McKay: Thanks to all for coming; stories were moving; has no idea what people are going through, sees frustration, and would not want to live that way; kudos to Councillor Hatt for fighting for his ward.
- Mayor Craig: Commented that all of Council is on this together; Council is committed to this as a top priority.

Jb
CLERK
JAL
MAYOR


4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Moved by: Councillor Detorakis



John Craig, Mayor



Jason N. Gaudet, CAO / Clerk