



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Presiding Officer: Deputy Mayor Carla Black
Councillors Present: Brenton Colborne, Mayor Greg Henley, Padraic Moore, Chrystal McNutt, and Paul Jones
Councillor Regrets: Olivia Canning-Sweet

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney – CAO, Ruthann Brookins (Manager of Finance), Stan McDougall – Admin Assistant / Recording Secretary, and Nick Purdy – Public Works Supervisor (via Zoom).

Presenters in attendance: Anas Alawar YMCA Immigrant Services - Settlement, and Hailie Tattrie, PhD Candidate, Sociologist (via Zoom)

Media in attendance: Nil

Gallery in attendance: Nil

1. Call to Order

At 6:00 PM, Deputy Mayor Black called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda, Pages 1 -2

Moved by Mayor Henley and seconded by Councillor Jones that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for Wednesday, May 14, 2025, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 YREACH Program - presenter Anas Alawar, YMCA Immigrant Services – Settlement Staff - verbal presentation

Deputy Mayor Black introduced Anas Alawar, YMCA Immigrant Services to give his presentation.

Highlights of the presentation:

- YMCA Immigrant Services Settlement helps newcomers from all over the world, including those from other provinces of Canada with questions and direction to services for Housing, Nova Scotia Health Cards, Social Insurance Numbers, bank account creation information and more.
- Community Services including multicultural festivals and events, sporting events, and other activities in the area.
- Anas, through YMCA Immigrant Services Settlement provides coverage for areas outside of the HRM.
- Between Pugwash and Oxford, Nova Scotia, 180 people have been assisted in the past year.

Deputy Mayor Black thanked Anas for his presentation.

Anas left the meeting at 6:12 PM

3.2 “Give me a reason to stay” Understanding Youth Outmigration in Rural Nova Scotia – presenter Hailie Tattrie, PhD Candidate, Sociologist, Pages 3 - 17 – a copy of the presentation

Deputy Mayor Black introduced Hailie Tattrie, PhD Candidate, Sociologist to give her presentation.

A copy of this presentation is filed with the Council Package.

Deputy Mayor Black thanked Hailie for her presentation.

4. Approval of the Minutes – April 9, 2025, Pages 18 – 22



Deputy Mayor Carla Black, Chair, on May 14, 2025

5. Town Departments Reports

5.1 **Public Works Department** – presented by Nick Purdy, Public Works Supervisor (via Zoom). Pages 23 - 24

5.2 **Fire Department** – presented by Greg Henley on behalf of Bruce Rushton, Fire Chief and Kyle Purdy, Deputy Fire Chief (sent regrets). Page 25

5.3 **Municipal Physical Activity Leader (MPAL) Report** – presented by Councillor McNutt on behalf of Marion Abbott, MPAL (sent regrets). Pages 26 - 28

5.4 **Administration Reports** – presented by Linda Cloney. Pages 29 - 30 – Administrative Assistant Report

Linda shared with the Committee of the Whole and those in attendance via Zoom that there is still a vacancy on the Audit Committee for a community member with a background in accounting.

Deputy Mayor Black thanked all town departments for their respective reports.

6. Council Committees and Boards Reports

6.1 **All Saints Community Health Care Foundation Committee** – Stan McDougall

Pages 31 - 35 – Approved March 26, 2024, AGM Minutes

Pages 36 - 37 – Approved March 26, 2024, Special Board Meeting

Pages 38 - 39 – Approved March 11, 2025, Minutes

Page 40 – April 29, 2025, Regular Board Meeting, AGM and Special Meeting Highlights

6.2 **Police Advisory Board** – Linda Cloney

Pages 41 - 44 – Approved January 21, 2025, Minutes

Pages 45 - 48 – RCMP Report – January 1 – March 31, 2025, Quarter

6.3 **Communities in Bloom Meeting** – Linda Cloney, *Verbal Report*

Linda reported to the Committee of the whole that a meeting was last held on April 28, 2025.

Highlights discussed from the meeting:

- There was a seed giveaway from Plant-Grow-Share a Row, Compost Council of Canda, and Harrowsmith had generously offered FREE veggie and herb seed packages to help us kickstart plantings. This was organized by the Provincial Communities in Bloom – we applied for this and was successful. The box of seeds to give away just arrived.
- Organizing the rain barrels to be set back up, removal of old community garden beds as they were unsafe with broken wood and nails. Plan is to get new one built, may take a couple of years, but its being worked on.
- Planning a Garden Tour
- Hanging heart shaped flower baskets along the privacy wall at the Trail head. Al and Maxine Clarke have kindly donated the wire baskets, the flowers, and their time to water them.
- CIB organized a workshop on companion and succession planting by Megan Baker on June 5 at 6:30 pm at the Fire Hall. What you will learn, which plants to grow together to get the most out of your garden plot and how to plan and time your planting so that you can harvest for longer. The event is free as we received a grant (Community Health Board) to assist with this.
- CIB organized another workshop by Suzanna Ballah from Ursa Farmstead about food forests and doing some hands-on work to add to the fruit trees and bushes we planted last year. The date is tentatively set for May 24 from 10 am – noon at the Black River Park. What you will learn is how to choose perennials to accompany your fruit trees, biodynamic and permaculture principles in planting a food forest.

7. Items of discussion and correspondence

Nil

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.



~~Deputy Mayor Carla Black~~

Approved by Mayor Henley June 11, 2025



Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant



Date Approved

