



Monthly Council Meeting-Minutes
Thursday, May 1st, 2025 @ 7:00 pm
CDC Boardroom, William Callbeck Centre

Present:

Mayor: Matthew Bowness

Councillors:

Barry Stewart
Derrick Blacquiere
Nichola Arsenault
Andrew David
Robert Green

CAO: Kevin McKenna

Absent:

Councillors:

Karen Ashley-Neill

Guests: Catherine Callbeck, Ron Rayner, Joan Gauvin, Brenda Green, Savanah Berniquez and former Councillor Rodney Clow.

- 1. Call to Order and Attendance** – Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Mayor Matthew Bowness welcomed all Councillors and Guests in attendance.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Barry Stewart, seconded by Andrew David that Agenda be approved as presented. **Motion Carried.**
- 3. Determine Conflict of Interest:** No Conflict of Interest by any members present.
- 4. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings:** Minutes from our last Regular Council Meeting on Thursday March 6th, 2025, as well as our Budget Council Meeting on Thursday March 13th, 2025, were reviewed and presented by Mayor Bowness. Moved by Robert Green, seconded by Nichola Arsenault that the Minutes from March 6th, 2025, and March 13th, 2025, meeting be approved as presented. **Motion Carried.**

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting:

Mayor Matthew Bowness indicated that most of the business from previous meetings minutes, that required further explanation, would be discussed under New Business except for the following being reported.

A) Update on CCBF (Gas Tax Fund) and CIP Application for Bedeque Recreational Centre:

CAO Kevin informed Council that he had applied for the Capital Investment Program (CIP) under the CCBF Funding for the Bedeque Area Recreational Center Ice Plant Replacement Project. The CIP Application deadline was April 30th, 2025, and not March 15th, 2025, as previously reported at our last Council Meetings. As each CIP Application is received and approved then allotment funds will be distributed directly to our CCBF Bank Account for that specific assigned Project Number.

B) Property Tax Waiver: Designate Bedeque Park / McKenna Field as Park/Green Space

CAO Kevin informed Council that the Province of PEI, Finance and Property Records had made a recommendation to waive Property Taxes on our Park Space retroactive to January 1st, 2024. These changes should be reflected in this years Property Tax Statements being distributed this coming month around Mid- May 2025. To report our findings to Council once received.

C) PEI Bag Company Walking Trail Project:

CAO Kevin McKenna reported that the Active Transportation Funding Application for the PEI Bag Company Walking Trail was submitted to the Province of PEI prior to the deadline being January 17th, 2025. To follow up Francois Caron on a potential approval which should be made sometime in May 2025.

6. Financials:

CAO Kevin McKenna presented the Cumulative Income Statement Spreadsheets for the last there (3) Months of the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year that was submitted to our Auditors MRSB for Financial Statement presentation. Kevin also presented the April 30th, 2025, Income Statement to Council for their review.

Balances in Bank Accounts as of April 30th, 2025

Main Account:	\$ 89,340.95
Gas Tax Account	\$ 10,120.50
Ball-Field Account	\$ 77,650.39
Contingency Savings	\$ 35,545.72
Emergency Management Plan Savings	\$ 1,992.16

Council reviewed the 2024-2025 Cumulative Income Statement along with the April 2025 Cumulative Income Statements. Moved by Barry Stewart, seconded by Andrew David that we accept the April 30th, 2025, Financials as presented. **Motion Carried**

7. New Business:

A) Animal Control By-Law # 2025-01: Review and Potential Approval of First Reading:

CAO Kevin McKenna distributed copies of our proposed Animal Control By-Law which he had compiled using the same outline implemented by Rural Municipality of Kinkora several years ago. There was considerable discussion surrounding this new by-law. Many concerned citizens present felt that Section 46 was too vague and should specifically indicate what animals are permitted. Others were concerned that we would be unable to enforce all the restrictions presented as our small community doesn't have a By-Law Enforcement Officer to handle all the situations that would occur. There is also legal implications and costs associated with offenders that refuse to pay the fines when offenses occur. Moved by Andrew David, seconded by Barry Stewart that we cancel this By-Law for now until further enforcement can be established. **Motion Carried.**

B) Update on Rural Municipality of Bedeque Wall of Fame:

CAO Kevin reported that former Mayor Ron Rayner and present Mayor Matthew Bowness had both completed their photo shoots and proofs from Boily Photography. We are now waiting for former Mayor Natalie MacDonald to arrange with Buffie Boily her own personal photo session to be completed the long weekend of May 17th, 2025. Once this is completed, we will arrange to have the pictures hung outside the CDC Boardroom Council Chambers across from Baba's Restaurant facing Callbeck Street.

C) Update on Department of Highways Issues: Land Transfer, Crosswalks, Traffic Control

Land Transfer: CAO Kevin reported that he had compiled an email dated April 8th, 2025, addressed to Stephen Yeo, Department of Highways, outlining the proposed land transfer details. This email and attachments were shared with Mayor Bowness and Councillors showing two separate land parcels for future Bedeque Park expansion. Kevin followed up Mr. Yeo on April 23rd, 2025, to discuss. They are still reviewing our proposal and will report back once completed.

Crosswalks: Stephen Yeo confirmed that they will be installing two (2) Crosswalks in Central Bedeque Community this coming summer. Both Crosswalks will be installed complete with landing pads. The first Crosswalk will be on Callbeck Street between William Callbeck Center and Old School House property. In addition, there will be a crosswalk on Linkletter Avenue between the Bedeque Park entrance and the Bedeque Baptist Church side for future walking trail project.

Traffic Control: As stated at our last Council Meeting Department of Highways are still planning on conducting their traffic control study early this summer to address the concerns of speeding and the safety of concerned citizens within our communities. Details will be provided once the study is completed.

D) Reception Centre Plan: Bedeque Baptist Church Update

CAO Kevin reported that updates to Reception Centre Plan were completed in April and distributed to Council Members. Awaiting Bedeque Baptist Church to provide their volunteer names to finalize. Will follow-up and report once completed and signed.

E) Watershed Pump Update: Commission Generator/Memorandum of Understanding

Commission Generator: Mayor Bowness reported that he had spoken personally to Cody Lidstone from Lidstone Electric on our need to have the generator commissioned and finalized as this delay is potentially placing our Municipality in a liability situation. Council has become very frustrated with these multiple broken promises and tardiness from Lidstone Electric. Moved by Derrick Blacquiere, seconded by Rob Green that we go with a new electrical contractor to finish off the electrical work and have the new generator commissioned through Somers Generators. **Motion Carried**

Memorandum of Understanding: CAO Kevin distributed to all Council Members a copy of our proposed Memorandum of Understanding between ourselves and the Kinkora Fire Department representatives at a meeting held on April 22nd, 2025. Basically, the Municipality would be responsible for the initial propane tank fill-up, continue to pay for insurance on the watershed building and generator components, along with monthly electrical costs. In return the Fire Department would be responsible for all ongoing maintenance and repairs to the Watershed Pump and yearly generator maintenance going forward. Moved by Nichola Arsenault, seconded by Andrew David that we proceed with the propane Tank fill-up and proceed with the signing of the new Memorandum of Understanding. Motion Carried.

F) Grass Cutting Contract:

Mayor Bowness indicated that Ian Schurman requested an increase of \$ 25.00 per cut this year for grass cutting. This would change from \$ 135.00 to \$ 160.00 per cut. Council felt this increase was warranted and were pleased with Ian's work in the past. Moved by Derrick Blacquiere, seconded by Barry Stewart that we award the contract to Ian Schurman for the 2025 season. **Motion Carried.**

10) Correspondence: No Correspondence presented as previously distributed.

11) Open Floor: No topics brought forward at this time

12) Schedule Next Meeting Date: July 3rd, 2025

13) Adjournment: Moved by Andrew that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 PM

Prepared By: CAO, Kevin P. McKenna

Approved By: Mayor: Matthew Bowness