



Monthly Council Meeting-Minutes
Thursday, July 10th, 2025 @ 7:00 pm
CDC Boardroom, William Callbeck Centre

Present:

Mayor: Matthew Bowness

Councillors:

Barry Stewart
Karen Ashley-Neill
Derrick Blacquiere
Andrew David
Robert Green

CAO: Kevin McKenna

Guests: Ron Rayner, Savanah Berniquez

Absent:

Councillors:

Nichola Arsenault

- 1. Call to Order and Attendance** – Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. Mayor Matthew Bowness welcomed all Councillors and Guests in attendance.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Robert Green, 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 May 1st, 2025, were reviewed and presented by Mayor Bowness. Moved by Derrick Blacquiere, seconded by Barry Stewart that the Minutes from May 1st, 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 items being reported.

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

CAO Kevin informed Council that the Capital Investment Program (CIP) under the CCBF Funding for the Bedeque Area Recreational Center Ice Plant Replacement Project had been rejected by Province of PEI Infrastructure Secretariat. Their response as follows:

As per the funding agreement, section 4.11b indicates that “**Eligible expenditures must be claimed no later than March 31st in each fiscal year in which the eligible expenditures were incurred.**” Unfortunately, seeing as the project was finished in October 2024, we can not submit this project to the review committee for approval and the CCBF funding can not be used towards the project as it would be a violation of the signed agreement.

Kevin is to follow up for further clarification as the 2024-2025 CCBF allotments were delayed in being distributed to our Municipality until April 2025. If negotiations fail, we will add this lost funding towards future Bedeque Area Recreational Projects namely the Energy Efficient Heat Pump and Installation Project slated for next fiscal year. A separate CIP Application will be submitted to the Province of PEI at that time if approved by Council.

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 distributed their Property Tax Statement of Account in May and this years property taxes for the Bedeque Park land parcel have been waived with no property taxes being charged for 2025 Fiscal. The Statement of Account indicated a credit adjustment in the amount of \$ 453.28 which was paid last year. This credit will eventually be reimbursed to the Municipality. Kevin is to follow up and report findings to Council once received.

6. Financials:

A) **Presentation of MRSB 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Audited Financial Statements:**

CAO Kevin distributed and presented the 2024-2025 Financial Statements on behalf of Jaclyn Waite from MRSB who was unable to attend our rescheduled Council Meeting from July 3rd, 2025. Kevin had met with Jaclyn previously and reviewed the statements in detail. The statements reflected an accurate account of our financial transactions for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. Moved by Barry Stewart, seconded by Karen Ashley-Neill that the 2024-2025 Financial Statements be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

- B) Review of First Quarter 2025-2026 Cumulative Financial Report:** Cumulative Income Statement spreadsheets for the first three (3) Months of the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year was presented to Council for their review.

Balances in Bank Accounts as of June 30th, 2025

Main Account:	\$ 98,553.81
Gas Tax Account	\$ 10,120.50
Ball-Field Account	\$ 77,178.40
Contingency Savings	\$ 35,590.29
Emergency Management Plan Savings	\$ 1,994.65

Council reviewed and agreed with the 2025-2026 Cumulative Income Statements as presented. Moved by Andrew David, seconded by Derrick Blacquiere that we accept the June 30th, 2025, Financials as presented. **Motion Carried**

7. New Business:

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

CAO Kevin reported that all photo shoots and proofs, completed by Boily Photography, have been sent to their lab for processing and will be framed shortly. The cost for each person is \$ 130.00 Plus Taxes and will include a framed 8 X 10 portrait.

CAO Kevin also brought up the idea of having our own Municipal Flag along with the Province of PEI flag be hung on the Wall of Fame positioned on both sides of the mayors' pictures. A quote was obtained from Flag Emporium in Dartmouth for a total cost of \$ 317.37 freight and taxes included. Council felt that this would be great to add to the wall. Moved by Derrick Blacquiere, seconded by Karen Ashley-Neill that we proceed with the purchase of our Municipal flag. **Motion Carried.**

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

Land Transfer: Kevin reported that he had spoken to Stephen Yeo, Department of Highways, on July 2nd, 2025, concerning the status of our proposed land transfer details showing two separate land parcels for future Bedeque Park expansion. Mr. Yeo has assured us that he has handed the file over to the appropriate property and land transfer department for their review and consideration. Report to follow.

Crosswalks: Kevin confirmed that one crosswalk has been installed and functional on Linkletter Avenue at the Bedeque Park main entrance going into McKenna Field. Stephen Yeo confirmed that he is awaiting Robert Duffy to construct the landing pad on Callbeck Street before they can construct the second crosswalk from the main intersection at William Callbeck Centre over to the Lower Bedeque Schoolhouse Museum. This should be completed during the month of July 2025

Traffic Control: Stephen Yeo indicated that Department of Highways will be conducting their traffic control study during the month of July 2025 when the tourist traffic is at its peak. This study will address the concerns of speeding and the safety of concerned citizens within our communities. Details will be provided once the study is completed.

C) Reception Centre Plan: Bedeque Baptist Church Update

CAO Kevin reported Bedeque Baptist Church has provided their volunteer names required to finalize the Reception Plan. The final document will be distributed to the Reception Centre Manager, signed by all parties and distributed accordingly.

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

Commission Generator: CAO Kevin reported that he had approached Brendan Platts from Platts Electrical and he had indicated that he would try his best to have the generator up and running before the Fall arrives. Brendan also indicated he was speaking with Larry Gallant from Lidstone Electric and he had indicated that our generator was on his list to get done in June. I followed up Larry Gallant and he has not showed up on multiple arranged weeks. Council members felt that we should go with another electrician recommended by Councillor Robert Green by the name of Tyler Montgomery. CAO Kevin will approach Tyler Montgomery and keep working on getting this generator up and running and establish a maintenance schedule after all the commissioning is finalized.

Memorandum of Understanding: CAO Kevin reported that the Propane Tank at the Water Pump Shed has been filled with Propane by Noonan Petroleum, so our initial requirements have been fulfilled. Mayor Matthew Bowness and CAO Kevin McKenna have both signed the most recent revised Memorandum of Understanding dated July 10th, 2025. We have been in correspondence with Kinkora Fire Department Chief Johnny Dugay, and he has indicated he and his Deputy Chief are prepared to sign the documents as well. Will keep everyone informed of when the document has been signed.

E) PEI Bag Company Walking Trail Project:

CAO Kevin McKenna reported that the Active Transportation Funding Application for the PEI Bag Company Walking Trail is still seeking approval. With the Federal Election, along with new Cabinet Ministers the allocation of federal funding for many of these projects is being reviewed prior to final approval. Kevin is to continue to follow up Francois Caron with Active Transportation Funding and advise Council once a decision is made.

F) Community Welcoming Signs for Village of Bedeque and Central Bedeque:

Deputy Mayor Karen Ashley-Neill advised Council the reason that the welcoming signs are not yet erected on their designated locations is that one sign got destroyed last fall due to a car accident and the remaining signs require replacement due to rot and general disarray. Council felt that we should perhaps look at upgrading the welcoming

signs with newer more durable alu-panel steel and slightly reduce the dimensions to fit on the designated sign locations. Karen is to provide pictures and dimensions of the present signs to CAO Kevin, and they will work together on a new style of sign and obtain quotes for Council approval.

G) Bedeque Historical Museum: Request for Advancement of Funds for Summer Events:

CAO Kevin reported that he was approached by Douglas Sobey, President of the Historical Museum, to determine if they could obtain an advancement of funds to help with the up-front costs for their various Summer Events. Councillor Barry Stewart confirmed that their Annual Benefit Dinner at the United Church has been confirmed on social media. Council agreed to pay 50 Percent of the original allotted amount to assist with the dinner costs. Kevin is to issue a cheque in the amount of \$ 2,500.00 to Bedeque Historical Museum and request that an update of expenses will follow as soon as possible and that the Rural Municipality will be given recognition as a major sponsor towards these Summer Events.

10) Correspondence:

A) PACE Webiner Thursday July 24th, 2025, 10:00 To 11:00 AM: Email was distributed to the Mayor and Councillors to consider attending this Webinar to learn more on Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE). This will be beneficial to our Residents and Municipality

11) Open Floor:

A) Canoe Insurance: Councillor Barry Stewart recommended strongly that we look into obtaining a quote with Canoe Insurance for Liability, Building and Equipment Insurance.

12) Schedule Next Meeting Date: September 4th, 2025

13) Adjournment: Moved by Karen that the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 PM

Prepared By: CAO, Kevin P. McKenna

Approved By: Mayor: Matthew Bowness