

**Town of Mulgrave
Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2024**

Present: Mayor Chisholm, Deputy Mayor King, Councillor Carrigan, Councillor Luddington, Councillor Russell, CAO Gray.

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Mayor Chisholm.

2. Approval of Agenda / Addition of Agenda Items

Moved by Deputy Mayor King, seconded by Councillor Carrigan that the Agenda be approved, with the following additions:

- New Council
- Council Agendas
- Public Security (In Camera)
- Overall Direct Responsible Charge (ODRC)
- Personnel (In Camera)
- Request for Town Hall Meeting

Motion Carried

3. Minutes – October 7, 2024

Moved by Councillor Luddington, seconded by Councillor Russell that the Minutes of October 7, 2024 be approved.

Motion Carried

4. New Business / Carried Forward Business

a) Operating Fund Financial Report for the 6 Months Ending September 30, 2024

The CAO reported a small surplus (\$4,627) as of September 30, 2024, compared to a deficit of \$63,173 at the end of September 2023. The CAO cautioned that although the surplus is an encouraging sign, there are a number of variables that can impact results over the remaining 6 months of the fiscal year. Councillors asked several questions regarding specific favourable and unfavourable variances. The CAO responded that most of these variances were due to the timing of revenues and expenses.

5. Reports

a. Council Committee Reports

i. Police Advisory

Next meeting in January.

- ii. Library
No meeting.
- iii. MARA
Meeting held; initial discussion regarding two shows scheduled for next May at the Mulgrave Memoria Centre; further details to follow.
- iv. Recreation / Culture
Membership numbers down; will require a call for volunteers/members under the direction of the new Council.
- v. Guysborough County Home Support Agency (GCHSA)
No meeting.
- vi. Eastern Region Solid Waste Management (ERSWM)
No meeting.

b. Staff Reports

- i. CAO
Highlights:
Discussions with neighbouring municipality and Province regarding provision of Overall Direct Responsible Charge (ODRC) services;
Meeting with Deputy Mayor King and Councillor Russell regarding Source Water Protection Advisory Committee (SWPAC) membership and subsequent posting of Call for Membership;
Scheduled face-to-face meeting for CAO and Deputy CAO with Deputy Minister and Associate Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in early November; now delayed due to provincial election.
- ii. Recreation & Physical Activity
Highlights:
Attended a walking leader training, in the process of starting a walking group, with NS walks, here on our Scotia Trail.
We had 10 representatives for Mulgrave attend the 55+ games at Liscombe Lodge this year, brought home 5+ medals, and overall had a great two days.
Having a Seniors Halloween party on Oct 30th, Light lunch, costumes, games and music by Annmarie Pelley.
Nov. 21st the MARA committee has a Newcomer Café planned to welcome all new residents to the Town, and have representatives there from each organization, committee and businesses. So they can network and let our newcomers know what we have in our community.
- iii. Public Works
Highlights:
Cold patching completed to hold us over as unable to get real asphalt this season due to no plant in area;

Boiler cleaning and maintenance completed at MMC, Fire Hall and post office and fired up for season;
Fall hydrant flushing completed and winterization and stick install started; about 50% completed;
300 tons of salt delivered and in the dome ready for season; 30 tons (1 load) to be delivered once we have room available.

6. Approved Additions to the Agenda

- New Council
Discussion regarding conflicting dates of Orientation Training for new Councillors and next Regular Council Meeting; Regular Meeting has now been scheduled for Tuesday, November 12th; in addition to Councillor Russell, one member of the former Council will be in attendance (in person or via Zoom) to approve the October 28th Minutes.
- Council Agendas
Council agreed that hard copy versions of the upcoming agendas will be posted at various locations throughout Town (Post Office, etc.) by noon on the preceding Friday prior to Council Meetings; this will allow residents without access to the Town's website to view upcoming agendas.
- Overall Direct Responsible Charge (ODRC)
A former ODRC with the Town has expressed interest in working with the Town to secure the services of a full-time ODRC; preliminary indications are that the former ODRC would be interested in a short-term (e.g. 3-month) contract with the possibility of extension for training of a new full-time ODRC.
- Request for Town Hall Meeting
CAO received a request from a resident for an open Town Hall Meeting where Councillors could discuss residents' concerns regarding a number of current issues impacting the Town; Council agreed that the request should be brought to the new Council, where the approach to the Meeting and schedule could be discussed.

7. Date of Next Meeting: November 12, 2024

8. Gallery

Question regarding various sightings of coyotes within Town limits; Mayor indicated a DNRR contractor has set up traps around Town for a two-week period and has been successful to date in trapping several coyotes;
Question regarding use of the new Water/Wastewater Truck acquired by the Town: Council indicated that various quotes were secured before purchase, the truck is not being used for personal use, and a log book is being maintained by Public Works.

Question why cones were not being used recently at a patching work site; only flashing lights on the Town vehicle; Public Works to be notified.

Question regarding a dangerous and unsightly house on Church Street; Mayor indicated that permits have been secured to demolish the home; CAO to contact homeowner.

Question regarding curfew for Halloween; concern that by-laws are outdated;

Recommendation to buy gasoline in bulk for Town vehicles; store in Town to reduce costs;

Lorne MacDonald indicated MVFD was successful in securing a \$45,000 accessibility grant for renovations of the upstairs bathrooms at the Fire Hall; tender will be going out shortly; 2 bids received for accessible doors downstairs at the Fire Hall; as EMO Coordinator, Lorne will be attending the Regional EMO Exercise as an observer on November 21/22.

NSEMO training for Councillors will take place on November 22nd.

Concerns raised about a dangerous and unsightly property on Mill Street, and derelict vehicles at Venus Cove and the wastewater treatment plant.

9. In-Camera

Moved by Councillor Russell, seconded by Deputy Mayor King to move in camera at 7:37 pm.
Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Luddington, seconded by Deputy Mayor King to move out of in camera at 9:02 pm.

Motion Carried

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

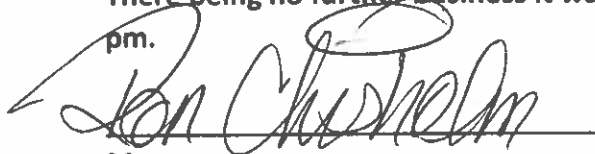
Town of Mulgrave Mayor and Council approve the financing of the 2024 F-150 truck, recently purchased for Water and Wastewater Department use, through the Operating Reserve.

Moved by Councillor Luddington, seconded by Councillor Russell.

Motion Carried

10. Adjournment

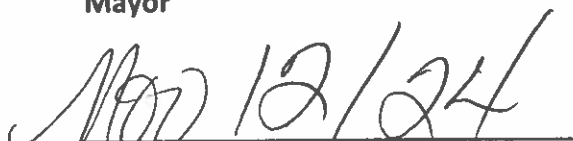
There being no further business it was moved by Councillor Russell to adjourn at 9:03 pm.



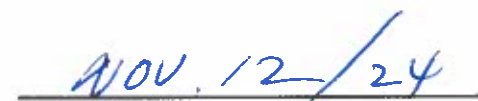
Mayor



CAO



Date



Date