

# COUNTY *of* ANNAPOLIS

NATURALLY ROOTED

## PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 (*Storm date: Monday, January 22, 2024, same time*)

**Place:** Municipal Administration Building, 752 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal, NS

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### **Welcoming Remarks – Warden Alex Morrison**

The purpose of a Public Hearing is to permit members of the public to make their views known to Council, via oral or written submissions, concerning, solely, the application before Council.

This Public Hearing concerns the Annapolis County Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw.

All questions and comments throughout the public hearing are required to be addressed to the Chair. The Chair will provide an opportunity for public input and will ask that persons speaking identify themselves so that their comments may be recorded in the minutes of these proceedings and that the person speaking identify if they are speaking in favour or against the application.

Written presentations are acknowledged first, followed by public oral presentations. Questions and comments from Council members are asked to be held until all public comment is heard.

### **1. Annapolis County Municipal Planning Strategy & Land Use Bylaw Review**

- a. Information Report - Director of Planning & Inspection Services - Planning Process
- b. Acknowledgement of Written Submissions (Municipal Clerk)
- d. Call for Oral Presentations (open discussion from the floor – public)
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> call for comments against the application
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> call for comments against the application
  - iii. 3<sup>rd</sup> call for comments against the application
  - iv. 1<sup>st</sup> call for comments in support of the application
  - v. 2<sup>nd</sup> call for comments in support of the application
  - vi. 3<sup>rd</sup> call for comments in support of the application

### **2. Planning Process Next Steps (Director)**

- a. MGA 205 (3): Council shall hold a public hearing prior to second reading.
- d. MGA 205 (7): Voting is by the majority of Council present at the Public Hearing.
- d. MGA 208: After motion to adopt four certified copies of the documents are sent to the Minister.
- e. MGA 208 (9): Upon ministerial approval, an advertisement is placed in the local paper. The date of the advertisement is the effective date of the documents.

### **3. Closing Comments and Adjournment of Public Hearing (Warden) and Reminder of Special Session of Council at 1:00 p.m., as advertised and posted on December 20, 2023.**



# INFORMATION REPORT

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**Report To:** Public Hearing  
**Meeting Date:** January 18, 2024  
**Prepared By:** Linda Bent, Director of Planning & Inspection Services  
**Subject:** Adoption of County-Wide Municipal Planning Strategy & Land Use Bylaw

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## LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Part VIII, Sections 190, 204, 205 and 206 of the *Municipal Government Act*

## BACKGROUND

Changes to Provincial legislation in 2018, required the Municipality to review and update the MPS and LUB to ensure minimum and mandatory planning requirements related to drinking water, flood risk areas, agricultural land, infrastructure, and housing are met throughout the municipality. Additional items that were to be addressed in a MPS are listed in Section 214 of the *Municipal Government Act* and in the Regulations Respecting Statements of Policy in Municipal Planning Strategies.

## DISCUSSION

In terms of geographic orientation, the proposed Annapolis County Municipal Planning Area covers the entire Municipality with a notation that there are secondary planning areas within that have their own planning documents (East End Area, Bridgetown, Upper Clements Area & Cornwallis Park). The proposed planning documents also include the existing planning areas of Lake Cady Water Supply and Lawrencetown Water Supply.

In 2022, Stantec Consulting Ltd was engaged to conduct a review, public consultation and produce a Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw for the Municipality.

May 16-26, 2022 - 11 public consultation meetings were conducted in a variety of communities with over 300 participants. The meetings consisted of an open house style where participants were encouraged to read display materials on the planning process followed by a presentation with similar content after which a question-and-answer period was encouraged.

June 30, 2022 - two visioning meetings were held in Bridgetown with approximately 75 participants. Stantec, along with staff, provided attendees with an overview of issues and opportunities and input from the May 2022 consultation meetings. Several exercises were conducted to arrive at the Vision Statement which has been incorporated into the MPS:

*"The Annapolis County MPS will be a framework for growing a diverse, self-reliant rural community protective of our land, environment, and heritage while welcoming to newcomers and visitors."*

After the 2022 consultation, Stantec prepared the draft MPS and LUB and worked with municipal staff to review and revise in 2023.

October 3-18, 2023 - A second public consultation of 11 meetings was conducted to present the draft documents to the public for further input. Approximately 310 community members were in attendance.

In addition to the public consultation, staff were in contact with Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff to ensure compliance with the Provincial requirements, particularly Statements of Provincial Interest.

December 14, 2023 – a Planning Advisory Committee meeting was held at the Annapolis Royal Fire Hall with 27 members of the public attending. A motion was made by PAC to recommend to Municipal Council to give first reading of its intent to adopt the County-Wide MPS LUB as presented.

December 19, 2023 – Municipal Council gave first reading of its intent to adopt the planning documents and set a Public Hearing date of Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 10:00 am at the Municipal Administration Building, with a storm date of January 22, 2024.

January 4, 2024 – First ad appeared in the Annapolis Valley Register advertising Public Hearing.

January 11, 2024 -Second ad appeared in the Annapolis Valley Register advertising Public Hearing.

January 10, 2024 – Public Hearing. Staff prepared a Public Hearing agenda and planning process update report.

It should be noted that, extensive advertising for public consultation took place that included inserts in the local newspapers, mail outs via Canada Post, municipalities social media sites and radio ads.

### **NEXT STEPS**

After the Public Hearing, Municipal Council may hold second and final reading of their intention to adopt the documents after which four certified copies of the document will be forwarded to the Department of Municipal Affairs & Housing for their approval.

Once notification is received from the Province, an advertisement will be placed in the local paper notifying the public of their adoption of the documents and they will be in effect on the date of the advertisement.

**Prepared by:**

Linda Bent

**Approved by:**

  
Chris McNeill,  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Approval Date:**

  
JANUARY 15, 2024

(Date)