



**Hamlet of Gjoa Haven
Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 15, 2025
Continued to Wednesday April 16, 2025
Meeting # 2025-04-15**

Council:

Mayor Quqshuun
Councilor Takkiruaq
Councilor Puqiqnak
Councilor Hillier

Councilor Akkikungnaq
Councilor Aglukkaq
Councilor Aaluk
Councilor Qitsualik

Staff:

CAO Jennifer Wakegijig
Executive Secretary Catherine
Anguttitauruq-Rogers

Sharlene Liveley, Regional
Environmental Health Officer
Jamie Evic, Nunavut Association of
Municipalities

Guests:

Michael Schneider, Green Sun Rising

1. Call to Order 7:10pm

Opening Prayer led by Salomie Qitsualik

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Puqiqnak
Motion # 2025-04-15-001 carried unanimously

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None Declared

4. Delegates

a. Jamie Evic – Co-Executive Director of Nunavut Association of Municipalities (NAM)

1. CAO introduced Jamie Evic – former SAO from Panniqtuuq and current co-Executive Director of NAM, who has come to Gjoa Haven as a kind gesture for two weeks to assist with urgent finance projects and support our staff.
2. Jamie shared information about his work experience, and current priorities of NAM and indicated that although there are many challenges, things are moving in the right direction

ii. Charlene Lively- Regional Environmental Health Officer

1. New to Nunavut – “retired” environmental health officer from South, here to support the community with reaching important standards of water and air quality, health and hygiene.
 - a. Council asked questions about the water source lake, which Charlene indicated we could pass a bylaw to protect it and discourage use of vehicles on the lake.
 - b. A number of other potential projects were discussed.

iii. Michael Schneider – Green Sun Rising

1. Is in town to work on the Clean Energy project – arrived with an electrician to install solar panels on 5 private homes. Project is going smoothly.

5. Adoption of Minutes

Deferred

6. Reports

a. CAO Report

i. Calendar Review and upcoming events

1. Square dance showdown was a great success – rec team now meeting ahead of events with organizers to plan for staffing, safety. Hamlet made a financial contribution with events funds
2. 3 Committee meetings next week.
3. Proposed town hall to share a final response with the community about the petitions. Will take same format as last town hall, and council members who would like to be involved in planning for it can let CAO or mayor know as it will be planned by finance/admin committee.

ii. Continued Discovery of Past Mismanagement

1. CAO has discovered that we have not been charging construction companies for the gravel they have been quarrying. Our lands administrator in the last few years, issued quarrying permits, allowing the companies to quarry gravel, but did not follow up to invoice for the gravel that was extracted. In one example, the permit was for 1000 cubic meters of material, which we should have charged \$50 per cubic meter, but no invoice was issued. This suggests there are hundreds of thousands of dollars not collected that could have benefitted the Hamlet. CAO will pursue retroactively billing for these.

iii. JP Voucher Program Cancellation – Impacts on Municipal Budget

1. With the cancellation of the voucher program, we are losing over \$300,000 in admin fees that we had incorporated in our (balanced) municipal budget. This means that we need to revisit our entire municipal budget and remove \$300,000 in “optional” expenses. This usually means that we need to trim the recreation budgets and training budgets. This is a LARGE shortfall that we can try to address by securing grants etc.

iv. Tuttarvik Relationship

1. Hamlet is keen to support more cultural programming, and has secured considerable funds, however, staff are unclear on our authority to plan for the use of the building. We are treating it as a hamlet facility intended for cultural activities, but uncomfortable that the committee is not actively involved in informing that programming. CAO requests that Mayor / Rec Committee Chair connect with the new Tuttarvik committee and with councillor Aglukkaq who also wishes to have a role in overseeing the use of the building. Recreation staff are planning events and activities but would prefer to do this with a clear relationship with the existing committee. We now have Stanley Porter who will begin having more frequent opening hours, and existing recreation funding can support paying elders for language instruction or other initiatives. CAO and Rec Department will gladly manage the facility as directed through discussion between Mayor . Rec Chair / Tuttarvik committee / Councilor Aglukkaq.

v. NHS Relationship

1. CAO has proposed a retreat with Netsilik Heritage Society, to confirm how the hamlet and NHS can further collaborate towards the vision for NHS in the community - however no response has been received from NHS – only from

Parks Canada, after 2 or 3 nudges. Jennifer will prepare correspondence from the Mayor to the Chair of the NHS board.

vi. Audiovisual Equipment

1. We are currently seeking a quotation for updated audio equipment in the council chambers that will make it easier to have meetings with people participating remotely, who will also be able to connect to the interpretation system. We also have quotations for additional sound equipment for the arena and hall, and we have ordered a new screen for the hall.

Motion to Accept CAO Report

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Porter **Seconded by:** Councillor Qitsualik

Motion # 2025-04-15-002 carried unanimously

7. Old business

a. **Second Reading of Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Deferred**

b. **Second Reading of Bylaw# 243 – Domestic Animal Bylaw**

A community meeting was held March 31 to discuss the amended doc control bylaw, and changes have been made including

- Removal of higher cost of dog registration for dogs that are not spayed or neutered, as we do not want to disincent traditional dog ownership and breeding.
- Requirement of dog owners to clean up messes made by their dogs (or pay the Hamlet the cost of labour to have the cleaning done) before they can retrieve their dogs
- Clarity around situations in which community members can take steps to control dogs.

Motion to proceed with second reading of Bylaw # 243

Moved by: Councillor Aglukkaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Qitsualik

Motion # 2025-04-15-003 carried unanimously

8. New business

a. **Planning and Lands Service Review**

- i. Lands Administrator Topsy Banksland provided an overview of the Lands Service Review completed by Northern Futures Planning to assist in making improvements in lands administrator training and support by the Government of Nunavut.

Motion: Council acknowledges the findings of the Planning & Lands Service Review and commits to collaborating with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities (NAM) and other relevant stakeholders to implement recommended improvements.

Moved by: Councilor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councilor Puqiqnak

Motion # 2025-04-15-004 carried unanimously

b. **Housing Densification Survey**

Lands Administrator Topsy Banksland provided an overview of the results of the Densification Survey, which asked Nunavummiut what improvements are needed to make multiplex living more comfortable and supportive of Inuit lifestyles.

Motion: Council acknowledges the findings of the Densification Survey and commits will ensure that the results are communicated to relevant partners and collaborators

**Moved by: Councilor Qitsualik Seconded by: Councilor Hillier
Motion # 2025-04-15-005 carried unanimously**

c. **Motion Regarding Purchase of Heavy Equipment Used or at Auction with Available Reserve Funds**

Whereas:

- The hamlet is in critical need of heavy equipment (for road maintenance, municipal service delivery, and gravel quarrying) and mobile equipment (for bylaw enforcement, elder transportation, and school transportation)
- And whereas insufficient funds are available to purchase needed equipment new
- And whereas the Public Works Director has expertise to identify appropriate used equipment to serve Hamlet needs
- And whereas, the timing of purchasing items at auction does not allow for a bylaw to be passed before the purchase decision is made

Therefore:

- The Hamlet Council directs the Public Works Director to utilize available reserve and HAF funds to make purchases that will obtain the best value possible for needed new or used heavy equipment and mobile equipment at auction and/or from appropriate dealerships, with the understanding that an acquisition bylaw will be passed following the purchase, utilizing funds as follows, including the cost of freight to Gjoa Haven
 - From the Mobile Equipment Reserve: up to \$982,518 for heavy equipment such as a bulldozer, loader, dump truck, excavator, and compactor.
 - From the Housing Accelerator Fund agreement from the CMHC: Up to \$1,000,000 for heavy equipment such as a bulldozer, loader, dump truck, excavator, and compactor.
 - From the Municipal Capital Block Fund Reserve: up to \$330,000 for mobile equipment such as an SUV for bylaw enforcement, and an elder van, and if sufficient funds remain, an additional pick up truck.

Discussion – are we certain that the funds are available? Will this put us in a deficit position?

CAO explained that the idea of a deficit is really only related to operating funds. We are not currently in a deficit position, as of January 31 – we were on track to not run a deficit in 2024-25 as discussed at recent finance meeting. The funds proposed for use are all intended for the purpose of purchasing equipment when needed. Hamlet is legally required to set aside funds every year into reserves for this purpose. The proposed purchases will indeed drain our reserves, but with the amount of neglect and underspending in this area for several years, the Finance Director, Finance and Admin committee, and also in discussion with Terry McCallum to confirm this is permissible, all agreed that this is the right time to spend these funds. It is the right time to spend those funds. We save them up for times like these.

**Moved by: Councilor Akkikungnak Seconded by: Councilor Takkiruaq
Motion # 2025-04-15-006 carried unanimously**

10:00 pm Motion to Adjourn meeting and re-open Tomorrow

Moved by: Councilor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councilor Hillier
Motion # 2025-04-15-004 carried unanimously

***Continuance of Regular Council Meeting 2025-04-15
to Wednesday April 16, 2025***

All Councilors in Attendance

Staff In attendance include CAO Jennifer Wakegijig. Executive Secretary Catherine Anguttitauruq-Rogers

No guests in attendance

9. Call to Order at 7:10 pm

10. New Business (continued)

a. Motion to Submit Proposal to ED&T for electrical work on Carving Studio and skidoo Shop

CAO explained that renovations were completed on the curling rink a number of years ago to create a carving studio and skidoo oil change shop, but they were not completed to code. A grant for \$440,000 was secured that was expected to cover the costs of the required renos , which were believed to be mainly electrical. Engineers and architects have confirmed that in fact, in order to reach building code, \$2.6M in renovations are needed. Kim Staples, the project manager supporting this project for the hamlet for a few years has prepared an application to proceed with just having the electrical work done, utilizing the balance of \$170,000 from the \$440,000 already secured, but requesting an additional top-up from ED&T for an additional \$170,000 for completion of the work.

A proposal is also being prepared for the more extensive work that is required to complete the renovations, beyond electrical.

Moved by: Councilor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councilor Qitsualik
Motion # 2025-04-15-007 carried unanimously

b. Archaeology Permits

- i. Tom Gross – although he had planned to retire, Tom Gross is planning one last trip to search for the Franklin Graves.

Motion to approve Tom Gross' Archaeology Permit through the Inuit Heritage Trust.

Moved by: Councilor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Deputy Mayor Porter
Motion # 2025-04-15-008 carried unanimously

- ii. Stantec – Jennifer Tischer – this is a request through the IHT for final archaeological work in order to proceed with permitting our Hamlet's two new gravel quarries.

Motion to approve the Stantec / Jennifer Tischer Archaeology Permit through the Inuit Heritage Trust.

Moved by: Councillor Aglukkaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Puqiqnak

Motion # 2025-04-15-009 carried unanimously

- c. Proposal to CIRNAC Professional Institutional Development Program (PID) for ongoing HR consulting work in HR Manager's absence which is now extended into July.
- i. CAO explained that Impact HR has been working with the Hamlet since November and has supported several important milestones including
 1. Implementation of all raises and retro pay for collective agreement in January
 2. All staff are now registered for pension benefits
 3. We have implemented new and clearer processes for recruitment and leave requests
 - ii. Impact HR has recommended that we additionally implement more modern HR management software which will
 1. Allow us to more efficiently process payroll
 2. Manage employee files, leave accruals, and leave requests online
 3. Provide automatic notifications when performance reviews, raises and other important milestones have arrived.
- This will allow the entire HR function to proceed more smoothly once Sharon returns and is trained. It will cost about \$10,000 per month, and we will ask them to work with us April 1 to July 31, so they can train Sharon on her return, and make sure she is fully comfortable with the work, before the end of their contract.

Motion to approve the submission of the PID proposal for HR services to CIRNAC based on proposal provided

Moved by: Councillor Takkiruq **Seconded by:** Councillor Hillier

Motion # 2025-04-15-010 carried unanimously

- d. Council approval of two more groups as designated non-profit charitable groups. Two more groups have applied for eligibility as non-profit charitable groups in the Hamlet, which would allow them to apply for bingo licenses. Susan Hillier, lotteries committee chair, confirmed that the forms were completed properly and the groups meet the eligibility requirements.

Motion to approve Lottery Eligibility for the Snowmobile Club

They will utilize funds raised for prizes, trophies, bingo supplies, and will contribute to Christmas Games

Moved by: Councillor Puqiqnak **Seconded by:** Councillor Qitsualik

Motion # 2025-04-15-011 carried unanimously

Motion to approve Lottery Eligibility for "Hockey Team 2"

They will utilize funds raised to cover expenses to attend tournaments.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Porter **Seconded by:** Councillor Puqiqnak

Motion # 2025-04-15-012 carried unanimously

11. Council Concerns

- a. Councillor Aglukkaq

Tuttarvik and cultural programming – Councilor Aglukkaq is pleased that Tuttarvik is being used – it can be used for IQ training. Believes that she cannot be paid from two sources and would like to do things – tired of sitting at home. Has requested funds (\$10,000) from igloodik to run traditional activities at Tuttarvik

Mayor indicated that this is very important – that children are losing the language, and we need to make sure the knowledge is passed on – should have started years ago. Elders need to teach younger people.

CAO indicated that we already have funds for activities like these and they can start any time. We have more \$40,000 that could be spent on elders (including councillor Aglukkaq) to teach language and other skills, but it has been a struggle to get everyone to discuss and collaborate and make plans. CAO has asked funder to carry the funds forward this fiscal year and asks recreation committee to meet proactively and make plans for using the available funds. CAO is already taking care of the relationship with the church about the land and paying for the fuel. Everyone is encouraged to use the building and spend the funds the Hamlet has for this kind of programming. Rec Committee chair can facilitate making sure everyone can move this ahead.

Radio – Councilor Aglukkaq is concerned that there is not enough radio programming – sometimes no one goes there. Radio usage has really declined in the last year – it should be open every day.

Mayor agrees – that radio is not consistent. We have given raises to radio announcers, but no one seems to be interested in the job. We need more people to help get community members committed to delivering radio programming.

b. Councillor Takkiruq

Wonders if we have a recreation committee. It seems like there is no recreation committee at all. Seems like they don't do activities on the bay. They used to work together, to play games, but we don't have them these days.

Mayor: Paul is the rec committee chair – and we need people to sign up. The wellness and rec department are often asking for more support. We need to strengthen the committee. People complain about the programs but don't want to be part of the committee. Committee members are needed to run games, like spring games.

c. Deputy Mayor Porter

Social Media and Facebook seem to be taking over – maybe that's why no one wants to do radio. DM Porter applied for funds for a girls program for girls 15-17 years old, and wants to know if the Hamlet can look after the funds – it would be for activities for 4 ladies until August.

d. Councillor Aaluk

Concerned that Inuit language is really being lost. Kindergarten kids don't even know little words. Can the language instruction be for all ages? Once we have funds for language instruction we should look at defining different age groups.

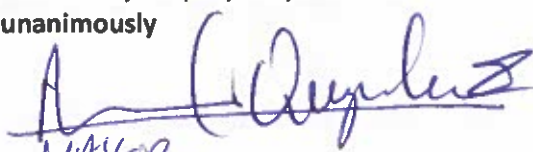
12. Adjournment

Motion To Adjourn at 10:07pm

Moved by: Councilor Puqignak **Seconded by:** Deputy Mayor Porter

Motion # 2025-04-15-013 carried unanimously


CAO


MAYOR

May 6, 2025

