



**Hamlet of Gjoa Haven  
Minutes of Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, August 19, 2025  
Continued to Wednesday August 20  
Meeting # 2025-08-1920**

**Council:**

Deputy Mayor Christine Porter  
Councilor Stephanie Aaluk  
Councilor Samuel Takkiruaq

Councilor Peter Akkikungnaq  
Councilor Salomie Qitsualik  
Councilor Susan Hillier

**Staff:**

Executive Secretary Catherine Anguttitauruq-Rogers  
CAO Jennifer Wakegijig  
Finance Director Hammad Amjad  
Community Economic Development Officer, Janet King

**Guests:**

Kyle Pressenger, RCMP

**1. Call to Order 7:15pm**

Opening Prayer led by Councillor Qitsualik

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Aaluk  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-001 carried unanimously**

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None Declared

**4. Delegates**

**i. Kyle Pressenger – RCMP Officer Update for July 2025**

1. Council comments – how can we help reduce calls – especially during community events?
  - a. Depends on planning. When RCMP are involved in planning (such as music festival) things run more smoothly
2. What happens to the people that get caught with the stills of moonshine?
  - a. Typically the materials are seized and a warning is given
3. Kids are continuing to drive ATVs underage and with no helmets, what can we do as a community?
  - a. In previous councils, when bylaws were passed, the council members themselves were not wearing helmets. Role modelling is important to change the culture.

**Motion to accept the July 2025 RCMP Update**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Aaluk  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-002 carried unanimously**

**5. Adoption of Minutes**

- ii. **Adoption of minutes of special meeting on July 24 deferred**
- iii. **Motion to adopt minutes of July 22, Regular meeting**  
**Moved by: Councillor Qitsualik Seconded by: Councillor Akkikungnaq**  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-003 carried unanimously**

## 6. Reports

- iv. **CAO Report Presented in council package covering recent events, major projects, human resources, upcoming training**
  - 1. **Discussion items included**
    - a. **Community safety / prevention** – need for gun safety, boating safety and other workshops.
    - b. **Dangerous yards** - Request for bylaw officers or CSL to drive around and identify dangerous junk vehicles and make plan to communicate with the owners and have them removed.
    - c. **Mayors' forum coming up in Gjoa Haven**
      - i. It is good that we are having regional events here
      - ii. School attendance – as an issue to take to the mayors' forum - also low in other communities – across the territory need to consider how this can be addressed seriously.
      - iii. Similarly, jobs are requiring more and more training and less and less people are applying for jobs – we need more training / opportunities
- v. **Review of council calendar and upcoming events**

**Motion to accept CAO report and calendar presented August 18, 2025**  
**Moved by: Councillor Qitsualik Seconded by: Councillor Hillier**  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-004 carried unanimously**

- vi. **Nattilik Heritage Centre Board Member update**  
Update received by CAO by email – she read the report to council

**Motion to accept the NHS board member update August 18, 2025**  
**Moved by: Councillor Qitsualik Seconded by: Councillor Hillier**  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-005 carried unanimously**

- vii. **Update from Community Economic Development Officer, Janet King**  
CEDO provided an update on the plans for the cruise ships, the number of ships coming, number of passengers, and how local people will be able to work and sell items to cruise ship passengers.  
Council member suggested that we should encourage someone to create photo books, children's books about the Amundsen, the Franklin Story. These would be valuable for the schools and also likely to sell to cruise ship passengers.  
**Motion to accept the NHS board member update August 18, 2025**  
**Moved by: Councillor Qitsualik Seconded by: Councillor Hillier**  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-005 carried unanimously**

## 7. Old Business

- b. **Update on Power Plant discussions**

CAO shared that following the special meeting July 24, a letter was drafted to the Minister responsible for the power corporation (Minister John Main), explaining that council did not feel that they were being given an opportunity to make an informed decision related to the sketches of the location of the power plant on the available lot, which was requiring a variance to permit the QEC to place the new power plant within 65 meters of the nearest houses. The letter stated that if the minister believed this was an appropriate decision, council would approve the variance. In addition a conditional approval was sent to the construction company, with the conditions of this ministerial approval, and that the QEC commit to preparing information for the community about the new power plant, its location, and technology and potential impacts on the community.

The following business day, the president of the Power Corporation requested a meeting with the mayor and council.

A meeting took place August 8 in the council chamber with President James Arreak, his senior engineer, and the project manager from Pilitak construction.

As a result of the discussions and correspondence about council's concerns, the QEC has committed to the following

- Relocating the new power plant building to the farthest end of the available lot, as far from housing as possible
- Making extra investments in technology that will reduce the noise from the power plant
- Developing materials for public education about the power plant, its technology and impacts on the community
- Attending and supporting the planned "innovation symposium" in November

**c. Council Vacancy**

Only one person put their name forward for the council vacancy. Council members committed to reaching out to community members that they would like to encourage to join council, with an emphasis on young adults who may be interested in providing leadership in recreation.

CAO committed to reposting on facebook and providing information to the Mayor to announce on radio.

**8. Correspondence**

**a. Letter to Northwest company about old Hudson Bay Buildings**

A draft letter was presented to council to approach the Northwest Company about acquiring the old buildings and possibly moving them somewhere else in town and preparing them to be a heritage site / tourist attraction.

Discussion: consider involving the Nattilik Heritage Society in planning for the use of these buildings.

**Motion to send the letter as presented to the Northwest Company**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-006 carried unanimously**

**b. Letter regarding Nunavut Census**

Letter from Statistics Nunavut / Census. Importance of encouraging community members to participate was discussed.

**c. Poster regarding Mental Health Act Community Consultations**

Limited communication with the Hamlet prior to this event, and the poster contains limited information that would inform the community what will be discussed.

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*Motion to Recess at 10:07pm and continue tomorrow*

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**Moved by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Aaluk  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-007 carried unanimously**

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*August 19, 2025 - meeting reconvened at 7:10pm*

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**In attendance**

Mayor Quqshuun, Deputy Mayor Porter, Councillor Takkiruaq, Councilor Qitsualik, Councilor Akkikungnaq, Councilor Aaluk  
CAO Jennifer Wakegijig, Executive Secretary Catherine Angutittauruq-Rogers

**9. New Business**

**a. Lands Applications**

**i. Arctic Research Foundation – Approval of sketches required for surveying of lot where Naurvik is located**

**Motion to approve the sketches as presented for the Sketch plan GJOA-415(40-2)25-002 Draft Sketch 1.4 Option B to survey a parcel of Unilted Municipal land to create a lot for the already existing Arctic Research Foundation Naurvik facility, and to survey a lot for the existing road leading to the site.**

**Moved by:** Councillor Takkiruaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-008 carried unanimously**

**ii. Nunavut Housing Corporation Development Permit Application DPA-25-12**

The lands department prepared a report with the lot sketch for placing 5 single-family dwellings on a lot uptown, which will house a 12-plex and an 18-plex. 5 modulare homes would be placed on Lots 2 & 3, Block 6, Plan 4048. The proposed plan complies with the zoning bylaw, however the spacing of the 5 single family dwellings, adjacent to the multiplexes is very close, and the drawings do not adequately show that there is sufficient spacing for access by municipal service vehicles. The department recommended that council consider approving the construction of 3 units instead of 5 units, and that the applicant submit a site plan showing the proposed placement of the multiplexes and the 3 units and ensuring that the access orads met the PW Director's satisfaction. Council discussed the extreme housing shortage in the community, and their sense that community members would prefer to have 5 units that are close together, than only 3 units. They indicated that they believed service vehicles could access the buildings, as they have historically always found a way, which may include requiring longer hoses etc.

**Motion to approve, without conditions, DPA-25-12 for the construction of a 5-single-unit dwellings on Lots 2&3, Block 6, Plan 4840**

**Moved by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Qitsualik  
**Motion # 2025-08-1920-008 carried unanimously**

**iii. Nunavut Housing Corporation – Development Permit Application DPA-25-11**

Per the lands department's report, The Nunavut Housing Corporation is seeking a development permit to construct a 12-plex next to the 8-plex being constructed uptown. The proposed development of a 12-plex on lot 8, block 6, Plan 4840 complies with the zoning bylaw and is suitable for approval. The lands department recommended that the development permit be approved with the conditions that a full site plan is submitted showing drainage and relevant infrastructure to the satisfaction of the PW director, and that the 12-plex and 8-plex layout should be provided ensuring that the two buildings are a minimum of 12 metres apart.

**Motion to approve, without conditions, DPA-25-11 for the construction of a 12-plex on Lot 8m block 6, Plan 4840**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-009 carried unanimously**

**iv. Mosher Engineering – Snow Fence Laydown Area**

A sketch was presented for the use of Lot 525, Plan 4542 as a laydown area for materials that will arrive on the sea lift and be stored until the snow fence is constructed in the spring of 2026.

**Motion to approve Mosher Engineering's request to use lot 525, Plan 4542 as a laydown area for the snow fence.**

**Moved by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Takkiruq

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-010 carried unanimously**

**b. Burials and Handling of the Deceased**

- i. Previous administrations have stopped supporting community's families in matters related to handling of the deceased and burials, and the CAO and Hamlet staff would like to return to taking responsibility for digging graves and assisting the community with the logistics around moving bodies between the airport, morgue, church, burial site.
- ii. The CAO is working on a project to acquire and renovate the building currently used as the morgue, and to identify potential new cemetery locations.
- iii. CAO is seeking council support to establish a committee for respectful handling of the deceased which can assist in identifying a new cemetery, advise on burial procedures and morgue renovations.

**Motion to create a committee to advance the community's burials and handling of the deceased.**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Aaluk

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-011 carried unanimously**

**c. Review and Motion to Support Plans for Gjoa Haven Solid Waste Facility (Dump)**

The Public Works committee participated in a meeting with the Government of Nunavut's consultants who have prepared a business case for > \$10M in upgrades planned for 2026. A report and map were shared with council, showing a new solid waste facility that is fenced, gated, and has segregated areas for different types of waste, and will be properly irrigated so that contaminated water flows to the appropriate places.

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**The Council of Gjoa Haven is in support of the plans presented to council for Solid Waste Facility Upgrades, as presented to Mayor Quqshuun and councillor Akkikungnaq in August of 2025.**

Discussion that the proposal includes removal of some waste by sea lift.  
Suggestion that we should get all of the junk vehicles and machines scattered all over town moved to the dump before this project starts, so that they can easily be removed from town.

**Moved by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Takkiruq

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-012 carried unanimously**

**d. Shelter Services In Camera Discussion**

**Motion to go in Camera at 8:32pm**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Takkiruq

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-013 carried unanimously**

**Motion to come out of camera at 8:59pm**

**Moved by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Qitsualik

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-014 carried unanimously**

**Motion to establish a Shelter Services Department and to Issue the presented proposal to the Department of Family Services for operating funds in the amount of \$4.7M over 1.5 years.**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qitsualik **Seconded by:** Councillor Takkiruq

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-014 carried unanimously**

**e. Hateful Message sent to HL Director Roosevelt Pierre-Glaude**

CAO read out racist messages that were sent to the Healthy Living Director, Roosevelt, by a community member who was angry that he was not paid and did not win a prize for participating in the community clean-up.

The CAO shared a notice that she published on facebook notifying the community that hate directed towards Hamlet employees would not be tolerated and that the RCMP would be contacted about this incident. She also encouraged community members to speak with their children about this.

Council indicated support for this response to the situation.

**10. Councillor Concerns**

**a. Councillor Qitsualik**

- i. Snow removal – pleased that hamlet has good equipment. She hopes that staff will be directed to make sure that it does not pile up on the sides and around buildings
- ii. Garbage boxes – she hopes she gets a new one with a lid before the snow flies.
- iii. Radio in the morning is excellent, Isaac is doing a great job. She likes that he shuts down stories at lunch hour when it should be announcements.
- iv. The summer students did a great job of community cleaning and had good supervision
- v. Concerns about the houses being demolished – the garbage is piling up near the dump, and wonders what will happen to the pile.

CAO responded that the public works department is working on the garbage boxes and the dump. That we are finally invoicing for dump use and that the

house demolition is providing \$15,000 towards the costs of managing the dump and moving the waste to where it belongs.

**b. Councillor Akkikungnaq**

- i. Concerned that the Jordan's Principle Program was discontinued. Would like council to advocate that it should be renewed

CAO indicated that she believes the JP funds were not meant to be used for food vouchers, however, writing a letter may help to raise awareness that a program like this is needed.

**Motion to send a letter to the Government of Canada asking that a Food Voucher Program be reinstated.**

**Moved by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Qitusalik

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-015 carried unanimously**

- ii. Coffins and cemeteries – we need to wait until the right time of year to bury caskets that are on top of the ground, since in the spring the holes fill with water. Father Lucasz has said the current site is not ideal.


CAO indicated that we hope to bury the bodies just once – and not leave caskets on top of the frozen ground anymore. If the holes fill with water, we maybe need a better site, or higher site. Father Lucasz will be invited to the committee that will help identify a new cemetery site, and advise on procedures.

**Motion To Adjourn at 9:43**

**Moved by:** Councillor Akkikungnaq **Seconded by:** Councilor Aglukkaq

**Motion # 2025-08-1920-016**

Mayor



CAO



Date

