



**Hamlet of Gjoa Haven
Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, October 23, 2025
Meeting # 2025-10-23**

Council:

Mayor Raymond Quqshuun
Deputy Mayor Christine Porter
Councilor Miriam Aglukkaq

Councilor Samuel Takkiruq
Councilor Peter Akkikungnaq
Councilor Salomie Qitsualik
Councilor Willy Aglukkaq

Staff:

Executive Secretary Catherine Anguttitauruq-Rogers
CAO Jennifer Wakegijig
ACAO Lewisa Oppong

Interpreter: None Available

1. Call to Order 7:10pm

Opening Prayer led by Councillor Aglukkaq

2. Approval of Agenda

As there is no interpreter available, mayor proposed to address only time sensitive items, and to have another follow-up meeting early November for deferred items.

Motion to Approve Abbreviated Agenda

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

Motion # 2025-10-23-001 carried unanimously

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None Declared

4. Delegates

i. RCMP Update Detachment Commander Kaelyn Draeger for June 2025

Item Deferred

5. Adoption of Minutes

a. Motion to adopt the minutes of Regular council meeting Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Qitusalik **Seconded by:** Councillor Hillier

Motion # 2025-10-23-002 carried unanimously

b. Motion to adopt the minutes of Regular council meeting Thursday, September 24, 2025

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

Motion # 2025-10-23-003 carried unanimously

6. Reports

a. Deferred – Mayor Report on SEMC Meeting

- b. Deferred – Update from Nattilik Heritage Society
- c. Deferred – Community Economic Development Officer Report

7. Old Business

a. Discussion regarding potential meeting with the DEA

Mayor Quqshuun invited councillors to comment on issues that could be discussed with the DEA, including advancing previous discussions about promoting school attendance, and concerns about hard drugs coming into the community, and the need for an awareness campaign for young community members. Every councillor was invited to share concerns, and these comments will be tracked for introductory remarks at a joint meeting. CAO to confirm what the timing/policy is for plebiscites related to alcohol in the community.

Motion to invite the DEA to a joint meeting with council to discuss:

- i. Strategies to promote student attendance at school, and continuing to post-secondary
- ii. Concerns about hard drugs that have been appearing in Cambridge Bay and other Kitikmeot communities and collaborative steps that can be taken to raise awareness

Moved by: Councillor W Aglukkaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Hillier

Motion # 2025-10-23-003 carried unanimously

b. Discussion and Motion for Submission of 2026 ICSP (Integrated Community Sustainability Plan) due October 21, 2025

CAO reviewed a draft document, highlighting progress on some capital projects, and delays in others, and the relative priority ranking proposed for the ICSP.

Councillors discussed their concerns and proposed some re-ranking of priorities, and the addition of investing in clean energy infrastructure to save Hamlet funds, and a new priority related to the Arctic College Learning centre in the community that has not been staffed for years and is being vandalized. In addition, the carving studio project was discussed. It has been listed for a number of years, after renovations were done at the arena without thorough community engagement, and the renos that were completed were not to code. Council prefers to remove that item from the ICSP and reconsider the best use of that space.

Motion to submit the ICSP with adjustments to the ranking order, removal or carving studio project, and addition of clean energy and Arctic College Facility as infrastructure priorities.

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

Motion # 2025-10-23-004 carried unanimously

c. Committee Membership Discussion – Deferred

d. Concerns for Mayor to Bring forward to NAM – Deferred

8. New Business

- a. Lands – Motion to confirm pricing of Arctic Research Foundation land lease – deferred

b. Eligibility of new U-18 Badminton Team as Gjoa Haven Charity for Lottery Licenses

- i. A volleyball team is requesting status as a local charity, to be eligible for lottery licenses. All forms were completed and compliant with the Lottery License committee procedures.

Motion to declare the U-18 girls' badminton team is an Gjoa Haven Charity endorsed by council.

Moved by: Councillor W Aglukkaq **Seconded by:** Councillor Hillier

Motion # 2025-10-23-005 carried unanimously

c. Letter to minister Responsible for Jordan's Principle Program, regarding food voucher program for children - Deferred

d. Proposed IQ days – council involvement – deferred

e. Discussion of Staff/council Christmas party - deferred

9. Councilor Concerns

a. Councillor Willie Aglukkaq

- i. wishes to underline the importance of being vigilant about the drug crisis, that he has seen first hand that drugs and alcohol destroy lives.

b. Councillor Susan Hillier

- i. Remarked that it was a pleasure to read the mid-term council update and recognize how far we have come in two years, how much we have moved forward.
- ii. Requests that a letter be drafted to the head of Nunavut Arctic College indicating council's concern that there are no programs, and that it is a challenge for our community to move forward without key programs training teachers, PSWs etc.
- iii. Asks whether there is a garbage schedule – that it would be nice to know which days garbage will be picked up. Also asked how community members should dispose of batteries and other toxic waste
 - 1. CAO responded that this is an area for improvement in the next year. The GN will be making major changes at the dump, including drop-off spaces for batteries and other materials. However, CAO will investigate opportunities to make improvements sooner.

c. Councillor Salomie Qitsualik

- i. Also concerned about garbage-pick up. Mentioned that her neighbour's garbage is always flying everywhere and it doesn't get cleaned up.

d. Councillor Peter Akkikungnaq

- i. Concerned that many young people are having children without resources to look after a family and it becomes the grandparents' responsibility
- ii. Concerned about hearing that Inuit employees at the CCC may be sexually abusing elderly residents.

10. Motion To Adjourn at 9:53

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

Motion # 2025-10-23-006 Carried Unanimously

Mayor *Ryan J. O'Connell*

CAO *J. Walegiri*

Date *Nov 4/25*