



A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Truro Civic Building.

Present: Mayor W. R. (Bill) Mills, Deputy Mayor G. MacArthur, Councillors C. Fritz, R. Tynes, D. Joseph, B. Kinsman and T. Chisholm

Regrets: Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture D. MacKenzie

In Attendance: Director of Finance A. Currie, Director of Planning J. Fox, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Fire Chief B. Currie, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Deputy Town Solicitor C. Thompson and CAO J. Langille

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and T. Chisholm, the agenda was approved as circulated. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, the minutes of the Public Council Meeting held January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

#### **MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

##### **a) Public Hearing Date – 5 Elm Street, Rezoning**

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Town Planning Advisory Committee requesting that Council establish a public hearing date to consider allowing The Peoples Church to rezone lands at 5 Elm Street from the Medium Density Residential Zone to the Institutional Zone.

On motion of Deputy Mayor G. MacArthur and Councillor C. Fritz, a public hearing date of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 was established to consider allowing The Peoples Church to rezone lands at 5 Elm Street from the Medium Density Residential Zone to the Institutional Zone. Motion carried.

##### **b) Public Hearing Date – 474 Young Street, Development Agreement**

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Town Planning Advisory Committee requesting that Council establish a public hearing date to consider entering into a Development Agreement for 474 Young Street to permit a 20 unit residential development consisting of six one-storey buildings, each containing three or four townhouse style dwelling units.

On motion of Deputy Mayor G. MacArthur and Councillor C. Fritz, a public hearing date of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 was established to consider entering into a Development Agreement for 474 Young Street to permit a 20 unit residential development consisting of six one-storey buildings, each containing three or four townhouse style dwelling units. Motion carried.

##### **c) Public Hearing Date – 30 Duke Street/54-56 King Street, Development Agreement Amendment**

The CAO advised that a request had been received from the developer for a Development Agreement Amendment for 30 Duke Street/54-56 King Street, but that a further request had been received this morning to postpone a public hearing date. Council agreed.

#### **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

##### **a) Presentation – FCM Award**

The Mayor advised that on behalf of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Town was presenting an award to Margot Begin-Gillis, in recognition of her involvement with the MPED program between the Town and Bolivia and the CARILED program with the FCM.

Deputy Mayor G. MacArthur presented the plaque to Ms. Begin-Gillis.

##### **b) Presentation – Keltie Jones, Chair of Tourism Committee**

Keltie Jones, Chair of the Town of Truro Tourism Committee, gave a presentation to Council on a Tourism Summit held a few months ago and key recommendations from the summit. The purpose of the summit was to discuss how to make Truro a tourist destination and how to capitalize on the people who are coming to town for other reasons.

The first recommendation was for more event coordination and support; the Tourism Committee was recommending that Town Council consider placing money aside in their budget to dedicate someone from the Recreation Department to focus on the big events in this area. Ms. Jones suggested that this position could be funded by all municipalities in the area, and this person could act as a centralized person for coordination events within the participating municipalities.

The second recommendation is for the creation of a branding and strategic approach to regional marketing. Ms. Jones noted that a continuing task force could be created that includes representation for area municipalities as well as the business community.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Jones for her presentation.

Councillor T. Chisholm asked if Ms. Jones was planning on giving this presentation to Colchester County Council and the Bible Hill Commission.

Ms. Jones advised that she would look for the blessing of Town Council before moving forward, but that she would like to speak to other municipalities on behalf of the Town.

It was agreed that Ms. Jones would contact the County of Colchester and the Village of Bible Hill about their participation in a task force and possible funding for a centralized events coordinator.

### **c) Presentation – Jim Lambert, GM of RECC**

Jim Lambert, General Manager of the RECC and Brad Lawrence, CFO of the RECC made a presentation to Council with the proposed budget for the upcoming year that was approved in principle at the Operating Board meeting last Tuesday night.

Mr. Lawrence presented the budget and it was noted that for this year, there would be a deficit of \$737,000 and predictions for 2014/15 were a deficit of \$721,432.

Councillor C. Fritz noted that there was no large sign outside of the RECC advising passing motorists of upcoming events, and perhaps that would increase revenue.

J. Lambert advised that if the money was available for a sign, that the plan was to have on installed.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a) Appointment of Deputy Mayor**

The CAO advised that election of a new Deputy Mayor was required at today's meeting for the balance of the calendar year.

The Mayor called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor. Councillor R. Tynes nominated Councillor D. Joseph for position of Deputy Mayor. Councillor D. Joseph accepted the nomination.

Councillor C. Fritz nominated Councillor B. Kinsman for position of Deputy Mayor. Councillor B. Kinsman declined the nomination.

Councillor G. MacArthur moved that nominations for Deputy Mayor to cease.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and B. Kinsman, Councillor D. Joseph was elected Deputy Mayor for the Town of Truro for the remainder of 2014. Motion carried.

### **IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT**

The CAO advised Council that there were three personnel issues and three legal issues discussed by Council at the last In-Camera meeting and requested Council meet after this meeting to discuss two personnel issues and one legal issues.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Finance Report**

The Finance report for the month of January was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor D. Joseph, it was moved that the Finance report for the month of January, 2014 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Fire Report**

The Fire Report for the month of January was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and C. Fritz, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month January, 2014 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Planning and Development Report**

The Planning and Development report for the month of January was presented to Council.

On motion of Deputy Mayor D. Joseph and Councillor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of January, 2014 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

### **Bylaw Enforcement Report**

The Bylaw Enforcement Report for the month of January was presented to Council.

Councillor T. Chisholm advised that he had circulated to Council pictures of a property on 16 Dominion Street and another property at the corner of Dominion and Prince streets. He noted that the buildings are unsightly and a potential serious safety hazard.

Councillor R. Tynes asked what the next step was regarding these properties and how long it would take before the Town could have them demolished.

The Deputy Town Solicitor advised that the Municipal Government Act requires that the Town either obtain a court order or approval of Council that a premises is unsightly, and that the property owner has to be given notice of that and an opportunity to respond. He advised that the length of the process depends on how the property owner responds to the notice.

The Director of Planning advised that he had received confirmation from the property owner that he was going to demolish the building within 30 days from Friday and that a contractor had already been hired for the demolition.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, it was agreed that the Town would ensure that the property owner of 16 Dominion Street has the property demolished within 30 days, and if not, legal proceedings would begin. Motion carried.

Councillor G. MacArthur requested that the UNSM be contacted about the possibility of updating the Unsightly Premises and Minimum Housing Standards Bylaw.

It was agreed that the Town Planning Department would draft a motion for the UNSM Spring Conference to upgrade the Unsightly Premises and Minimum Housing Standards Bylaw for municipalities.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and R. Tynes, it was moved that the Bylaw Enforcement Report for the month of January, 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### **Police Report**

The Police Report for the month of January was presented to Council.

Councillor R. Tynes thanked the Police Chief and Deputy Chief for agreeing to participate in an upcoming event at the Zion Baptist Church, a seminar for former offenders who are trying to change their lives.

Councillor R. Tynes noted that his grandson's school was interested in having Cyber do a presentation, and advised that he would forward the information to the Police Chief. He noted that the school would work on coming up with the money for the presentation.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and G. MacArthur, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of January, 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### **Public Works Report**

The Public Works report for the month of January was presented to Council.

Councillor T. Chisholm stated that he believed the Town should approve the urban forest study, especially since it will not cost the Town any money. He noted that the study would be a benefit to the Town and put Truro on the map.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and G. MacArthur, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the month of January, 2014 be accepted as presented, and approval was given for the Town to participate in the urban forest study. Motion carried.

### **Parks, Recreation and Culture Report**

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of January was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and C. Fritz, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of January, 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### **Safety Coordinators Report**

The Safety Coordinators Report for the month of January was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Safety Coordinators Report for the month of January, 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Councillor T. Chisholm stated that he had a few recommendations from the Audit Committee that he would like Council to consider approving at today's meeting. The first recommendation was for the Council cell phone bills to be limited to \$100 per month, and if a Council member's bill was over \$100 for a month, then that member would be responsible for paying the extra unless they could justify to the rest of Council that it was Town business. He noted that some cell phone bills were higher for some members of Council more than others and this recommendation would bring everyone to the same level.

Councillor T. Chisholm advised that the second recommendation was that any elected official who is invited to attend event, it will be expected that the inviting organization will be responsible for all associated costs; if a council member is invited to event as a representative for Council, then the expenses will be the responsibility of the Town. The third recommendation, in conjunction with that, was that any Council members who attend a conference will provide a summary of the conference to Council upon their return. If a report is not received, than that Council member will not be permitted to attend any future conferences offered by that organization.

Councillor T. Chisholm stated that the last recommendation from the Audit Committee was for the Deputy Mayor's salary to be increased by \$3,014.31 and for Council to receive the annual increase provided to non-union staff, but suggested that the recommendation be considered at budget deliberations.

Councillor G. MacArthur advised that it was his understanding of the phone plan that everyone's bill would be the same amount whether they used their phone a lot or not at all. He also noted that he has never seen one of his cell phone bills, so he did not know where his bill was at on a monthly basis.

The CAO advised that it was his understanding that the Town has thousands of free phone minutes a month based on the number of cell phones we have, and that when the minutes are exceeded the amount if allocated to each cell phone based on the number of minutes that cell phone used.

Councillor R. Tynes stated that he felt it was immature for Council to vote on these recommendations today, and that Council should review and have the agenda for the March meeting.

Councillor C. Fritz agreed with Councillor R. Tynes and noted that she has received a copy of any of her phone bills and requested that Council be provided with this information prior to the next meeting.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and C. Fritz, it was agreed that the recommendations from the Audit Committee would be on the agenda for the March Council meeting. Motion carried.

Councillor G. MacArthur noted that last week there was a collaborative meeting of all the Town committees and that another meeting would be set up for March. He advised that the committees would be reviewing their mandates and more information would be suggested for the website for committee updates. Councillor G. MacArthur advised that more ideas would be brought to Council in April.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a) 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Amendment to Tax Exemption Bylaw**

The CAO advised that 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the amendment to the Tax Exemption Bylaw to include the Colchester Hospice Society on the list of properties exempt from paying property tax was approved at the January Council meeting, with 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to occur at this meeting.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and approval was given to the amendment to the Tax Exemption Bylaw, to include the Colchester Hospice Society on the list of properties exempt from paying property tax. Motion carried.

#### **b) Sponsorship Agreement – Tim Horton's Soccer Fields**

The CAO advised that a recommendation had been received from the Parks & Recreation Committee, recommending that Council approve an agreement with Tim Horton's Group Limited for sponsorship in the amount of \$1,000 per year for a 5 year period for the soccer field on Park Street.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, it was agreed that the Town would sign an agreement with Tim Horton's Group Limited for sponsorship in the amount of \$1,000 per year for a 5 year period for the soccer field on Park Street. Motion carried.

#### **c) Recommendation – Floodplain Advisory Committee**

The CAO advised that a recommendation had been received from the Joint Floodplain Advisory Committee which had also recently been approved by the County of Colchester. The Committee was recommending that staff make application to the Province for 50% cost sharing for the flood risk study based on an anticipated project value of \$394,000 excluding taxes; and that if the Province agrees to fund 50% of the flood risk study, the Joint Floodplain Advisory Committee recommends award of the study to CBCL Limited for a contract amount

of \$394,000 excluding taxes and that any cost for the flood risk study that are not funded by the province be shared 50/50 between the Town of Truro and the County of Colchester.

On motion of Councillors C. Fritz and B. Kinsman, it was agreed that staff will make application to the Province for 50% cost sharing for the flood risk study based on an anticipated project value of \$394,000 excluding taxes; and that if the Province agrees to fund 50% of the flood risk study, the Joint Floodplain Advisory Committee recommends award of the study to CBCL Limited for a contract amount of \$394,000 excluding taxes and that any cost for the flood risk study that are not funded by the province be shared 50/50 between the Town of Truro and the County of Colchester. Motion carried.

**d) Funding Application – Nova Scotia Music Week**

The CAO advised that an application from Nova Scotia Music Week, November 6-9, 2014, had been received and that they were requesting a contribution from the Town in the amount of \$20,000. The CAO noted that staff were recommending that this matter be referred by Council for budget consideration.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, it was agreed that the funding application from Nova Scotia Music Week for a contribution of \$20,000 be referred to budget for consideration. Motion carried.

**e) Letter from Minister MacLellan, Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal**

The CAO reviewed a letter received from Minister MacLellan of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal expressing appreciation to the Town of Truro Fire Chief and career and volunteer fire fighters for their response during a recent tanker truck fire on a major highway.

**f) African Heritage Month Proclamation**

The Mayor advised that February was African Heritage Month and that the Town hereby proclaims February as African Heritage month in the Town of Truro.

Councillor R. Tynes stated that on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at the Marigold Centre, he will be presenting a slideshow of his trip to Birmingham, Alabama, last September as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the civil rights movement. He also noted that on February 27<sup>th</sup> a group called Community Strong will be having an event at Truro Junior High School to recognize the mothers and women of the African community.

**ACCOUNTS**

It was moved by Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented be approved for the month of January, 2014. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and G. MacArthur, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m. Motion carried.

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W.R. (Bill) Mills  
Mayor

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J.K. Langille  
CAO