



A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Truro Civic Building.

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

Regrets: Deputy Mayor G. MacArthur

In Attendance: Director of Finance A. Currie, Director of Planning J. Fox, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture D. MacKenzie, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Fire Chief B. Currie, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Town Solicitor J. Rafferty and CAO J. Langille

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and C. Fritz, the agenda was approved as circulated. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, the minutes of the Public Council Meeting held December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

#### **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

##### **a) Presentation – Colchester Hospice Society**

The President of the Colchester Hospice Society, Rod Jones made a presentation to Council requesting that Council reconsider its recent decision, and grant the Colchester Hospice Society full exemption status for tax.

The Mayor thanked him for his presentation.

The CAO advised that if Council decided to adjust the taxes for the Colchester Hospice Society, there were a few options available. The tax rate could be change from commercial to residential or the taxes could be written off for the year. Any adjustment in taxes requirements an amendment to the Tax Exemption Bylaw to add the Colchester Hospice Society, and would require a first and second reading.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and B. Kinsman, 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an amendment to the Tax Exemption Bylaw to include the Colchester Hospice Society as exempt from taxes was approved, with 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to occur at the February Council meeting. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

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

The CAO advised that this matter was discussed at the December Council meeting, but it was requested for this agenda as not as members of Council were present for the December meeting.

Councillor D. Joseph suggested that since all Councillors were not present at today's Council meeting, that this matter be place on the agenda for the February Council meeting. Council agreed.

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

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

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **Finance Report**

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

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Finance report for the month of December, 2013 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

##### **Fire Report**

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

On motion of Councillors C. Fritz and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month December, 2013 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

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

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

On motion of Councillors C. Fritz and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of December, 2013 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Bylaw Enforcement Report**

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

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the Bylaw Enforcement Report for the month of December, 2013 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Police Report**

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

On motion of Councillors C. Fritz and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of December, 2013 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Public Works Report**

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

Councillor T. Chisholm asked for an update on the snow removal budget due to the amount of recent storms.

The Director of Public Works advised that 50% of the snow removal budget had been spent so far this winter. He noted that December usually accounts for a quarter of the yearly snow removal budget.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the month of December, 2013 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

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

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

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and C. Fritz, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of December, 2013 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Safety Coordinators Report**

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

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Safety Coordinators Report for the month of December, 2013 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

#### **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Councillor R. Tynes advised that an article in the Truro Daily News today stated that all Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition employees had been suddenly laid off. He stated that that was not true. The NSPE is a seasonal operation, from April to early December and some employees are laid off every year and the layoffs are normal. Councillor R. Tynes advised that the Board Chair and another board member had resigned as well. There are still employees working at the NSPE office.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **a) Letter from CN**

The CAO reviewed a letter received from CN regarding the public's concerns about the movement of dangerous goods by rail through communities.

The Mayor advised that a dangerous goods person from CN would be meeting with Emergency Measures and first responders this month.

##### **b) CoRDA Wind Down**

The CAO advised that the Province was withdrawing all funding from current Regional Development Agencies and suggesting to municipalities that they get involved in a Regional Enterprise Network with other municipalities in order to provide economic development services. He noted that as a result, it is necessary for Council to consider a motion to withdraw its participation and involvement in the current CoRDA operation. The CAO read a proposed motion for Council to consider.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, the Town of Truro will pursue the wind up of the Colchester Regional Development Agency, as it is the consensus of the participating municipalities and the Board of CoRDA to proceed with the wind up of the Agency, beginning with the ceasing and transition of activities and operations as recommended by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and the immediate process of requesting a consensus derived method of dissolution of the Agency regarding the distribution of its remaining assets and liabilities for submission to the legislature. The Town will also begin the process of hiring a Business Development Officer. Motion carried.

**c) Recommendation from Tourism Committee**

The CAO reviewed a recommendation from Tourism Committee that was made earlier this year but did not make it to a Council agenda until today. He advised that the Tourism Committee was recommending that a \$20,000 promotional advertising opportunity with CTV not be pursued this year, but to consider it in next year's budget.

The Mayor advised that it was for Council information and will go forward for budget consideration.

**ACCOUNTS**

It was moved by Councillors C. Fritz and B. Kinsman, that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented be approved for the month of December, 2013. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 2:10 p.m. Motion carried.

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W.R. (Bill) Mills  
Mayor

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J.K. Langille  
CAO