



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

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

Regrets: Director of Finance A. Currie, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon

In Attendance: Director of Planning J. Fox, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture D. MacKenzie, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Fire Chief B. Currie, Senior Engineer C. Roberts, Town Solicitor J. Rafferty and CAO J. Langille

The Mayor advised that two local residents, Scott Brumwell and Beatrice Robertson, would be send letters of appreciation from his office for their efforts with Global Medic, and in assisting in the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan.

The Mayor also presented an FCM award to Margot Begin-Gillis for her outstanding international volunteer contributions.

The Mayor also introduced the new Town CAO, Michael Dolter.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and T. Chisholm, the minutes of the Public Council Meeting held September 8th, 2014 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a) Public Hearing Date – 454 Queen Street, Rezoning

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Town Planning Advisory Committee, requesting a public hearing date to consider a rezoning application for 454 Queen Street from Industrial (M1) zone to the Institutional (P3) zone and permit the development of a new multiple unit residential care facility to replace the existing facility located on the property.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and G. MacArthur, a public hearing date of November 3rd, 2014 was established for Council to consider a rezoning application 454 Queen Street from Industrial (M1) zone to the Institutional (P3) zone and permit the development of a new multiple unit residential care facility to replace the existing facility located on the property. Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

a) Presentation – Martin Turpel

The CAO advised that Mr. Martin Turpel had requested to present to Council regarding the Land Use Bylaw in relation to large commercial vehicles parking in residential areas.

Mr. Turpel advised Council that he received a ticket on September 19th, 2014 for parking his large truck, without the trailer, in his driveway on Young Street. He noted that he has lived on Young Street since April 2001 and has never had a complaint or issue with his neighbours about his truck. He requested that Council consider changing the Bylaw and noted that he would be challenging the ticket in court. Mr. Turpel stated that the Province grants anyone with a tractor unhooked from a trailer as a personal vehicle, within 75km of the driver's home terminal.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Turpel for his presentation to Council. He noted that when the Bylaw was created, as many as 15-17 years ago, it was due to residents' complaints about trucks in residential areas.

Councillor R. Tynes noted that the Bylaw is enforced when the Town receives complaints as the Town does not have the manpower to enforce it on a pre-emptive basis.

Deputy Mayor D. Joseph noted that on the Council agenda for today, under New Business, the Land Use Bylaw with respect to commercial vehicles was going to be discussed and suggested that the discussion be moved up to this agenda item.

On motion of Councillor G. MacArthur and Deputy Mayor D. Joseph, it was agreed that a sub-committee would be formed with Town Planning Advisory Committee members, industry experts, and the traffic authority to review the Land Use Bylaw re: Commercial Vehicles, have a public information session and make a recommendation to Council. Motion carried.

b) Presentation – Scott Hartlen

The CAO advised that Scott Hartlen, a business owner on Commercial Street, had requested to speak to Council at today's meeting to discuss the issue of parking spaces on Commercial Street.

Mr. Hartlen advised that he also had the business owner of the Co-operators with him today in support of his concern. He stated that the employees of the salon next door to him were using prime parking spots in front of their business instead of allowing for customers of all the businesses to use those parking spots. Mr. Hartlen stated that he has spoken with the salon owner and been advised that the employees will move spaces every two hours or roll the car back in order to give the appearance that they have not been parking for more than the two allowed hours.

The Mayor advised that this is an issue that the Town has tried to deal with in the past, as has the Downtown Truro Partnership.

Councillor G. MacArthur noted that the Town does provide parking lots for employees of businesses on Revere Street.

Deputy Mayor D. Joseph asked the Police Chief what the method was for timing vehicles.

The Police Chief advised that the tendered security company uses cameras and takes a picture of a vehicle in a parking spot and then returns two hours later. If the vehicle is still there, the vehicle receives a ticket. He noted this issue has arisen in the past, and the two hour parking limit is difficult to enforce.

The Mayor advised that he would speak with the Executive Director of the Downtown Truro Partnership and see if anything could be done about the parking spaces.

Mr. Hartlen asked if it was possible to have designated parking spaces for each business.

The Mayor advised that the Planning Department would look into this and have a report for a future meeting.

c) Presentation – Victoria Park Master Plan

Councillor B. Kinsman, as one of Council's representative on the Victoria Park Master Plan Working Group, made a presentation to Council on the content of the finalized plan. He advised that previously Council had approved the preparation of a comprehensive master plan for Victoria Park. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee was given the responsibility of delivering on the Master Plan. He stated that a 12 member advisory committee was appointed by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee to oversee preparation of the Report. This Advisory Committee including himself and Deputy Mayor D. Joseph, as well as members from the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee and citizens. Councillor B. Kinsman advised that CBCL Limited as chosen as the consultant on this project through the Town's tendering process.

The Advisory Committee wanted a more strategic and proactive approach to management with the Park. The finalized Master Plan defines a vision and management philosophy for the Park and identifies the actions required to implement that vision and philosophy. The Master Plan will ensure that the park continues to be enjoyed and appreciated by residents and visitors over the long term.

Councillor B. Kinsman stated that key recommendations and four core values were identified through the process and included in the Plan. The four core values are: 1) Natural Environment – protect and enhance the ecological and geological integrity of the Park; 2) Cultural Heritage – preserve and restore the Victorian cultural landscape and ensure its historical features are properly interpreted; 3) Education – take advantage of educational opportunities to both promote learning and self-discovery and to further enhance appreciation of Victoria Park; 4) Health and Fitness – recognize the important role of the Park in promoting physical and mental health by balancing opportunities for active/passive recreation and areas of reflection.

Councillor B. Kinsman also reviewed the six guiding principles: 1) Aesthetics – maintain a high standing of aesthetics quality and consistency as Park infrastructure and amenities are added, enhanced or upgraded; 2) Accessibility – ensure future development and maintenance of the Park provides access and ease of navigation for park users of all ages and abilities; 3) Safety and Security – monitor and mitigate any potential safety hazards or concerns and ensure optimal way finding and security throughout the Park; 4) Protection – provide solutions to reduce the negative impacts of external development and human activity; 5) Promotion – provide appropriate strategies to share and celebrate the hidden treasure of Victoria Park with the region; 6) Continuity – Keep the Park's intrinsic character intact.

The Plan also supports the creation of a "Friends of Victoria Park", an arm's length group from Council that would look at ways to improve marketing and promotion. The Master Plan breaks the Park down into zones, and depending on the zone, certain activities will be permitted.

Councillor B. Kinsman noted that the Director of Recreation was very supportive of the Master Plan, as was the Director of Public Works in regards to areas that affect the Town's watershed. He noted that the Master Plan includes a breakdown of costs for projects being recommended, as well as sets out short, medium and long term capital projects.

The Mayor thanked him for his presentation.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and G. MacArthur, the Victoria Plan Master Plan was approved as presented, and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department will be instructed to implement the recommendations of the Plan. It was also agreed that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee would be asked to make a recommendation to Council regarding the Friends of Victoria Park group to be created. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

a) Funding Requests – CTCL & Truro Music Festival

The CAO advised that the Colchester Transportation Cooperative Limited had made request to Council for funding, as did the Truro Music Festival. He noted that Council had originally set aside \$7,000 in this year's budget for another organization that would not be requiring those funds.

On motion of Councillor G. MacArthur and Deputy Mayor G. MacArthur, it was agreed that the Colchester Transportation Cooperative Limited and the Truro Music Festival would each be granted \$3,500. Motion carried.

IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Report

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

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Finance report for the month of September, 2014 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Fire Report

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

On motion of Deputy Mayor D. Joseph and Councillor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month of September, 2014 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Planning and Development Report

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

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and C. Fritz, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of September, 2014 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Bylaw Enforcement Report

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

Councillor G. MacArthur asked what the rule was for apartment buildings and how many units before they were required to have a dumpster.

The Director of Planning advised that once a fourth unit is created, the owner is required to have commercial pick up.

Councillor G. MacArthur noted that there seemed to be an issue in Town with landlords moving their garbage from one building to another for pick up, but then it does not get picked up and is causing a rat problem. He asked that the issue be investigated.

Deputy Mayor D. Joseph advised that he met with a residents group recently and noted from the report that 50% of the properties cited were from Ward 3 and it needs to be addressed.

The Mayor advised that the Town is aware of the issue and that residents should keep reporting incidents.

Councillor R. Tynes noted that on West Prince Street, there is an issue with garbage and determining whose property it is on. He requested that the Planning Department investigate and report back to himself and Councillor C. Fritz.

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

Police Report

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

On motion of Councillors C. Fritz and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of September, 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Public Works Report

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

Councillor R. Tynes advised that he had been receiving calls from residents from Roosevelt Avenue, Hampstead Court and other areas in the west end of Town regarding the condition of the sidewalks.

The Mayor advised that he had also heard from residents of Roosevelt Avenue regarding the condition of the street as well.

Councillor R. Tynes also noted that pedestrians were complaining about vehicles not allowing them access to crosswalks throughout Town, and one specific area was the side street coming from the bridge onto Queen Street. He asked if a sign could be installed at that location to watch for pedestrians.

The Mayor noted that he had also received calls about difficulty crossing on Queen Street by Louise Street.

Councillor R. Tynes asked for update on the area of McClure's Mills Road and Willow Street, as a lot of ideas had been proposed for the area.

Councillor B. Kinsman asked if the capital projects scheduled for this year would be finished before winter.

The Senior Engineer advised that all scheduled capital works projects would be completed on time.

Councillor T. Chisholm noted that he had heard a lot of good comments this year about the working being completed by the Public Works Department. He also noted his concern over the condition of some of the side streets as well.

Councillor G. MacArthur suggesting that the information be provided to the residents on the street rating system so they are aware of how and which streets are picked for paving or patching each year.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and C. Fritz, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the month of September, 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

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

Safety Coordinators Report

The Safety Coordinators Report for the month of September 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 September, 2014 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillor B. Kinsman noted that there were a few properties on Prince Street by the Town building where the driveways had been excavated at one time and now there was just gravel filled in between the curb and sidewalk and asked if they would be repaired.

The Senior Engineer advised that the Department planned to have those areas reinstated before snowfall this year and in the meantime would keep them topped up with gravel.

Councillor R. Tynes advised that years ago, the Town entered into an agreement with the Provincial government and the Human Rights Commission and believed there was supposed to be a report completed for the Commission and asked for an update, who was preparing the report, and what the report would contain.

The CAO stated that the preparation of a report was assigned to a staff person, but he was not aware if it was completed at this time, but would follow up and have a report at the next meeting. He advised that as for the content of the report, he would have to look that information up. However, the Town of Truro's hiring policy reflects the obligations under the Human Rights Commission agreement.

Councillor C. Fritz advised that she is the Chair of the Equity and Diversity Committee. There was recently a change in staff and she needed to bring the new staff person up to date regarding the role of the Committee. She advised that she would like to bring this report back to the Committee to ensure the agreement is being followed and review the report.

Councillor G. MacArthur asked if anything was happening with youth engagement.

Councillor C. Fritz noted that Municipal Awareness Week was coming up October 20th to the 26th and thought it would be a great opportunity to bring residents to a public forum to let them know how municipal government works and youth could be included in that. She stated it would also be a good opportunity for residents to meet the new CAO, perhaps an open house could be arranged during that week. Councillor C. Fritz advised that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities provides powerpoint presentations for Municipal Awareness Week as well. She asked that something be arranged for that week by staff.

Councillor C. Fritz advised that she had received an email from a resident of Purdy Drive regarding the amount of deer, and deer eating his garden and lawn. A suggestion in the email was the proposal of a deer cull of female deer. She asked that the Town look into a deer management plan, in coordination with the Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department, Planning and Police departments or any others that might be necessary.

Councillor G. MacArthur stated that he was not a fan of bows and arrows, or guns, or any method that involved taking the lives of deer.

On motion of C. Fritz and T. Chisholm, it was agreed that the Town would develop a committee to prepare a deer management plan for Council review. Staff will prepare a recommendation for the next meeting of the make up of the committee. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

a) New CAO Contract

The CAO advised that under the Municipal Government Act, Council was required to pass a motion to appoint Mike Dolter as the new CAO for the Town of Truro.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, Mike Dolter was approved as the new CAO for the Town of Truro, effective October 1st, 2014. Motion carried.

The Town Solicitor noted that a resolution was passed in 2003 delegating powers of the CAO to Jim Langille personally and a motion was required to rescind the delegation.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and G. MacArthur, the 2003 resolution delegating powers of the CAO to Jim Langille personally was rescinded. Motion carried.

b) Pre-Approval Resolution - Library

The CAO advised that approval was being requested from Council for a pre-approval resolution in the amount of \$2,535,000 to begin borrowing requirements to satisfy the financial needs to construct the new library.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, the pre-approval resolution in the amount of \$2,535,000 for construction of the new library was approved as presented. Motion carried.

c) Letter from Canadian Red Cross

The CAO reviewed a form letter received from Canadian Red Cross, requesting that each town consider donating \$1 for every resident of their town.

It was agreed that this request would be sent for consideration in next year's budget.

d) Demand Loan Approval

The CAO advised that a Demand Loan approval was required by the Bank of Montreal to allow the Town to borrow up to \$2 million to cover financing costs with respect to the renovations at the Normal College building for the new library. He noted that the Municipal Finance Corporation will not advance monies under a debenture issue until the building is substantially completed, and therefore this Demand Loan approval would allow the Town to access interim financing.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and R. Tynes, the Demand Loan approval in the amount of \$2 million was approved as presented. Motion carried.

e) Resolution re: Canada Post

The CAO advised that Council was being asked by the Canadian Union of Postal Workers to look at adopting a resolution regarding Canada Post's decision to eliminate door to door mail delivery. Staff prepared a resolution for Council consideration today that would reflect the need for Canada Post to maintain the current service level in the Town of Truro. The CAO stated that if the resolution was acceptable to Council, they could make a motion to approve and it would be forwarded to the Federal Government. The resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS Council for the Town of Truro respects and appreciates the services currently provided by Canada Post to our residents.

AND WHEREAS Canada Post is considering a reduction in the services currently provided to the residents of our Town.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Federal Government intervene in the decisions of Canada Post to make sure that all citizens and businesses within the Town of Truro continue to receive the same level of services from Canada Post that we have received over the years and that these services not be reduced in order for Canada Post to reduce expenditures.

The Mayor noted that Canada Post's decision was discussed at the annual Federation of Canadian of Municipalities conference, resolutions to maintain service were brought forward and defeated.

The CAO advised that the original request from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers was for Council to approve a resolution that would ask the Federal Government to intervene in the decision of Canada Post to eliminate the door to door delivery service in the Town of Truro. This time, respective of Canada Post's decision to make their operations more economical, Council could approach it in a general way and look for a resolution that would encourage Canada Post to at least maintain current service levels in the Town of Truro.

Councillor T. Chisholm stated that it was a dead issue, and that Canada Post was going to do what they wanted to do. He believed that the Town should be focusing on providing input into where the community boxes would be located and set up.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and G. MacArthur, the resolution regarding Canada Post maintaining the current level of service within the Town of Truro was approved as presented. Motion carried by five votes in favour and two nay votes cast by Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman.

f) RECC Capital Request

The CAO advised that the Rath Eastlink Community Centre was requesting capital funding from the Town and the County of Colchester for improvements and upgrades for IT equipment, up to \$4,300 for each municipality. He noted that this is not expected to be a recurring cost on an annual basis and the upgrades were a result of a request by the Town for a better financial reporting system, and were being recommended by the Town's IT staff.

On motion of Deputy Mayor D. Joseph and Councillor R. Tynes, it was agreed that up to \$4,300 would be provided in capital funding to the RECC for the purchase of IT equipment. Motion carried.

h) Request from Recreation Committee re: Lease of Land

The CAO advised that a request had been received from the Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture, stating that further to Councillor G. MacArthur's presentation to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee in December 2013, the Committee was requesting that Council enter into discussions with the Province of Nova Scotia regarding a long term lease for property on the east side of Wood Street.

Councillor B. Kinsman asked why a lease was being considered instead of a request to purchase.

Councillor G. MacArthur advised that whatever the Province was willing to offer, whether a lease or purchase, he would like the Town to consider.

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and B. Kinsman, it was agreed that the Town would enter into discussions with the Province of Nova Scotia for either the purchase of or long term lease of property on the east side of Wood Street. Motion carried.

i) Tender re: Heat Transfer to Cougar Dome

The CAO advised that the Town has several agreements in place with the Society for Athletic Excellence, including supplying the excess heat from the Colchester Legion Stadium to the Cougar Dome. Council was aware that there would be a capital cost associated with the transfer of heat, and a tender was completed, along with \$55,000

budgeted for the project. The CAO noted that the lowest amount responded for the tender was for \$150,000. He advised discussions between Ian Storey and the low bidder resulted in determining that actual cost could be closer to \$130,000. The CAO stated that Council was being asked to consider providing an additional \$80,000 in funding for the project to ensure that the capital requirements that take place at the Cougar Dome for the transfer of heat are compatible with the capital work at the Stadium.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and B. Kinsman, it was agreed that the low bid by Fowler’s Construction for heat transfer at the Colchester Legion Stadium and Cougar Dome would be accepted, and that the Town would provide an additional \$80,000, for a total for \$130,000, funding for the project. Motion carried.

j) Lease Agreement with Colchester Community Workshops

The CAO advised that at last month’s Council meeting, a request was received from the Colchester Community Workshops to extend the lease that had expired for an additional 20 years, for the property on Arthur Street. He noted that the Town owns the building and property, but that the Colchester Community Workshops covers all other expenses for the property. The CAO advised that legal had prepared a new lease, as per Council’s request, for a 20 year period and a motion of Council to approve the lease was being requested.

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and T. Chisholm, a new lease for a 20 year period for Colchester Community Workshops for the property on Arthur Street was approved as presented. Motion carried.

k) Contract with Police Service Civilians

The CAO advised that a contract with one of the two Atlantic Police Association unions was recently finalized for three civilian employees.

The Town Solicitor advised that the only changes to the contract was the inclusion of the new statutory holiday and a change to the pay schedule, which was the same schedule as that in the recent CUPE contract.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor D. Joseph, the Atlantic Police Association union for the three civilian employees of the Truro Police Service was approved as presented. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS

It was moved by Councillors G. MacArthur and C. Fritz, that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented be approved for the month of September, 2014. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and G. MacArthur, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m. Motion carried.

W.R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

J.K. Langille
CAO