



A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Truro Civic Building.

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

**Regrets:** Councillor C. Fritz and Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture D. MacKenzie

**In Attendance:** Director of Finance A. Currie, Fire Chief B. Currie, Director of Planning J. Fox, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Deputy Police Chief J. Flemming, Director of Parks, Town Solicitor J. Rafferty and CAO M. Dolter

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The CAO requesting that "Appointment to Audit Committee" be added under New Business.

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and G. MacArthur, the minutes of the Public Hearing and the Public Council Meeting held July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

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

#### **a) Public Hearing Date – 118 Lyman Street**

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Town Planning Advisory Committee, recommending that Council establish an evening public hearing date to consider a proposed development agreement application for 118 Lyman Street, to permit a multiple unit residential development consisting of two 42 unit four-storey buildings.

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and T. Chisholm, a public hearing date of October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00pm was set for Council to consider the Development Agreement Application for 118 Lyman Street. Motion carried.

### **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

#### **a) Presentation – FCM Plaque**

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in which they thanked the Town for its participation in their exchange program. The Mayor received a plaque on behalf of the Town from the FCM.

The Mayor noted that Councillor G. MacArthur was instrumental in bringing the program forward to the Town of Truro and thanked him.

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

The CAO advised Council that there were 10 issues discussed by Council at the last In-Camera meeting and there are 6 issues to be discussed by Council at the incamera meeting today.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **CAO Report**

The CAO report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the CAO Report for the months of July and August, 2015 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Finance Report**

The Finance report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor R. Tynes, it was moved that the Finance report for the months of July and August, 2015 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Fire Report**

The Fire Report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and G. MacArthur, it was moved that the Fire Report for the months of July and August, 2015 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

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

The Planning and Development report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

Councillor B. Kinsman asked for an update on the development agreement application for 140 Dominion Street, that development application.

The Director of Planning advised that at the most recent Planning Advisory Committee meeting, the applicant did not show up, so the application will go back to the Planning Advisory Committee at the meeting at the end of this month. He stated that the Department will attempt to contact the developer in the meantime to determine if they are interested in proceeding.

Councillor G. MacArthur noted that he believes some residents of Town did not know the zones of the properties around them, and in the case of a new development moving forward in certain areas, residents are surprised that zoning allows for it. He stated that a few years ago the Town had an information day at the fire hall with maps and other documents for residents to view and understand. He asked if another day could be planned or if there was a way the Town could do a better job of informing residents.

The CAO advised that he would have a meeting with the Director of Planning about informing residents of zoning in their area. He noted that the zoning maps are available on the Town website. The CAO stated that perhaps the Town could make contact with real estate agents as well.

On motion of Deputy Mayor R. Tynes and Councillor T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the months of July and August, 2015 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Police Report**

The Police Report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Police Report for the months of July and August, 2015 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Public Works Report**

The Public Works report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

Councillor T. Chisholm asked for an update on the solar panels at the Farmers' Market.

The Director of Public Works advised that they were waiting for Nova Scotia Power to approve the panels and install the meter.

Deputy Mayor R. Tynes asked for an update on the construction work off of West Prince and other areas, and asked if the department was on schedule and on budget.

The Director of Public Works advised that most projects were on schedule, with the longest project being Hampstead Court because of the water main and directional drilling involved.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and G. MacArthur, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the months of July and August, 2015 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

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

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

The Mayor advised that he was contacted by former Councillor Charles Cox who had submitted a plan while he was still a member of Council for disabled playground equipment for Victoria Park and he was requesting that it be part of the ongoing considerations regarding the installation of new equipment. The CAO advised that he would ensure it was.

Councillor G. MacArthur noted that a recent Master Plan for Victoria Park had been completed and he wanted to ensure that recreation and heritage were combined and promoted when it came to the Park. He also suggested that perhaps some areas in the Park could be designated as heritage areas.

The CAO advised that the Master Plan includes recommendations for heritage aspects and that it would be something that would be coordinated.

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and D. Joseph, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the months of July and August, 2015 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Safety Coordinators Report**

The Safety Coordinators Report for the months of July and August was presented to Council.

On motion of Deputy Mayor R. Tynes and Councillor T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Safety Coordinators Report for the months of July and August, 2015 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Councillor D. Joseph noted that while Canada is in the midst of a federal election campaign, there has been some rumours regarding Canada Post and a projected letter mail decline of 10-15%, yet a rumor of a work force decline coming of 45-55%. He asked if the Town could determine if there was any truth to these rumours and take a public stance with regards to keeping the workforce intact.

The Mayor advised that he had a contact at Canada Post and would send an email and advise Council when he had answers.

Councillor D. Joseph read a statement he had prepared about the refugee crisis in Eastern Europe and urged anyone who is able to assist to do so.

The Mayor stated that he agreed with Councillor D. Joseph's comments and that just this morning he forwarded emails to Council with regards to immigration issues. He noted that late last week the Federation of Canadian Municipalities called an emergency session to discuss the refugee status and unanimously approved a resolution calling on the government, mayors and all elected officials to work together to come up with a plan sooner rather than later to address Canada's part in the solution. The Mayor also advised that he received notice on Friday from the federal government of a session currently underway in Halifax with the Minister of Immigration with regards to the refugee crisis. He stated that the Town's Business Development Officer was attending to gather information for Council.

Councillor T. Chisholm stated that he was appalled with the fact that all that money was spent on the Ivany report saying we need more immigration in this province, and yet no one in the government is doing anything to increase immigration numbers.

Councillor T. Chisholm noted that one of the Town police officers and vehicles was involved in an accident in the Spring on Arthur Street and asked if there was any update on the cause of that.

The Deputy Police Chief advised that while the officer was traveling north on Willow and turned onto Arthur Street, a group of deer ran out in front of him. He swerved to avoid a collision, hit a telephone pole and then the vehicle accelerated and hit a tree. He stated that he was asked by the Police Chief to perform a review of the accident and his review determined that the accident was not due to a mechanical issue, and there were no Motor Vehicle Act, Criminal Code or Police Act violations.

Councillor G. MacArthur asked about updates on flooding remediation funding and if the Town should have another public meeting in the near future to update residents.

The Mayor advised that there was a Joint Flood Committee with the County scheduled for early October and updates would be provided; then a decision can be made on a public meeting.

Deputy Mayor R. Tynes agreed with the comments made regarding immigration and the Ivany Report and also noted the Mills Report, that discussed rural versus urban issues, and suggested it's something the Town should be discussing in the future.

Deputy Mayor R. Tynes requested that staff and Council take a closer look at the way grants are dealt with. He noted that some groups need to start working together to avoid duplication.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a) Expropriation of Queen Street Lands**

The CAO advised that a right of way section of land on the site of the old jail does not currently belong to the Town or the developer of the recent approved development for that area. He stated that the Town Solicitor's research indicates that the last conveyance of the property was completed in the 1800's resulting in the land currently being divided among many descendants of the original owner and it is not feasible to identify all of these descendants to acquire the property through the normal purchase and sale process. The CAO advised that under the Municipal Government Act, the Town has the ability to expropriate the land on the basis that it will generate economic development for the Town.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and D. Joseph, it was agreed that the Town will expropriate the Queen Street lands identified as parcel E on a plan of survey by Stephen J. Forbes dated August 27, 2015. Motion carried.

#### **b) Bylaw Repeal – Polling Division Bylaw**

The CAO advised that the new boundaries for Town wards/districts have been set by the Utility and Review Board and it therefore makes the Town's current Polling Division Bylaw redundant.

The Town Solicitor advised that the repealing of a bylaw requires a first and second reading, with first reading to occur at today's meeting and second reading to occur at the October public meeting.

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and T. Chisholm, 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the repeal of the Polling Division Bylaw was approved, with 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to occur at the Council meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Motion carried.

**c) Reappointment of Citizen Member to RECC Board**

The CAO advised that the RECC Board has gone through a transitional phase over the last few months and during that process of review, it was determined that two additional positions were required; one from the Town and one from the County. Council previously approved the additional positions at the July Council meeting. The CAO noted that part to the recommendation made during the review process was to create a board position of Past President. This would allow for continuity for the board and is very common among Board of Directors. He noted that this Past President addition was also approved at the July Council meeting. The CAO stated that Farida Gabbani is the outgoing Board president, and Council is being asked to appoint her to the Board in the Past President position for a term of one year.

On motion of Deputy Mayor R. Tynes and Councillor G. MacArthur, Farida Gabbani was appointed to a one year term to the end of the RECC 2016 Annual General Meeting to allow her to fulfill her role on the RECC Board as Past President. Motion carried.

**d) IAFF Contract**

The CAO advised that the Town has completed negotiations with the local IAFF union and that the Town's Negotiating Committee was recommending ratification of the tentative agreement that Council received as part of their Council package.

The Town Solicitor reviewed the highlights of the new proposed contract with Council. He noted that the IAFF is meeting tomorrow evening to hopefully ratify the contract as well.

On motion of Deputy Mayor R. Tynes and Councillor B. Kinsman, the agreement negotiated by the Town's Negotiating Committee with IAFF Local 1627 was approved as presented and will be executed. Motion carried.

**e) Claims Policy**

The CAO advised that Council was being asked to consider a new Claims Policy that would enable Town Staff to deal with claims in a more consistent matter, to ensure that all claimants are treated equitably and efficiently by Town Staff and the Town's insurer. The CAO noted that Council was provided with an amendment to the policy that was placed on their desks prior to the meeting with regards to reckless or fraudulent claims, and Council was being asked to approve the policy with the amendment, as presented.

On motion of T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor R. Tynes, the Claims Policy was approved and adopted as amended. Motion carried.

**f) Feeding Deer Pamphlet**

The CAO advised that the Town Planning Department had created a draft feeding deer pamphlet, to provide information to residents on the dangers of feeding the deer. He noted that the root cause of deer coming into the Town is due to residents, who believe they are doing the right thing, are feeding the deer. This is the first step from a staff perspective in trying to change that. The CAO noted that in the Town of Truro it is illegal to feed deer and is punishable by a fine of an amount of up to \$1,000. He stated that the Town is continuing to look into options to deal with the large amount of deer.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and G. MacArthur, the feeding deer pamphlet created for the Town was approved as presented for circulation and distribution as part of the Town's ongoing public awareness program. Motion carried.

**g) Police Board Provincial Rep Appointment**

The CAO advised that as a result of a recent appointment by the Provincial Government, Wayne Talbot will no longer be a citizen representative on the Truro Police Board effective August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. With Council's approval today, as of September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, Wayne Talbot will be the provincial representative on the Board.

Deputy Mayor R. Tynes stated that he believed Mr. Talbot was the African-Nova Scotian representation on the Board if the Town could keep that in mind when selecting a new citizen member.

On motion of Deputy Mayor R. Tynes and Councillor T. Chisholm, it was agreed that Wayne Talbot be removed as citizen member of the Truro Police Board and be reappointed as a Provincial representative on the Truro Police Board effective September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Motion carried.

**h) Appointment to Audit Committee**

The CAO advised that there was an outstanding vacancy on the Audit Committee and that Ken MacDonald is available and was a chartered accountant with Grant Thornton.

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and T. Chisholm, it was agreed that Ken MacDonald be appointed to the Audit Committee. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor R. Tynes and Councillor T. Chisholm, that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented be approved for the months of July and August, 2015. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Deputy Mayor R. Tynes and Councillor T. Chisholm, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m. Motion carried.

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W.R. (Bill) Mills  
Mayor

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M.W. Dolter  
CAO