



Truro Town Council Meeting
Monday, April 4th, 2016 at 1:00 pm
Council Chambers – Town Hall

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A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, April 4th, 2016 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Truro Town Hall.

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

In Attendance: Director of Corporate Services A. Currie, Fire Chief B. Currie, Director of Planning J. Fox, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture D. MacKenzie, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Deputy Town Solicitor C. Thompson and CAO M. Dolter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councillor G. MacArthur and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, the Public Hearing Minutes and Public Council minutes of March 7th, 2016 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

MOTION AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a) Budget Resolutions – 2016/17

Deputy Mayor C. Fritz provided the budget presentation for the 2016/17 fiscal year. The presentation reviewed the highlights of the budget. The Residential tax rate will increase by 2 cents to \$1.82 per \$100 of assessment and the Commercial tax rate will increase by 1 cent to \$4.48 per \$100 of assessment.

Deputy Mayor C. Fritz presented the resolution to establish the tax rate for the 2016/17 fiscal year, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor G. MacArthur, the resolution was approved and the tax rates for the 2016/17 fiscal year were adopted as presented. Motion carried.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor G. MacArthur, the area rate of \$0.42 per \$100 of real commercial assessment in the designated area, as requested by the Downtown Truro Partnership, was approved as presented. Motion carried.

b) Water Utility Budget

Deputy Mayor C. Fritz presented the Water Utility budget for approval for the 2016/17 year.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor B. Kinsman, it was moved to approve the Water Utility Budget for the 2016/17 fiscal year as presented. Motion carried.

c) Tax Exemptions – 2016/17

Deputy Mayor C. Fritz presented the resolution to establish the property tax exemption level of less than \$205 for the 2016/17 fiscal year, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor R. Tynes, the property tax exemption level was adopted as presented. Motion carried.

At this point in the meeting (2:05pm), Councillor R. Tynes excused himself from the Council meeting to attend another meeting.

PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

Presentation – Colchester Community Workshop

Donald Hoadley, Executive Director of the Colchester Community Workshop, made a presentation to Council to bring them up to date on what is new at the Workshop.

Presentation – Mayors' Poetry Challenge

The Mayor advised that Mayor Naheed Nenshi of Calgary had issued a challenge to Mayors for their municipal units to participate in a poetry challenge. The Mayor stated that Chad Norman and Penny Ferguson, local poets, would present a few poems for Council's enjoyment today. Mr. Norman and Ms. Ferguson shared their poems with Council and the gallery.

OLD BUSINESS**a) 2nd Reading – Police Chief Authorization Bylaw**

The CAO advised that it was being recommended that Council approve a new Bylaw that will formally provide the Chief of Police with the authorization to appoint, promote, suspend, dismiss or reinstate members, special constables, bylaw enforcement officers and civilian employees of the Truro Police Service. He noted that first reading occurred at the March public Council meeting, with second reading to occur at today's meeting.

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Atlantic Police Association in which they expressed their concern with the proposed Bylaw and shifting of powers from the Truro Police Board to the Police Chief.

The CAO advised that the new Bylaw was to make formal what has already been in practice for decades, the practice in which the Police Chief already appointed, promoted, suspended, dismissed and reinstated individuals, and that the power has never been held by the Truro Police Board.

On motion of Councillor G. MacArthur and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, second reading and approval was given to the Police Chief Authorization Bylaw as presented. Motion carried.

IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT

The CAO advised Council that there were three issues discussed by Council at the last In-Camera meeting and there were no issues to be discussed by Council at the incamera meeting today.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**CAO Report**

The CAO report for the month of March was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the CAO Report for the month of March, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Corporate Services Report

The Corporate Services report for the month of March was presented to Council.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Corporate Services report for the month of March, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Fire Report

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

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month of March, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Planning and Development Report

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

The Mayor asked if staff could look into what other municipal units have in effect with regards to the allowance of building an enclosure for compost carts and garbage bins.

The Director of Planning stated that the Town currently has two Bylaws which could apply, but that one of the Bylaws needed some updating in order to deal with enforcement and that staff have been working with legal in this regard. He advised that staff would investigate what other municipal units have in place.

On motion of Councillor B. Kinsman and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of March, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Police Report

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

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of March, 2016 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Public Works Report

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

Councillor T. Chisholm asked if the Town had any recourse for residents who put their Spring clean up items out after the Spring clean up has occurred.

The Director of Public Works advised that the Bylaw Enforcement Officer is sent to the residences and advising the residents that they have to clean up the items, and if they do not clean up within a certain number of days, the Town will clean up the items and invoice the property owner.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the month of March, 2016 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of March, 2016 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillor D. Joseph asked the Director of Public Works to explain the reasoning for there not being a sewer system in the Harmony Ridge area.

The Director of Public Works advised that the Harmony Heights and Camden area are part of the watershed annexation area, and given the location and costs involved, it was much more feasible for that area to remain as a rural area with septic systems.

The Mayor wished to pass along congratulations and best wishes on behalf of Council and citizens to Ms. Jeanette Brown who will be celebrating her 107th birthday on Wednesday.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Certificate re: Kindness Meters

The CAO advised that the Town had received official recognition in the Nova Scotia Legislature for the installation of the Kindness Meters in the downtown area.

b) Colchester Food Bank Request

The CAO advised that the Colchester Food Bank was requesting that the Town act as a municipal partner with them to enable the Food Bank to apply for the FCC Agrispirit Fund, which would provide needed capital funding to the Food Bank for the future construction of their new building.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and D. Joseph, it was agreed that the Town will join the Colchester Food Bank as a municipal partner for the purpose of the Food Bank applying for FCC Agrispirit funding. Motion carried.

c) Change Orders for Library

At this point in the meeting (3:00pm), Councillor R. Tynes returned to the meeting.

The CAO advised that the Library Construction Committee met on March 23rd, where three change orders were discussed. The committee and staff agreed that these change orders were in addition to the original contract with L&R construction and were not budgeted expenditures. The change orders total \$220,000. Included in the three change orders were upgrades to flooring, addition of a T-bar ceiling in the basement that is required to meet fire code as well as unforeseen costs related to building structure, the front ramp and railing system that's being installed. Staff are recommending that council approve the change orders as presented.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, it Council approved Change Orders #3, #4 and #5 for the new library totalling \$220,000 as they were extra expenditures and not part of the original contract with L&R construction. Motion carried.

d) Request from Meech Holdings re: Extension of Development Agreement

The CAO advised that Meech Holdings Limited was requesting an extension to the time limit for Phase 1 of the Development Agreement for Newbury Lane, off of Upham Drive, to June 2018, rather than the current limit of June 2016. The original Development Agreement states that "within four years of entering into this Agreement, the Developer will have completed construction of the private street and 20 dwelling units in Phase 1". The CAO advised that to date, the private street has been partially constructed along with 5 dwelling units. Staff is recommending that Council grant the extension.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and B. Kinsman, it was agreed that Council extend the time limit of Phase 1 of the Development Agreement with Meech Holdings Limited for land off Upham Drive, Newbury Lane, to June 2018 as requested by the developer. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS

It was moved by Councillor R. Tynes and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented be approved for the month of March, 2016. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:10 p.m. Motion carried.

W.R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M.W. Dolter
CAO