



Truro Town Council Meeting
Monday, September 12th, 2016 at 1:00 pm
Council Chambers – Town Hall

26

A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, September 12th, 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, 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, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture D. MacKenzie, Town Solicitor J. Rafferty and CAO M. Dolter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor B. Kinsman, the agenda was approved as circulated. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and T. Chisholm, the Public Council minutes of August 8th, 2016 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a) Public Hearing Date – 12 Mill Street, Sale of Land

The CAO advised that Council had previously expressed an interest in providing assistance to the Truro Homeless Outreach Society to construct a Crisis Care Facility. The Town property at 12 Mill Street, the site of the former Truro Public Works Depot, has been identified as a potential site to meet the needs of the Society. Prior to selling property valued at more than \$10,000 at a price less than market value to a non-profit organization, Council is required to hold a public hearing respecting the sale. Staff is recommending that the public hearing take place on October 4th at 1pm.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and G. MacArthur, it was agreed that a public hearing date of October 4th, 2016 at 1:00pm be established to consider selling land at 12 Mill Street to the Truro Homeless Outreach Society for the purpose of constructing a Crisis Care Facility. Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

a) Presentation – Art After Hours Event

Danielle Sawada, Brandt Eisner and Crystal Fullerton made a presentation to Council regarding a new event they would like to put on next year, and requested the Town's support for "Art After Hours". They requested some in-kind services from the Town, as well as a letter of support and they had questions regarding which departments they should seek different permissions on. The Mayor and CAO instructed them on which departments they should contact. The group also submitted a grant application for consideration during Council's budget deliberations next year.

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and G. MacArthur, it was agreed that a letter of support would be provided for the "Art After Hours" event, and in services and support provided subject to approval for the appropriate Town departments. Motion carried.

b) Presentation – New Town Website

The Director of Corporate Services gave an overview of the work completed on the Town's new website. Staff is almost finished uploading content, and website launched is tentatively planned for October 3rd.

OLD BUSINESS

a) Bylaw to Repeal Licensing Bylaws – 2nd Reading

The CAO advised that upon review by staff of some of the Towns Bylaws, it has been determined that the majority of the Town Bylaws relating to licenses are no longer required as they are outdated or the regulations have been incorporated into other newer Town Bylaws. It is being recommending that the following Bylaws be repealed: Licenses, General Provisions; Licenses, Petty Trades; Licenses, Auctioneers; Licenses, Non-Residents Doing Business; Licenses, Public Entertainment; Licenses, Trucks; Licenses, Junk Dealers; Licenses, Chimney Sweeps. The CAO noted that 1st reading was approved at the August Council meeting, and the Bylaw was being presented today for 2nd reading and approval.

On motion of Councillor G. MacArthur and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, 2nd reading and approval was given to the "Bylaw to Repeal Licensing Bylaws", as presented. Motion carried.

b) Alternative Voting Bylaw Amendment – 2nd Reading

The CAO advised that amendments to the Alternative Voting Bylaw are required in order to accurately reflect the changes the Province of Nova Scotia made to the Elections Act that were effective April 15th, 2016. He stated that 1st reading was approved at the August Council meeting, and the amendment was being presented again today for 2nd reading and approval.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and D. Joseph, 2nd reading and approval was given to amendments to the Alternative Voting Bylaw, as presented. Motion carried.

c) Update – Private Lane Report

The CAO advised that as requested at a previous meeting, the Director of Public Works had prepared a further in depth report on private lanes within the Town, and included four options for Council consideration. He stated that he did agree that the Town should have some level of formal agreement in place regarding the level of support that is currently being provided to some of the private lanes.

Councillor B. Kinsman agreed that there should be a formal document in place for the support provided and he was prepared to make a motion on the matter.

The Town Solicitor stated that any formal agreements would need to be reviewed or prepared by legal, as there could be some issues with the wording in terms of if the properties on these lanes change hands.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and T. Chisholm, it was agreed that Town staff would be directed to develop a policy consistent with the option 3 identified in the staff report and that draft policy to be reviewed by the Solicitor's office and brought back to Council for review and approval. Motion carried.

IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT

The CAO advised Council that there were six issues discussed by Council at the last In-Camera meeting and there is one issue to be discussed by Council at the incamera meeting today.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAO Report

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

Councillor G. MacArthur noted that with regards to Bylaw complaints, sometimes the individual who has noticed the issue does not want to submit the complaint and have their name attached to it, and sometimes the Ward Councillor is asked to submit the complaint on their behalf. He stated that this could cause problems for the Councillor if the issue ever ends up in court. Councillor G. MacArthur asked how Bylaw complaints should be reported.

The CAO advised that the new Town website will have a complaint form that residents can fill out and submit and if Councillors receive a complaint from a resident, they should direct that resident to the form on the website. He agreed that there could be an issue later on if the matter ends up in court if the Councillor made the complaint but did not actually witness the incident or issue.

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

Corporate Services Report

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

On motion of Councillors R. Tynes and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Corporate Services report for the month of August, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Fire Report

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

On motion of Councillor G. MacArthur and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month of August, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Planning and Development Report

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

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

Police Report

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

Councillor T. Chisholm advised that he was receiving complaints from residents regarding speeding on Kaulback Street.

The Police Chief stated that those residents with concerns should be encouraged to contact the Police Service. The speed trailer could be located there for a few days as well.

Councillor R. Tynes expressed concern about drivers cutting through the Park Street soccer fields between Park Street and Lorne Street and asked for that issue to be noted as well.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of August, 2016 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Public Works Report

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

Councillor R. Tynes stated that a previous discussion had taken place about solving the water drainage issue on West Prince Street and asked for an update. The Director of Public Works advised that the work would be completed this Fall.

Councillor R. Tynes asked if the Traffic Authority could investigate the possibility of installing speed bumps in places where speeding was an issue, and asked for a report for the next Council meeting.

Councillor G. MacArthur asked when the public meeting was planned for the results of the flood mitigation study.

The Director of Public Works advised that the joint committee has reviewed the first draft of the report, and has a second draft will be ready this week or next week.

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

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

Deputy Mayor C. Fritz commented on the wonderful turnout for the Embrace Festival on the weekend and wanted to thank all staff who were involved in organizing it and participated in it.

The Mayor asked that the Director of Recreation put upgrades and maintenance for the Victoria Park Pool on his agenda for the budget next year.

On motion of Councillor G. MacArthur and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of August, 2016 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillor G. MacArthur noted that while campaigning, some residents are hesitant to open to the door to someone they do not know. He suggested that the candidates be given lanyards with identification indicating that they are running for Council.

Councillor B. Kinsman stated that in the Upham Drive area, the students that walk to Truro Junior High have a long walk because of the Town owned wooded area that they cannot walk through. He asked if a path could be developed to decrease their walk time.

The Director of Public Works advised that he could look into it and see how it fits with the pedestrian plan for the school areas and could have a preliminary report for Council next month, but any decision would likely have to wait until all capital budget requests are presented to Council.

Councillor B. Kinsman noted that there had been some discussion the press lately about the Town's recent refusal of a request to hang a banner, and he asked for information on that issue.

The CAO advised that the Immanuel Baptist Church had requested permission to place a banner. The Development Officer refused the request based on the Land Use Bylaw provisions regarding banners, such that banners shall be limited to the name of the event, the date and sponsor, and shall not express political, ideological, religious or individual convictions. He stated that the banner directed people to a website that was definitely religious in nature. If the course that was being put on was advertised on a specific date, the Town could approve that. The CAO stated that some guidance from the Town was provided to the Church on ways to change the banner so that it would be approved.

The Town Solicitor noted that the Development Officer is the only person authorized to approve or deny a banner request. If Council does not agree with the decision, they currently have no authority to change the decision. If the person who applied for a banner wishes to appeal it, they must do so through the Utility and Review Board.

Councillor D. Joseph noted that there is still an issue at the junction of Park Road and Rosewyn, with traffic and pedestrians and he had brought up the possibility of the installation of a crosswalk previously.

Deputy Mayor C. Fritz asked if staff could provide an update on the deer management plan at the next Council meeting.

Councillor T. Chisholm asked a date for a public meeting with the Department of Natural Resources regarding deer has been set.

The CAO stated that a date has not been set yet, and would likely occur after the election.

Councillor R. Tynes stated that he noticed that a downtown business had a picture for sale in their storefront window that he felt was offensive and needed to be removed. He noted that he had checked with the Town's CAO and there were no Town Bylaws that prohibited this type of display.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Amendment to Municipal Grants Policy

The CAO advised that Council had previously requested that the deadline for municipal grant applications be changed from November 30th to December 31st of each year, and this requires a change to the Town's Municipal Grants Policy. He noted that Council received a copy of the amendment previously, meeting the requirement of seven days' notice.

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and T. Chisholm, the amendment to the Municipal Grants Policy to change the deadline for applications from November 30th to December 31st of each year was approved as presented. Motion carried.

b) ACOA Funding re: Douglas Street Rec Centre Renovations

The CAO advised that ACOA is coordinating the Canada 150 Fund, and the Town can apply for a grant of \$150,000 that could be used to renovate the Douglas Street Recreation Centre, including the installation of a new roof, new siding and new HVAC system. He noted that should the Town be approved for the funding, the Town would be required to contribute the other 50% of the monies required to complete the project. Staff is requesting permission to apply for the funding.

On motion of Councillors G. MacArthur and B. Kinsman, staff is authorized to make application for a funding grant from ACOA to be used for renovations to the Douglas Street Recreation Centre. Motion carried.

c) Letters re: Funding from Municipal Affairs

The CAO advised that the Town had received a few letters from Municipal Affairs regarding approval of funding for the Town under the Provincial Capital Assistance Program for a number of projects. They include \$325,000 for the Water Meter and Water Meter Reading System Replacement Project, \$125,375 for the Alice Street Water Main Replacement Project, and \$94,025 for the Hingley Avenue Water Main Replacement Project.

d) Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Proposal

The CAO advised that there has been an increasing focus on moving to a true regional economic development model that would lead to greater cooperation and coordination among the participating partners. In addition to the involvement of the municipal units and the Millbrook Band in such a model, it is considered essential to have the business community play a leading role. He stated that over the last several months, the Colchester and Truro Chamber of Commerce has been working with several of their members as well as the CAOs from the Town and County to refine a pilot project that will see the Chamber take the lead in the area of business attraction and growth of existing business. The other partners will focus on other aspects for the regional strategy that remains to be fully refined. The CAO noted that key to the Town's participation in this process will be the development of an effective governance model that best reflects the levels of participation and commitment to the project. The Chamber has asked for a three year commitment to this initial proposal.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and G. MacArthur, it was moved that the Town will partner with the Colchester and Truro Chamber of Commerce, the Municipality of the County of Colchester, the Town of Stewiacke and Millbrook First Nations on a three year regional economic development pilot project. This arrangement is subject to an agreement being reached on a governance model and the acceptance of the Chamber's proposal by other partners. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

W.R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M.W. Dolter
CAO