



**Truro Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 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 3, 2017 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, T. Chisholm, W. Talbot and C. Hinton

**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, Town Solicitor J. Rafferty and CAO M. Dolter

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councillor C. Hinton and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, the Public Council minutes of March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

**MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

**a) Public Hearing – 63 Queen Street, Development Agreement Application**

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Town Planning Advisory Committee requesting that Council establish a public hearing date to consider a development agreement application for 63 Queen Street for the purpose of permitting the development of a health care/institutional use consisting of an aesthetic medicine practice and two ancillary dwelling units. He also reviewed a letter received from the Town Heritage Advisory Committee recommending that Council approve the proposed development, with the recommendation that all parking be situated in the rear yard, and that the rear parking area be screened from neighbouring properties using either fencing or landscaping elements.

The Director of Planning presented his final staff report to Council. Staff was recommending that Council approve the development of a health care/institutional use consisting of an aesthetic medicine practice and two ancillary dwelling units at 63 Queen Street.

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and T. Chisholm, it was agreed that the Town will enter into a development agreement with Van Aardt Investments Limited to permit the development of a health care/institutional use consisting of an aesthetic medicine practice and two ancillary dwelling units at 63 Queen Street. Motion carried.

**b) Budget Resolutions – 2017/18**

Deputy Mayor C. Fritz provided the budget presentation for the 2017/18 fiscal year. The presentation reviewed the highlights of the budget. The Residential tax rate will increase by 1 cent to \$1.83 per \$100 of assessment and the Commercial tax rate will remain the same at \$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 Councillors D. Joseph and T. Chisholm, the 2017/18 budget resolutions were approved as presented. The tax rate for the 2017/18 fiscal year were adopted as presented. Motion carried.

**PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**a) Presentation – Mayors' Poetry Challenge**

The Mayor advised that the Town was again taking part in Poetry City 2017. He stated that Chad Norman and Paul Zann, local poets, would present a few poems for Council's enjoyment today. Mr. Norman and Mr. Paul shared their poems with Council and the gallery.

**IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT**

The CAO advised Council that there were four issues discussed by Council at the last In-Camera meeting and there are 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 Councillors W. Talbot and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the CAO Report for the month of March, 2017 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 Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Corporate Services report for the month of March, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**Fire Report**

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

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and W. Talbot, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month of March, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**Planning and Development Report**

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

Councillor C. Hinton asked if there was a Town bylaw in place that prohibits vehicles from parking on front lawns, as she has had some recent complaints.

The Director of Public Works advised that the Town Land Use Bylaw does prohibit parking in the front yard in residential areas, if it is any more than 60% of the front yard. He stated that anyone who has a concern should file a complaint with the Planning Department and they can conduct an investigation.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and W. Talbot, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of March, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**Police Report**

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

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor C. Hinton, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of March, 2017 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 the Director to look at the possibility of stop signs or a warning or a crosswalk at Pleasant where the Gero walkway comes out.

The Director of Public Works confirmed that they would look at that area.

Councillor W. Talbot noted that at the recent Committee of the Whole meeting, the Director gave a presentation on the department's new Operations and Performance Maintenance Standards. He thought it was a very informative presentation and something the public would be interested in seeing.

The CAO advised that the Town would look at a separate public session for the presentation.

On motion of Councillors W. Talbot and T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the month of March, 2017 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.

Councillor W. Talbot asked if the Recreation Department has the capacity or the interest in holding special events in some of the public parks.

The Recreation Director advised that he would have a discussion with his staff about this idea, and see if the staff coverage would be enough to facilitate some special events.

On motion of Councillor D. Joseph and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of March, 2017 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

**QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Councillor D. Joseph noted that the former long serving mayor in Mahone Bay passed away recently and asked that the Town send a condolence card. Council agreed.

Councillor B. Kinsman noted that the traffic lights at Queen and Church streets have been out of commission and replaced by a four way stop, and asked when the lights would be repaired.

The Director of Public Works stated the new traffic controller's was expected this week.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a) Adoption of Low Income Tax Relief Policy**

The CAO advised that the Municipal Government Act allows Council to provide low income tax exemption to property owners through policy. The draft Low Income Tax Relief Policy presented to Council today formalizes the exemption process, and provides staff with direction to allow the administration of such an exemption.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, the Low Income Tax Relief Policy was approved as presented. Motion carried.

**b) Resignation – Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee**

The CAO advised that Will Dunn recently resigned from the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee, who was experiencing conflicts in his schedule when attempting to attend recent meetings. He stated that the Town would be advertising shortly for a vacancy on that committee.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Dunn for his contributions to the Town and advised that a thank you letter was also sent to Mr. Dunn.

**c) Nova Scotia Music Week**

The CAO advised that the Town and the County of Colchester have received a proposal from Music Nova Scotia for the municipalities to enter into a three year agreement to host Nova Scotia Music Week in Truro starting in 2017. The municipalities would provide funding to the event as follows: Fiscal Year 17/18 - \$24,815; Fiscal Year 18/19 - \$31,500; and Fiscal Year 19/20 - \$32,500. The CAO noted that Nova Scotia Music Week has been an excellent event for the community with a positive economic impact and high attendance. Our central location in the province, the abundance of accommodations and quality venues have been well received by both musicians and attendees.

On motion of Councillors W. Talbot and D. Joseph, it was agreed that the Town will enter into a three year commitment to host Nova Scotia Music Week in Truro in partnership with the County of Colchester, with funding provided by the Town not to exceed \$12,407 in the fiscal year 17/18, not to exceed \$15,750 in 18/19 and not to exceed \$16,250 in 19/20. Motion carried.

**d) Year-end Capital Reimbursement - RECC**

The CAO advised that there have been ongoing issues for the RECC with the control systems, the multistack chiller, and valves that were all part of the original systems for the building. These faults were all related to issues with the original installations in the building and not part of normal maintenance or minor capital, both of which would be the responsibility of the RECC. Based on the operating agreement currently in place, the municipalities, as the building owners, are responsible for these costs on a 50/50 basis. The following is a breakdown of the work that has been completed:

Sorenson's Electric – Fire Marshal rewiring (capital deficiencies)	\$2,989
Cimco – reverse valve	\$3,194
Johnson's Controls – multistack chiller	\$4,253
Cimco – module installation	\$1,120
Cimco – Smart Key for PCO controller	\$870
Cimco – reversing valves	\$16,018
Total	\$28,444

Councillor B. Kinsman asked if some of these faults were related to original installation and therefore covered under warranty.

The CAO stated that the repairs are not warranty work, and that some of the costs the Town would attempt to collect from the original installers.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor B. Kinsman, it was agreed that Town Council will fund 50% of the capital expenditures of \$28,444 for the RECC under the municipal responsibility; the Town portion would be \$14,222. Motion carried.

**e) Financial Condition Index (FCI) Update**

The CAO advised that the Financial Condition Index, provided by the Province of Nova Scotia, helps municipal councils and Nova Scotians make sense of municipal financial information by providing a variety of sources of information in a single document. He reviewed the highlights of the report for the Town of Truro. It was noted that the Revenue thresholds compared to both the town averages as well as the town thresholds indicates that the Town of Truro is operating well in this area. The CAO advised that the Budget thresholds indicates that the Town is operating well in 4 out of 5 areas. Reflected in the new budget, Council will be focusing attention on rebuilding reserve balances.

**f) Fundy Gateway Master Plan**

The CAO advised that the Town and the County of Colchester have partnered together on a master plan for the Fundy Gateway project to determine the best use for the property from a tourism perspective. Moving forward, the Town will be working with the County to help determine the future of the property. At what level that will be remains for the Councils to jointly determine. By accepting the report presented to Council today, Council is in no way committing the Town to a particular level of funding support.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was agreed that the Fundy Gateway Master Plan be accepted as prepared by the consultant and presented at today's meeting. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS**

It was moved by Councillors C. Hinton and W. Talbot, that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented be approved for the month of March, 2017. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and D. Joseph, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m. Motion carried.

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W.R. (Bill) Mills  
Mayor

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M.W. Dolter  
CAO