



Truro Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 11th, 2017 at 1:00 pm
Council Chambers – Town Hall

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A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Tuesday, July 11th, 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

Regrets: Director of Planning J. Fox, Fire Chief B. Currie and Town Solicitor J. Rafferty

In Attendance: Director of Corporate Services A. Currie, Business Development Officer A. Grant, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture D. MacKenzie, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Deputy Town Solicitor G. Richards and CAO M. Dolter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The CAO requested that "Presentation from Stan Chook Maxwell Park Playground Committee" be added to the agenda, and "Intended Sale of Surplus Lands" be added under New Business.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and W. Talbot, the agenda was approved as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and C. Hinton, the Public Council minutes of June 12th, 2017 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a) Public Hearing – Municipal Heritage Designation of Farmers' Market

The CAO advised that previously Council had given permission for the Heritage Advisory Committee to conduct research on the heritage value and character defining elements of the Farmers' Market, which has now been completed. The Heritage Advisory Committee requested that Council authorize staff to proceed with the municipal heritage designation of the Farmers' Market in accordance with the Heritage Property Act and establish a public hearing date, taking place today. The benefits of municipal designation include fostering a sense of pride in the community while ensuring commemorative integrity for present and future generations. The building will be commemorated with the installation of a municipal heritage plaque. Also, there is a Provincial Sales Tax Rebate Program. One of the burdens of designation is the addition of a layer of legislation; the building will be subject to the Heritage Property act, and the additional legislation can cause time delays when proposing changes. The Heritage Advisory Committee is recommending that Council approve the municipal heritage designation.

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and T. Chisholm, the municipal heritage designation of the Farmers' Market was approved, in accordance with the Heritage Property Act. Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

a) Presentation – Stan Chook Maxwell Playground Committee

Tracey Dorrington-Skinner of the Stan Maxwell Playground Committee gave a presentation to Council on the area's concerns regarding the children's playground and how the Truro Golf Club's driving range affects the safety of park users. She also presented Council with a petition on behalf of the community.

The Mayor thanked her for the presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

a) Transfer of Land to Colchester Food Bank, Lorne Street Property

The CAO advised that at the last Council meeting, Council had set a public hearing date for today's meeting in order to review the sale of Town owned properties at 74 and 76 Lorne Street to the Food Bank, but the required advertisement for the hearing did not make it to the newspaper, and therefore, the hearing date is being re-set for the public Council meeting on September 11th, 2017 at 1pm.

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 June was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillor C. Hinton and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the CAO Report for the month of June, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Corporate Services Report

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

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and W. Talbot, it was moved that the Corporate Services report for the month of June, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Fire Report

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

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month of June, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Planning and Development Report

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

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and C. Hinton, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of June, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Police Report

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

Councillor C. Hinton requested that the speed trailer be placed on Archibald Street, as there has been calls about issues with speeders.

On motion of Councillor W. Talbot and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of June, 2017 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Public Works Report

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

Councillor W. Talbot noted that at the last Council meeting, the Senior Engineer gave a presentation to Council on the pavement management system and he had requested that Council be given a copy of the information, which had not be received yet. He asked that the information be forwarded so Council is better informed to answer questions by residents.

The Director of Public Works advised that he would figure out the best format to provide Council with the information and send it to them.

Councillor C. Hinton noted that the sidewalks in the Palmer Street area were in disrepair and a concern for those in wheelchairs or with strollers.

The Director of Public Works advised that the sidewalk was patched in a few spots and crews were there yesterday to check on the sidewalks and determined there were some more spots that required repair.

Councillor C. Hinton noted that there had been some concerns raised about speeders on the streets coming down the hill in Town and asked if speed bumps could be an option to deal with speeders.

The Director of Public Works advised that speed bumps have been brought up previously at Council meetings as a traffic calming method, but he does not believe they are an effective tool, and the most effective tool would be radar patrol.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and D. Joseph, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the month of June, 2017 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

Councillor W. Talbot advised that he was pleased to see that the Recreation department was rotating activities throughout the various parks in Town and asked if the schedule of events could be forwarded to Council for their information. The Recreation Director stated that it would be circulated to them.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and W. Talbot, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of June, 2017 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillor B. Kinsman noted that there has been a lot of interest and questions regarding the Queen and Church streets intersection and the temporary four way stop. He stated that the general consensus seems to be that the intersection functions better with the four way stop instead of the traffic lights. Councillor B. Kinsman asked if there was any consideration being given to not replacing the traffic lights.

The Director of Public Works advised that his department has been discussing a four way stop versus the traffic lights for that intersection. It seems to work better as a four way stop most times of the day, except for peak periods where the backlog of traffic can go back as far as Waddell Street. The Director stated that he is working with a traffic engineer who specializes in optimizing traffic light timings and the lights will only be reinstated once lights are fully actuated. He advised that this process should be complete before the school year begins in the fall.

Councillor B. Kinsman stated that residents of Munroe Court have been complaining about the trucks that come through during the night, waiting for the lumber yard to open, and they wait with engines idling for hours.

The Police Chief advised that his department did speak with the manager of the lumber yard in early June and there appeared to one particular truck company out of Quebec whose trucks were the ones idling and the manager had advised that he would speak with the company to resolve the issue.

Councillor C. Hinton noted that previously, a discussion had been held about setting up a meeting with the Town and landlords who wanted to participate in a brainstorming sessions regarding a possible new bylaw for rental properties and she asked if a date had been set for this meeting.

The CAO advised that he was looking at the middle of September for that meeting, but wanted to confirm that with the Director of Planning when he returned from vacation.

Councillor T. Chisholm advised that he had received a call from a resident who was concerned about security cameras installed at his neighbour's house that appeared to be trained on his backyard, deck and pool area. He noted that that Town does not currently have a Bylaw to deal with this sort of issue, and asked what the resident's recourse should be.

The CAO advised that he believed it would be a property owner to property owner issue and the Town does not typically regulate activity that happens between the boundaries of properties unless it is criminal activity or a refuse issue, but advised that the Town could investigate options for dealing with this kind of issue.

The Deputy Town Solicitor noted that this issue is not typically something the Town would involve itself in, and it was more a nuisance and privacy law issue.

The Police Chief noted that he had spoken to this resident as well and advised them to contact the provincial privacy office and the federal privacy commission.

Councillor D. Joseph advised that on Munroe Court, with all of the truck traffic and those during east at the gate has substantially eroded the shoulder that the Town had rebuilt a few years ago, and asked the Director of Public Works been in contact with CNR regarding access and egress from Queen Street.

The Director of Public Works stated that a discussion was held with CNR at a recent meeting and they would like the Town to conduct a crossing study.

Councillor D. Joseph noted that during rush hour on Queen Street, drivers regularly block access to Waddell Street and asked if a sign could be installed advising drivers to not block the street.

The Police Chief advised that in his opinion, Waddell Street should be looked at in its entirety because he believed it was a safety issue for a number of reasons. He stated that he would discuss this with the Traffic Authority.

The Mayor noted that at the previous Council meeting, he brought up the issue of the curbside garbage containers on Beechwood Drive and the issue of the upkeep of the containers.

The Deputy Town Solicitor stated that the issue of curbside containers would not be a land use issue, but a solid waste issue that could perhaps be dealt with using the Town's Solid Waste Bylaw. He suggested that a discussion take place with the Director of Planning upon his return from vacation and look at addressing the issue by way of a regulatory change under the Solid Waste Bylaw.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Amendment to Water Leak Adjustment Policy

The CAO advised that after a recent review of the new Water Leak Adjustment Policy, staff noted that the "Price of Water" definition should be changed to reflect the water rate that the customer was charged for the water consumption, not specifically the water rate that would be billed for consumption over 1250 cubic metres. The

purpose of the water leak adjustment policy is to allow staff to reimburse a water customer's account for water consumed due to a leak at the rate in which it was originally billed to the account, not at a lesser rate.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor B. Kinsman, the approved amendments to the Water Leak Adjustment Policy were approved as presented. Motion carried.

b) Computer Purchasing Policy

The CAO advised that the Town's Computer Purchasing Policy was created in February 2001. At that time, the policy was created to help employees with the significant upfront expense of purchasing a home computer in order to assist them with the development of computer skills for the changing world and work environment. He stated that in 2017, it is believed that this policy is no longer a requirement now that computers and mobile devices are evident in everyday life and there are many financing opportunities available in the private sector to assist with the purchase of these technologies if needed. Staff is recommending that Council repeal the Computer Purchasing Policy.

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and W. Talbot, the Computer Purchasing Policy is repealed. Motion carried.

c) Committee Appointments

The CAO advised that an advertisement was placed in the local paper for vacancies on two Town committees: Planning Advisory and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee. He stated that for Parks, Recreation and Culture, the following citizens applied: Lisa Wood, Doug Matthews and Daniel Doroshenko. For Planning Advisory, the following citizens applied: Ted Fitzgerald and Kenneth Meech. The CAO advised that based on the applications received and upon review, it is being recommended that Ted Fitzgerald be appointed to the Planning Advisory Committee and Lisa Wood be appointed to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee.

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and W. Talbot, it was agreed that Lisa Wood be appointed to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee and Ted Fitzgerald be appointed to the Planning Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

d) Letter from RECC Board of Directors re: Operational Surplus

The CAO advised that the RECC Board of Directors is requesting that the operational surplus for the 2016/17 budget year be retained by the RECC in a capital reserve fund. This will allow the RECC to continue building a capital reserve fund, rather than the RECC requesting funds from the Town and County every time they require money. The County of Colchester would also need to approve this request.

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor D. Joseph, it was agreed that the Town will allow the RECC Board of Directors to retain the operational surplus of \$132,778 in a capital reserve fund, pending similar approval by the County of Colchester. Motion carried.

e) RECC Dehumidification System

The CAO advised that at the January 9th, 2017 Council meeting, motion was made that the Town agree to cost share the upgrading of the RECC dehumidification system on a 40/60 basis with the County of Colchester, up to an amount not to exceed \$213,000 excluding HST, contingent on the County of Colchester agreeing to fund their proportional share. He stated that at the time this motion was made, it was believed that the Town would be funding the full 40% of the unit which was budgeted to be upwards of \$532,000. The CAO advised that since that time, ACOA has approved funding to assist with the cost of the system and therefore the Town's portion has been reduced, even though the quotes received for the unit and installation were more than anticipated.

f) Letter re: CARILED Project

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the CARILED project division of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, in which they wished to acknowledge the outstanding contribution that the Town has made to the successful achievement of their goals in the Caribbean.

g) Joint Event Attraction Committee Strategy

The CAO advised that at a joint Council meeting on March 2nd, 2017, Councils for the Town of Truro and Municipality of the Colchester County were presented with a report detailing the five year strategy of the Truro-Colchester Event Attraction Committee. The next step is for the Town of Truro to formally receive the Strategy document.

On motion of Councillor W. Talbot and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, Council agreed to adopt the Truro-Colchester Event Attraction Committee Five-year Strategy document, enabling its public distribution. Motion carried.

h) Corporate Identity and Branding Policy

The CAO advised that as per Section 62 of the Municipal Government Act, Council may, by policy, adopt a flag, symbol or coat of arms for the municipality. A flag, symbol or coat of arms adopted pursuant to this section may be registered pursuant to an Act of Parliament in order to prevent its unauthorized use. No person, other than the

municipality, shall use a flag, symbol or coat of arms of the municipality unless specifically authorized by the Council and upon payment of any fee charged by the municipality for the use. Accordingly so, a Town of Truro Corporate Identity and Branding Policy has been drafted in order to adopt the brand, “Truro – Make the Connection”, along with the associated logo as a symbol of the Town of Truro.

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and B. Kinsman, pursuant to Section 62 of the Municipal Government Act, the Town of Truro adopts the draft Corporate Identity and Branding Policy, making the “Truro – Make the Connection” logo an official symbol of the Town of Truro. Motion carried.

i) Building Official Appointment

The CAO advised that Section 5(2) of the Building Code Act of Nova Scotia requires that a building official shall be appointed by Council to administer and enforce the Act in the municipality. Pat Boyce, the Town’s new Building Inspector, will need to be appointed in order to administer and enforce the Act.

On motion of Councillor D. Joseph and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, Pat Boyce was appointed as a Building Official in accordance with Section 5(2) of the Building Code Act of Nova Scotia to administer and enforce the Act. Motion carried.

j) Intended Sale of Surplus Lands

The CAO advised that the Town currently owns a number of parcels of land throughout the Town which are considered surplus and not needed to be reserved for current or future Town developments. Under Section 50 of the Municipal Government Act, the Town may sell property at fair market value when the property is no longer required for the purposes of the municipality. A full list of the properties intended to be sold were forwarded to Council in their agenda packages. He stated that in accordance with Section 273 of the MGA, these properties were also published as a notice of intended sale in the Truro Daily News 14 days prior to this Council meeting.

Councillor B. Kinsman asked if each department director had thoroughly reviewed the list of properties to ensure that the Town would not be parting with land that it could one day use.

The CAO confirmed that each department director had reviewed the list of properties and determined that the properties are not, and will not, be required by the Town for any purpose.

On motion of Councillor W. Talbot and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was agreed that surplus lands owned by the Town be listed for sale, as outlined in the Notice of Intended Sale presented. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS

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

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and D. Joseph, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m. Motion carried.

W.R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M.W. Dolter
CAO