



Truro Town Council Meeting
Monday, October 2nd, 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, October 2nd, 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, Director of Planning J. Fox, Fire Chief B. Currie, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture A. Simms, Deputy Police Chief J. Flemming, Town Solicitor J. Rafferty and CAO M. Dolter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The CAO requested that “Public Hearing Date – Sale of Surplus Lands, Former DAR Right of Way” be added under New Business.

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and T. Chisholm, the agenda was approved as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councillor W. Talbot and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, the Public Council minutes of September 11th, 2017 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a) Public Hearing – 199 Willow Street, Development Agreement Amendment

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Town Planning Advisory Committee recommending that Council establish a public hearing date and approve the proposed development agreement amendment for 119 Willow Street, subject to the reconfiguration of the parking area to prevent headlights shining on abutting Kaulback Street properties.

The Director of Planning reviewed the Staff Report with Council and advised that he was recommending that Council approve the amendment to the Development Agreement.

On motion of Councillor T. Chisholm and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, the proposed development agreement amendment for 199 Willow Street, subject to the reconfiguration of the parking area to prevent headlights shining on abutting Kaulback Street properties was approved as presented. Motion carried.

b) Public Hearing – Lands off Upham Drive, Development Agreement Amendment

The CAO reviewed a letter received from the Town Planning Advisory Committee recommending that Council establish a public hearing date and approve changes to the approved site plan, street layout, timing provisions and alter the number, type and configuration of the dwelling units for lands off of Upham Drive, amending at 2012 development agreement.

The Director of Planning reviewed the Staff Report with Council and advised that he was recommending that Council approve the amendment to the Development Agreement.

On motion of Councillor B. Kinsman and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, the proposed development agreement amendment for lands off Upham Drive was approved as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

a) Strategic Review Update

The CAO advised that this agenda item would be on the agenda on an ongoing basis to keep Council up to date. He noted that it had only been two weeks since the last Council, and he did not have much to update except that staff is still working on the deer situation.

IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT

The CAO advised Council that there was one issue 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 September was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and D. Joseph, it was moved that the CAO Report for the month of September, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Corporate Services Report

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

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

Fire Report

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

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

Planning and Development Report

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

Councillor C. Hinton noted that she was pleased that 18 Laurie Street had finally been demolished. She also stated that the landlord meeting that had been discussed previously was going to be held on October 19th at 6pm.

On motion of Councillor W. Talbot and Deputy Mayor C. Fritz, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of September, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Police Report

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

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

Public Works Report

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

Councillor D. Joseph asked if CNR staff has advised if they are willing to meet with Town staff with respect to issues around Munroe Court.

The Director of Public Works advised that CNR has not confirmed a meeting yet, but did send him the contact information for Town staff to contact CNR about completing a traffic study.

Councillor C. Hinton stated that the sidewalk was in disrepair around 176 Brunswick. The Director of Public Works advised that he would have staff investigate.

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

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

Councillor T. Chisholm asked for the Director to provide an estimate on the life expectancy of the Colchester Legion Stadium for the next Council meeting.

Councillor W. Talbot asked if additional lighting was being considered for the outdoor rink at the Civic Square.

The Director of Public Works advised that it could be investigated. The CAO stated that any additional lighting would have to be a retrofit and staff would have to ensure that the lights were pointed in a direction that would not affect anyone's sight.

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

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillors D. Joseph stated that Young Street near the Junior High was very wide and some drivers were treating it like a two lane street, which was causing some issues with the crosswalk visibility.

The Director of Public Works advised that this was a situation that he was familiar with and has been looking into. The department has been working on solutions and will bring a design and plan to Council as part of the capital budget request in the new year.

Councillor D. Joseph expressed concerned about vehicles parked on Kaulback Street near the train tracks.

The Deputy Police Chief advised that he will ensure that No Parking signs are in place for that area.

Councillor B. Kinsman noted that several years ago, a study was conducted on the stop sign intersections on Arthur Street. He asked if anything has been followed up with from the study.

The Director of Public Works advised that the study is used on an ongoing basis for the last 10-12 years, but a new study should be considered at budget time for it to be updated. He stated that once a realignment of Lorne Street at Prince Street is completed to allow Young Street traffic to flow more freely, then the department will look at removing some of the four way stops on Arthur Street.

Councillor B. Kinsman stated that traffic can get very backed up on Arthur Street and was the department considering a roundabout or timing of the traffic lights to resolve the issue.

The Director of Public Works noted that that intersection is a hot spot and the lights could likely be more fine-tuned to help with the traffic issues.

The Mayor noted that the traffic lights at the intersection of Queen Street and Logan Street are still not working and asked for an update.

The Director of Public Works advised that the department was still waiting on a part for the sensors before the lights could be repaired. The lights will then have the ability to be fully actuated which should alleviate some traffic issues during high volume times.

Councillor T. Chisholm noted that the Mayor is attending the upcoming Hub Strategy on Economic Development session and he asked if the Province would have representation there.

The Mayor stated that he did not know for sure.

Councillor T. Chisholm stated that if the Province does have representation, that he would like for the Mayor to bring up the issue of unequal treatment between the towns and urban rural areas. The Mayor advised that he did plan to bring this issue up under fair and equitable funding.

The CAO advised that during the recent AMA conference, there was some information provided from the Province and they are listening to the concerns of the towns and rural areas.

Councillor W. Talbot advised that the sidewalk and street on West Prince was all one level, with a white line designating the street from the sidewalk and there were safety concerns there. He asked if a sign could be erected to notify motorists that there are children playing in the area, and asked if the speed trailer could be positioned there for a time.

The Director of Public Works advised that a children playing sign does not exist, it is confused with the formal playground sign and he would check to ensure that there are playground signs in place.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Info re: Social Media Strategy

The CAO advised that for Council's information, three staff members have been attending a social media course and have created a preliminary strategy for the Town's Facebook page in order to better engagement the community. He stated that more information on the details of that strategy would be provided to Council.

b) Public Hearing Date – Sale of Surplus Lands, Former DAR Right of Way

The CAO advised that the Town has listed for sale a number of Town owned properties that have been identified as surplus. Included in this list of surplus properties is a portion of the former Dominion Atlantic Railway (DAR) Right of Way that runs between Willow Street and Kaulback Street just to the north of the old hospital site. This parcel is identified as PID 20444121. The Cobequid Trail runs across this parcel and the Town will be retaining 30' of the approximately 100' right of way to maintain ownership of the Trail route. In order to sell the remaining portion, the Town is required to hold a public hearing before permanently closing the right of way to vehicular traffic.

On motion of Councillors T. Chisholm and B. Kinsman, a public hearing date of November 6th, 2017 at 1:00pm was set for Council to consider permanently closing the former Dominion Atlantic Railway right of way, identified as PID 20444121, to vehicular traffic. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS

It was moved by Deputy Mayor C. Fritz and Councillor W. Talbot, that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented be approved for the month of September, 2017. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m. Motion carried.

W.R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M.W. Dolter
CAO