



Truro Town Council Meeting
Monday, November 4, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.
Council Chambers – Town Hall

A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, November 4th, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Truro Town Hall.

Present: Mayor W.R. (Bill) Mills, Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, Councillors D. Joseph, C. Hinton, W. Talbot

Regrets: Councillors C. Fritz and B. Kinsman

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Brian Lee Blois, a retired firefighter with Truro Fire Service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CAO M. Dolter noted an amendment to the Agenda; the Fitness Challenge Award Presentation (item 10 c) would take place immediately following the approval of the Agenda and approval of the Minutes.

On motion of Councillor C. Hinton and Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, the Agenda was approved as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CAO M. Dolter advised of an amendment to the Minutes from September 9th. Under the section 'Motions and Notices of Motions' (b); the second paragraph is to read "On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and B. Kinsman, Council approved a development agreement application by Walker Lofts Inc. to permit the development of 6-9 dwelling units in an existing mixed-use building located at 880 Prince Street and 11 Havelock Street."

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor C. Hinton, the Minutes for September 9th, 2019 were approved as amended. Motion carried.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor W. Talbot, the Minutes for October 7th, 2019 were approved as presented. Motion carried.

MOTIONS AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS

a) *Public Hearing Date for 184 Arthur Street*

A Development Agreement from Colchester Community Workshop was received to develop 6 dwelling units in an existing industrial building at 184 Arthur Street.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor C. Hinton, a public hearing date of December 2nd, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. was established. Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

a) Presentation: Maggie's Place (Linda Legere, Executive Director and Blair Carter, Board Member)

An overview of the programs provided by Maggie's Place was presented to Council as well as its current financial situation and the reasons costs have increased causing Maggie's Place to be in a deficit situation. Maggie's Place is requesting \$25,000 for the 2019/2020 fiscal year followed by \$10,000 annually. There was some initial concern with the Town committing to provide \$10,000 annually for core funding. It was indicated that Maggie's Place should apply each year for the \$10,000 annual funding. CAO M. Dolter indicated that the request for \$25,000 was believed to be for the 2020/2021 fiscal year and will be considered as such. Maggie's Place was asked to complete the application for the request to be considered by Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAO Report

The CAO report for the month of October was presented to Council. CAO M. Dolter amended his report to add the following item: The Town has been offered a \$10,000 anonymous donation to construct a gazebo in Victoria Park. The gazebo, in turn, would be named in memory of Edwin A. Fraser. It was decided that this item requires further inquiry into the significance of the name prior to a motion being granted.

Corporate Services Report

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

Fire Report

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

Planning and Development Report

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

Councillor C. Hinton brought up an issue her constituents are having regarding a particular property on Lyman Street. CAO M. Dolter noted that we have limits of authority of what we can enforce, and the Building Inspector's definition of a dangerous and unsightly property may differ from others. There was much discussion on this issue and further discussions to come following a ward tour by Mayor B. Mills, CAO M. Dolter and Ward 3 Councillors, C. Hinton and D. Joseph on November 18th, 2019.

Councillor W. Talbot suggested a process be established where property owners and Councillors are notified to close the loop on complaints. It was noted that the Public Works E11 System may be able to help address this.

Police Report

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

Public Works Report

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

Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon indicated that the one-way street signage on Louise Street will be replaced. CAO M. Dolter further indicated that there is a plan in the works for Louise Street and as soon as the plan is finalized, it will be presented to Council.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

Councillor C. Hinton indicated that the parking lot of Victoria Park Pool is quite rough and needs some attention.

On motion of Councillors W. Talbot and D. Joseph, it was moved that all reports for the month of October 2019 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

CONGRATULATIONS

Police Chief D. MacNeil was recently presented with the Order of Merit of Police Forces by Governor General Julie Payette. The prestigious award recognizes exceptional merit, contributions to policing and community development. Chief MacNeil was the only Nova Scotian among the 40 recipients. Congratulations were extended to Chief MacNeil acknowledging his service to the community.

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Mayor B. Mills inquired about the status of Victoria Street School in which it was noted that the target for this project is late November/early December.

Mayor B. Mills requested Council's support of placing a spire at the Town Library with completion being in 2020. Support was expressed upon review of the specs and cost.

Councillor D. Joseph indicated that Berwick has proclaimed a climate crisis and suggested Truro also makes this declaration. Mayor B. Mills recommended that this item be further discussed at December's Public Council Meeting.

Councillor C. Hinton mentioned a situation where an ambulance was prevented from crossing the train tracks at the Esplanade/Young St. crossing due to a freight train. Fire Chief B. Currie indicated that when a call comes in and a train is an issue, there is an automatic response by the closest neighboring station. It was suggested to have discussions with the Health Authority should it be an ongoing issue.

Councillor C. Hinton asked if there was a plan to protect first responders requiring mental health assistance in the event of a tragedy. It was explained that all members of the Police & Fire Service have access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), as well, Police Chief D. MacNeil noted that they have done a lot of work around mental health and have numerous supports in place.

Councillor C. Hinton inquired about the possibility of establishing a bus service in the Town. As noted by CAO M. Dolter, it's not something being actively pursued as it would come at a significant cost, however, options are being explored with CTCL.

Councillor C. Hinton also inquired about the status of the deer issue in which a plan is being worked on with the Province. Correspondence regarding wildlife management has been sent to the Province with no response to date.

NEW BUSINESS

a) RFD – Snowmobile Purchase from Capital

Parks & Recreation is looking to purchase a snowmobile from capital for \$12,000 as the current one is beyond repair for the coming winter.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor C. Hinton, the request to purchase the snowmobile has been approved as presented. Motion carried.

b) Pan-Canadian Sub Agreement

Council's approval is required to enter into the Agreement which would consist of providing workspace for the person hired for the 4-year term. The approval is contingent upon the approval of New Glasgow and Kentville's respective Councils. It was confirmed that the person hired would be considered a Town employee. Once approved, further discussions on next steps would begin.

On motion of Councillors W. Talbot and C. Hinton, approval to enter into the Agreement has been granted. Motion carried.

c) Fitness Challenge Award Presentation

The Public Works Health Challenge took place from February 2019 to April 2019. It promoted and encouraged employees to improve their overall health where approximately 50 employees participated in the friendly competition. It tracked BMI and consisted of weekly weigh ins and bonus points were awarded for things like smoking cessation. A vacation day was up for grabs to encourage participation. Public Works is looking to begin Health Challenge II. The Municipal Workplace Wellness Innovation Award was presented to the Team Captains.

ACCOUNTS

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and C. Hinton, approval was granted for payment of the accounts as presented for the month of October 2019. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and W. Talbot, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:20 p.m. Motion carried.

W. R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M. Dolter
CAO