



**Truro Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at 1:00 pm**  
**Council Chambers – Town Hall**

1

A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Truro Town Hall.

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

Regrets: Councillor C. Fritz and Fire Chief B. Currie

In Attendance: Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Director of Planning J. Fox, Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture J. Dawe, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Finance Manager A. Currie, Town Solicitor J. Rafferty and CAO M. Dolter

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and W. Talbot, the Public Council minutes of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

**MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

**a) Budget Resolutions – 2019/20**

Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm provided the budget presentation for the 2019/20 fiscal year. The presentation reviewed the highlights of the budget. The Residential tax rate will increase to \$1.85 per \$100 of assessment and the Commercial tax rate will remain at \$4.50 per \$100 of assessment.

The CAO presented the resolution to establish the tax rates for the 2019/20 fiscal year.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor W. Talbot, the 2019/20 budget resolutions were approved as presented, and the tax rates for the 2019/20 fiscal year were adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm provided the water budget presentation.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor D. Joseph, the 2019/20 budget resolution for the water budget was approved as presented. Motion carried.

**PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**a) Presentation – Persons Against Non State Torture**

Linda MacDonald and Jeanne Sarson, the co-founders of Persons Against Non-State Torture gave an information presentation to Council on violence and torture against women and girls in trafficking and prostitution.

The Mayor thanked them for their presentation.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a) 87 Park Street Update**

The CAO advised that as requested at the previous Council meeting, the Town Solicitor investigated to determine if there were any further options for the Town regarding for 87 Park Street. He reviewed the summary of that investigation with Council.

Councillor C. Hinton expressed her continued frustration with the appearance of 87 Park Street and the potential for safety issues.

Councillor D. Joseph noted that the letter advised that there is a degree of subjectivity with respect to the administrator's opinion. He asked if the Town's bylaw should be amended to make it more objective and less subjective.

The CAO noted that the problem with unsightliness is that everyone's opinion of what is considered unsightly varies significantly.

**IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT**

The CAO advised Council that there were no issues discussed at the incamera meeting for the month of March 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 March was presented to Council.

On motion of Councillors W. Talbot and C. Hinton, it was moved that the CAO report for the month of March, 2019 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

### **Corporate Services Report**

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

Councillor W. Talbot asked if there was a way for the Town to track the percentage of residents who apply for the low income tax rebate and who is eligible to apply.

The Finance Manager advised that the Town is not able to determine who is eligible to apply, but that the department does keep a list of each year's applicants and ensures they receive a copy of the application for the following year. Information on the rebate is also included in every tax bill, and available at the front counter of the Town Hall.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor W. Talbot, it was moved that the Corporate Services report for the month of March, 2019 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

### **Fire Report**

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

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and B. Kinsman, it was moved that the Fire Report for the month of March, 2019 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

### **Planning and Development Report**

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

On motion of Councillor C. Hinton and Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Planning and Development report for the month of March, 2019 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

### **Police Report**

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

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and W. Talbot, it was moved that the Police Report for the month of March, 2019 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### **Public Works Report**

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

Councillor D. Joseph noted that the south side of Munroe Street is badly eroded and asked the Public Works department to investigate.

The Director of Public Works advised that he would look into the condition of Munroe Street.

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and D. Joseph, it was moved that the Public Works Report for the month of March, 2019 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.

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and W. Talbot, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 was declared International Picnic Day in Truro. Motion carried.

On motion of Councillor B. Kinsman and Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, it was moved that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Report for the month of March, 2019 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Councillor C. Hinton advised that she understands that some residents are only able to transport their groceries home by shopping cart, but that there seemed to be a lot of shopping carts randomly throughout Town and asked if the Town could do anything about this. She also noted that some of the clothing donation bin locations were unsightly with piles and bags of items.

Councillor W. Talbot advised that he knows that the Superstore has a contractor who picks up shopping carts, and stated that he assumed the Sobeys store did as well. He stated that he would pass along the contact information to Councillor C. Hinton.

The Director of Planning advised that the Town currently does not have any bylaws or conditions to impose regarding the pickup of the organizations responsible for the donation bins. He noted that this issue is a matter that is being looked into with the current review of the Solid Waste Bylaw.

Councillor D. Joseph noted that one third of the speeding tickets in the Police Report were from Marshland Drive. He asked if the mobile speed trailer could be placed on Marshland Drive to help monitor the speeding.

The Police Chief noted that it is difficult to utilize the mobile speed trailer during the winter months, but it could be set up soon on Marshland Drive.

Councillor D. Joseph stated that the brook that runs from behind John Ross's to just past the Sobeys store on Prince Street is quite full of litter and asked what steps could be taken to have it cleaned up.

The Director of Public Works advised that in the past, the Town has utilized its own staff, including summer students, to clean up the debris and usually waits until later in the summer when the water level is lower and therefore safer.

Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm advised that the condition of the sidewalk and side of the streets at the top of Young Street was very poor. He asked if there were any plans for repair.

The Director of Public Works advised that one of the capital projects that was approved in the budget is to repave that section of Young Street from Empire Loop to the landfill driveway and in the process of doing that, the shoulders of the street will be repaired.

Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm advised that he has had a few people mention the Town's sewer tax to him and wondered what it was for. He advised that the Town and County were ahead of the times and built a sewer treatment facility many years ago that now requires updates, which is where the sewer tax money goes. Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm noted that Cape Breton Regional Municipality would be spending hundreds of millions of dollars to build a facility, so the Town is lucky to already have an existing facility.

Councillor C. Hinton advised that she and Councillor D. Joseph will be holding a public meeting for Ward 3 in May, with details to follow in the next few weeks.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **a) Boiler Replacement – Public Works Building**

The CAO advised that the boiler system at the Public Works building located at 43 Glassey Avenue had an emergency purchase requirement for a new boiler replacement in the amount of \$50,538. As per the Spending Authority Policy, Council must approve by motion the emergency expenditure as it is an unbudgeted capital expenditure and in excess of \$10,000 as per the policy.

On motion of Councillor D. Joseph and Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, the capital expenditure of \$50,538 for a boiler replacement at the Public Works building located at 43 Glassey Avenue was approved as presented. Motion carried.

### **b) Pre-Approval of Resolution of Debenture**

The CAO advised that Council had previously approved a Temporary Borrowing Resolution to refinance the balance of Loan 29-A-1 and 29-B-1 in the amounts of \$1,107,500 and \$1,650,000 respectively over a term of five years. The original loan balances were for multiple projects including the hospital building, the Rath Eastlink Community Centre, the Water Utility Dam and the Public Works building. The Municipal Finance Corporation requires Council to approve this resolution in order to give them the authority to borrow and go to market for the best interest rates, as long as the interest rate does not exceed that stated in the resolution.

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and W. Talbot, the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture issuance subject to interest rate for the refinancing of Loan 29-A-1 and 29-B-1 during the 2019 Spring and Fall Debenture process. Motion carried.

### **c) Capital Purchase – 2015 Dodge Charger**

The CAO advised that the Police department was presented with an opportunity to purchase a fully equipped 2015 Dodge Charger that was used previously as a demo vehicle. The approval for the purchase of this vehicle was not approve through the 2019-19 budget process; therefore Council must approve this purchase separately. Staff have recommended the purchase of this vehicle due to the fact that it is at a reduced cost and already fully equipped and would allow for cost savings as the purchase of a new police vehicle would be coming forward to Council in the near future. The funds to pay for the cost of the vehicle will be coming from the General Operating Budget.

On motion of Councillor W. Talbot and Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, the purchase of the 2015 Dodge Charges for the Police department at a cost of \$20,000 plus applicable taxes was approved as presented. Motion carried.

**d) Request to Extend Time Limit – Development Agreement**

The CAO advised that the Town has received a request from Meech Holdings Ltd. to extend the time limit for Phase 1 of their Development Agreement off Upham Drive (Newbury Lane) to December 2022. Meech Holdings Ltd. has been diverted from the project to other projects within the Town including the renovation of 29 Philip Street, new buildings on Railway Drive, subdivision at William Barnhill Drive, Truro Herbal Facility, etc.

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and B. Kinsman, it was agreed that the time limit for Phase 1 of the Development Agreement with Meech Holdings Limited for lands off Upham Drive (Newbury Lane) be extended to December 2022, as requested. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS**

It was moved by Councillor C. Hinton and Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, that Council approve for payment the accounts as presented for the month of March, 2019. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and D. Joseph, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:05p.m. Motion carried.

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W.R. (Bill) Mills  
Mayor

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M. Dolter  
CAO