



**Truro Town Council Meeting
Monday, January 6th, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
Council Chambers – Town Hall**

A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, January 6th, 2020 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, 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 C. Thompson

CONGRATULATIONS

Mayor B. Mills extended congratulations to Team Canada; in particular, Jared MacIsaac, who is from Truro, for recently winning gold at the 2020 World Junior Hockey Championships.

PAINTING DONATION

Dr. Ross was a well-known, respected physician in Truro between the 1930's and 1960's. He had painted an oil on canvas painting in 1949 which he hung in his office and was noticed by David MacKillop's mother, Ethel. Due to her love of the painting, Dr. Ross gave it to her. Ms. MacKillop then passed the painting onto her son, David, who, in turn, donated the painting to the Town.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and B. Kinsman, the Minutes for December 2nd, 2019 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.
- b) CAO M. Dolter noted a correction to the Minutes for December 12th, 2019; paragraph three (3), second sentence, should read, "A debenture totaling \$1,772,262 for a 15-year term..."

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and W. Talbot, the Minutes for December 12th, 2019 were approved as amended. Motion carried.

3. **MOTIONS AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

a) **Public Hearing – 180 Victoria Street & 46 Forrester Street, Development Agreement**

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and W. Talbot, approval to amend the 2016 Development Agreement with Victoria Suites Development to add an additional floor with 13 dwelling units, was granted as presented. Motion carried.

A notice will appear in the Truro Daily News advising of a 14-day appeal period.

4. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

Colchester-East Hants Public Library

- a) Tiffany Bartlett, CEO of the Colchester-East Hants Public Library, provided an overview of the Library and its services.

Council agreed that the Library is a great asset to the Town and has significantly evolved where the Library now provides so much more than just books. Library staff were commended for their work and their contribution to the community.

Truro Pride

- b) Holly Fisher and Laura Whiteland, on behalf of Truro Pride, presented to Council. Truro Pride is looking to form a structured society with a Board of Directors. The funding model indicates the group will be relying on sponsorships, registration fees and fundraising programs. The group will also apply for grants, where an application has been submitted to the Town.

Council agreed the importance of demonstrating that the Town is a welcoming and inclusive community. It was suggested that the group consider a journalistic presence. CAO M. Dolter indicated that grant funds were restrictive, however, assistance could be provided to the group when making application.

5. **OLD BUSINESS** – N/A

6. **IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT**

CAO M. Dolter advised there were three (3) items discussed at the in-camera session in December. There will be two (2) items to discuss in-camera following January's public meeting.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

CAO Report

The CAO report for the month of December was presented to Council.

Councillor W. Talbot inquired about the Communication Plan which was previously presented and approved by Council and whether the public was consulted as to the preferred method of communication and on what issues. CAO M. Dolter advised that this was not initially part of the plan, however, he would address with staff and report back to Council.

Corporate Services Report

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

Councillor B. Kinsman asked about commercial assessment appeals being higher than expected. Director of Corporate Services B. Coulter advised that it's not a large percentage and will be considered when budgeting for next year.

Regarding the Town's transfer to the Public Service Superannuation Plan, Councillor B. Kinsman asked if there were any additional costs. Director of Corporate Services B. Coulter indicated that the contribution rate is higher for both employees and employer, however, there is savings based on no cost for the management of funds. CAO M. Dolter further indicated that employees will have a better pension at the end of the day with a greater pay out at retirement especially for long term employees.

Fire Report

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

Councillor D. Joseph inquired about the number of dumpster fires in which Fire Chief B. Currie indicated there tends to be an increase this time of year as people dump their ashes into dumpsters. If a dumpster fire was suspicious in nature, it would be hard to prove, as well, the cost and effort to investigate a small fire wouldn't be practical.

Planning and Development Report

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

Councillor W. Talbot asked if there was a method for complaint tracking for things other than just bylaw complaints. Director of Planning J. Fox advised the current system is geared towards bylaw complaints relating to planning and development; however, options are presently being explored, one being the expansion of the current system.

Councillor Talbot asked about a completion date for the bylaw review, in which, Director of Planning J. Fox noted that there is not a definitive date set, however, he would like to see it completed by the summer.

Councillor D. Joseph inquired about the residents on Harmony Rd./Camden Rd. relating to the Solid Waste Bylaw and the placement of curbside garbage bins. Director of Planning J. Fox advised he believed the amendment to the bylaw will be satisfactory to residents as it accommodates their situation.

Police Report

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

Councillor W. Talbot publicly recognized Constable S. Milbury, Constable E. Reynolds and their team for their efforts in making Holiday Heroes a huge success where 60 families were provided with a Christmas to remember.

Public Works Report

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

Councillor C. Hinton asked when cleanup would happen at the former Boys & Girls Club on Victoria Street. Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon indicated cleanup would happen within the next few weeks.

Councillor C. Hinton advised of an issue she received from a constituent regarding the 4 way stop at Young and Brunswick. On more than one (1) occasion, there has been a cyclist going down the hill at a high rate of speed and not abiding by traffic laws resulting in a near vehicular collision. Police Chief D. MacNeil noted that they monitor all intersections as best they can, however, it is difficult to do so 24/7. He further noted that they do provide bicycle safety education and can look at doing more of that.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

Councillor C. Hinton asked whether helmets were required when skating at the Caldwell Roach Kings Mutual Insurance ice surface. Director of Parks and Recreation A. Simms indicated that helmets are suggested and recommended but not required.

Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm inquired about the status of Victoria Park Pool. Director of Parks and Recreation A. Simms noted that the issue of the leak is ongoing, however, a full investigation can't be carried out until spring.

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

8. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillor C. Hinton advised the Art Acquisition Committee met and set a date for April 9th which will take place at McCarthy Hall at the Community College. Councillor C. Hinton informed Council that the Committee will be looking to increase its budget to \$1500 to be competitive with the Municipality.

Black History Month is coming up in February and Councillor C. Hinton noted that the kickoff will take place at the next Public Council Meeting on February 3rd at 11:30 a.m., with El Jones speaking. El Jones will also be speaking at the Marigold Centre that evening.

Councillor C. Hinton advised she will now be serving on the Colchester-East Hants Hospice Society Board.

The Living Earth Council will be hosting an event called 'Seedy Saturday' on February 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Douglas Street Recreation Centre. This event will promote awareness on diversity & sustainable communities. Councillor C. Hinton indicated that the non-profit organization is looking for the Douglas Street rental expenses be waived along with the cost of the placement of a street banner. In exchange, the group would include the Town's logo on all event publicity and marketing. Mayor B. Mills noted that it will be considered, as we need to determine what it will cost the Town to do so. CAO M. Dolter advised the request will be addressed by the Parks & Recreation Committee with a recommendation brought back to Council.

Further to Councillor C. Hinton's remarks on Black History Month, Councillor W. Talbot indicated the Library is hosting a session on the life of Portia White on February 11th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Also, Douglas Ruck will be presenting at the Library on February 17th.

Councillor C. Fritz asked for an update on the situation at Waller and Alana Drive. Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon noted he will check into and report back at the next Council Meeting.

9. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION** – N/A

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) **Painting Donation** – A painting was donated by David McKillop to the Town. This item was completed at the beginning of the meeting (see page 1).
- b) **Façade Improvement Project Update** – Manager of Economic Development A. Grant and Executive Director of the Downtown Truro Partnership J. Mantin, provided Council with an update on the Façade Improvement Project where it is nearing the end of the project. To date, 27 projects were approved under this grant program totaling \$44,481. There was a total of \$50,000 allotted for this program, therefore there is still some remaining funds and still some time for retailers to apply. It was suggested the program be offered on a yearly basis.
- c) **Appointment to Joint Flood Advisory Committee** – On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor C. Fritz, it was moved that Laura Henderson-Yorke be appointed to the Joint Flood Advisory Committee. Motion carried.
- d) **Appointments to Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee** – On motion of Councillor D. Joseph and B. Kinsman, it was moved that Jeffrey Simms, Farida Gabbani and Samantha Robichaud be appointed to the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee for a 3-year term. Motion carried.

It was expressed that the expectations of new members be made clear that they are to attend the meetings regularly, as well as possibly revising the selection process and the need to better inform or train new members. CAO M. Dolter advised that the Terms of Reference need to be reviewed and possibly revised. He further noted that an orientation package would be something the Town can look at which would include things like the Terms of Reference, expectations and recent decisions.

- e) **Naming of Gazebo in Victoria Park** – On motion of Councillor B. Kinsman and D. Joseph, it was moved that the new gazebo to be constructed by Joe Howe Falls in Victoria Park be named The Edwin A. Fraser Gazebo. Motion carried.

- f) **Support of Municipality of Barrington’s Application** – On motion of Councillor W. Talbot and C. Fritz, it was moved that the Town supports the Municipality of Barrington in its application to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allow schools in the Province to offer students a personal development credit when joining a volunteer fire service with completion of training.

- g) **Solid Waste Bylaw Amendment (1st Reading)** – On motion of Councillor C. Hinton and C. Fritz, it was moved that the Solid Waste Bylaw regarding the placement of curbside garbage bins to exclude Harmony Road and Camden Road residents, be amended as presented with the second reading of this amendment taking place at the next Public Council Meeting on February 3, 2020. Motion carried.

- h) **Notice Under Section 519 of the MGA Under the Police Act** – CAO M. Dolter read the letter received from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister Porter, regarding anticipated changes to the Police Regulations made under the Police Act under Section 519 of the Municipal Government Act. This change will allow for a one (1) year time limit to file a public complaint as opposed to the current six (6) month time limit.

11. **MUNICIPAL GRANT REQUESTS** – N/A

12. **ACCOUNTS**

On motion of Councillor C. Fritz and W. Talbot, approval was granted for payment of the accounts for the month of December 2019. Motion carried.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councillor C. Hinton and C. Fritz, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m. Motion carried.

W. R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M. Dolter
CAO