



**Truro Town Council Meeting
Monday, February 3rd, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
Council Chambers – Town Hall**

A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council was held on Monday, February 3rd, 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 and B. Kinsman

In Attendance: Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Fire Chief B. Currie, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture A. Simms, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Director of Corporate Services B. Coulter, Manager of Economic Development A. Grant and Town Solicitor C. Thompson

Regrets: Councillor C. Fritz, CAO M. Dolter, Director of Planning J. Fox

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH KICKOFF

The kickoff to African Heritage Month took place prior to the Public Council Meeting in which the Honourable Tony Ince, Minister of the Public Service Commission and Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs attended as well as poet, professor and activist El Jones. Mayor B. Mills read and signed a Proclamation and this year's poster was unveiled ~ The Ties that Bind ~ Faith, Family, Community.

TRURO VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE 150th COMMEMORATIVE COIN PRESENTATION

On behalf of the Truro Volunteer Fire Brigade, Fire Chief B. Currie presented a commemorative coin to Mayor B. Mills and Council in recognition of the Brigade's 150th anniversary.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councillors W. Talbot and C. Hinton, 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 the Public Council Meeting on January 6th, 2020 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.
- b) On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and B. Kinsman, the Minutes for the Public Hearing on January 6th, 2020 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. MOTIONS AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS

a) **Development Agreement – 74 Lorne Street**

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor B. Kinsman, a public hearing date of March 2nd, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. was established. Motion carried.

4. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

Marigold – Farida Gabbani & Vern Hearn

An overview of the Marigold’s fiscal year was presented to Council identifying the Centre’s community partnerships, its funding structure, how the Centre provides support to the community as well as highlights of the past year.

Downtown Truro Partnership (DTP) – Jenn Mantin

Executive Director Jenn Mantin presented to Council with a review of DTP’s funding model. The DTP Board is proposing an increase in the tax rate for the Downtown Truro Business Improvement Tax Levy as well as raising the capped assessed property value to \$2M which would increase DTP’s revenue by approximately \$31,000. The capped assessment value would affect ten (10) properties.

	2019/2020 – Current	2020/2021 – Proposed
Tax Rate	.42/\$100	.44/\$100
Capped Assessment	\$1,500,000	\$2,000,000

It was recommended the DTP send a letter to Council as soon as possible, formally requesting the above noted increases to be considered during the budget process. Council can ultimately vote and approve the proposed increase contingent upon the approval of DTP’s approval at their AGM.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a) **Railyard Master Plan**

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and B. Kinsman, it was moved that Council accepts the Railyard Mountain Bike Park Strategy and Master Plan as presented at the Public Council Meeting in November 2019. Motion carried.

b) **Solid Waste Bylaw Amendment (Second Reading)**

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and C. Hinton, it was moved that Council approve the amendment to the Solid Waste Bylaw regarding the placement of curb-side bins intended to store solid waste to exclude Harmony Road and Camden Road. Motion carried.

6. **IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT**

Acting CAO/Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon advised there was one (1) item which was a legal issue discussed at the In-Camera Meeting on January 30th, 2020 and there are no items to discuss In-Camera following today’s Public Council Meeting.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

CAO Report

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

Councillor D. Joseph asked for clarification on the annual savings noted at \$51,000 relating to the Honeywell energy performance project, as it was initially thought that savings were to be around \$90,000.

Corporate Services Report

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

There was some discussion and questions around the assessment cap. Director of Finance B. Coulter advised that if the assessment cap was completely removed, there would be no significant impact to the Town's overall finances. As well, each municipal unit will have the flexibility in how they want to implement the phase out, if approved to lift the cap. Regarding the three (3) appeals by Property Valuation Service Corporation (PVSC), if a settlement cannot be reached through their normal process, the property owner can appeal to a tribunal.

Fire Report

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

Councillor B. Kinsman indicated that while attending the Truro Volunteer Fire Brigade Awards Banquet, he overheard a member referencing funding issues with the medical assistance calls and asked the Chief for clarification. Fire Chief B. Currie advised the comment was around the funding model as EHS provides the supplies and medical 1st responder training for the members for these types of calls, however, it's not something that the Fire Service charges for nor needs to charge for to continue assisting with medical calls.

Councillor C. Hinton informed the Chief that she has prepared a list of abandoned buildings in Ward 3 and will provide that to him as information.

Planning and Development Report

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

Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm noted there was an error in the staff report for 74 Lorne Street as it indicates a phased approach and shows a drawing of a different property. As confirmed by Town Solicitor C. Thompson, this did not appear to pose an issue as the item is to be heard again at the Public Hearing. The report is to be revised to reflect the correct information.

Police Report

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

Councillor W. Talbot inquired about the changes on how police complaints are investigated. Police Chief D. MacNeil advised that the public now has one (1) year as opposed to six (6) months to make a formal complaint against the police. The process itself remains the same, the time limit was the only difference.

Public Works Report

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

Councillor D. Joseph asked whether there would be any further attention given to vehicles blocking the intersection at Waddell Street & Queen Street. Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon indicated that 'do not block intersection' signs were posted as we need to rely on technology and timing of lights to mitigate this issue as there is no budget for street alignment.

There was discussion around the Tree Committee and the development of an Urban Forestry Master Plan. The Tree Committee will be submitting a financial request in the amount of \$20,000 which is to be considered in the budget process. In addition, Councillor B. Kinsman inquired about whether a posting to hire a student to assist the Tree Committee and the development of a plan can be done early, however, this would have to go through the budget process and be approved prior to a position being posted.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

Councillor C. Hinton advised of incidents at the Caldwell Roach Kings Mutual ice surface where hockey is being played. There are three (3) signs posted indicating that the ice surface is for skating only due to safety reasons. As an alternative, shinny hockey can be played at the Colchester Legion Stadium on Sunday evenings at 9:00 p.m. Truro Police are assisting to monitor the ice surface when unattended by Parks & Recreation staff.

On motion of Councillors D. Joseph and W. Talbot, it was moved that all reports for the month of January 2020 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

8. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillor C. Hinton advised she had the drawing and dimensions for the arches for Herb Peppard Park which are to be attached to the cement pillars in the park. There is no cost to the taxpayer as fundraising was done which will cover the cost. Mayor B. Mills indicated that a formal letter be submitted to Council for the next Public Meeting to seek approval to proceed with this project.

In addition to the annual Long John Festival, Councillors C. Hinton and W. Talbot advised of the numerous events taking place in Truro in the month of February including several events in recognition of African Heritage Month. These events will be posted to the Events Calendar of the Town's website.

Councillor B. Kinsman asked whether the Fire Service has a historical committee to develop a written history of the Fire Service in Truro. Fire Chief B. Currie indicated there is a group within the volunteer Fire Service and this has been a topic for them. The Fire Chief said he would advise the group that Council is interested in this moving forward.

On motion of Councillor B. Kinsman and Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm, it was moved that staff develop a bylaw to regulate, prohibit and otherwise govern the discharge of surface and storm water from one property to another as well as public rights of way. Motion carried.

9. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – N/A

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Truro Volunteer Fire Brigade 150th Commemorative Coin Presentation** - This presentation was made at the beginning of the Council Meeting (as noted on page 1).
- b) **Kinsmen Proclamation** - In celebration of Kinsmen, Kinettes and Kin in Canada, a formal proclamation was read declaring Thursday, February 20th, 2020 Kin Canada Day and declaring the week of February 16th to February 22nd, 2020 Kin Canada Week. The flag raising will take place February 16th at the start of Kin Canada Week.

- c) **Re-appointment to Housing Authority Board** - On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor D. Joseph, it was moved that Gloria Upham be re-appointed to serve another term on the Housing Authority Board. Motion carried.
- d) **Appointment of New Member to Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee** - On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor B. Kinsman, it was moved that Keith Gillis be appointed to serve on the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee for a term as stated in the Terms of Reference. Motion carried.
- e) **First Reading of Bylaw to Repeal Bylaw B100-002 (Tax Exemption for Non-Profit & Charitable Org's)**
The first reading of the bylaw to repeal Bylaw B100-002 relating to tax exemptions for non-profit and charitable organizations took place. This would impact five (5) organizations. Alternatively, the Municipal Grant Policy application process will be implemented whereby these organizations can apply for financial aid by way of a grant.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor D. Joseph, it was moved that the second reading of the bylaw to repeal Bylaw B110-002, take place at the Public Council Meeting on March 2, 2020.

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

12. **ACCOUNTS**

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and W. Talbot, approval was granted for payment of the accounts for the month of January 2020. Motion carried.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councillor C. Hinton, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m. Motion carried.

W. R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M. Dolter
CAO