



Truro Town Council Meeting
Monday, May 4th, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

A regular public meeting of Truro Town Council took place virtually on Monday, May 4th, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed in memory of the innocent lives taken during the tragic events of April 18th and 19th as well as for those lives lost in the recent Canadian military helicopter crash off the coast of Greece and Italy.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a) On motion of Councillors C. Fritz and D. Joseph, the Minutes for the Public Council Meeting on April 6th, 2020 were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. **MOTIONS AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

a) **Public Hearing – 74 Lorne Street, Development Agreement**

Councillor C. Hinton recused herself from participating in the Public Hearing.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor B. Kinsman, approval of the Development Agreement application made by 3326158 Nova Scotia Limited proposing a six (6) storey, 30-unit residential building, was granted contingent upon the developer submitting a stormwater management plan and a tree retention and protection plan as well as addressing walkway and fencing issues. Motion carried.

4. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS** – N/A

5. **OLD BUSINESS** – N/A

6. IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT

CAO M. Dolter reported that there were no items discussed in-camera at April's Public Council Meeting and there are no items to be discussed with Council following today's Public Meeting.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAO Report

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

The Town's website outlines the current services being provided at this time, in which the Town is operating on essential services only. Residents can also call Town Hall to obtain this information.

Corporate Services Report

In lieu of a Corporate Services report for the month of April, Director of Corporate Services B. Coulter will be presenting the budget approval and resolution as noted under 'New Business'.

Fire Report

The Fire report for the month of April was presented to Council.

Fire Chief B. Currie confirmed the Fire Service has a full complement of personal protective equipment available to respond to COVID-19 calls.

Planning and Development Report

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

Regarding the Kaulback Street development, Director of Planning J. Fox indicated the department would reach out to the developer as it has been a year since approval of the Development Agreement.

Police Report

The Police report for the month of April was presented to Council.

Public Works Report

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

Regarding the CN Rail crossing on Cottage Street, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon advised he would contact CN this week for an update.

Yard waste will be picked up on May 11th only, there is no secondary day. As well, residents can take yard waste (leaves, grass clippings etc.; NO BRUSH) to Truro's old landfill site located at 645 Young Street during daytime hours. It is recommended yard waste be placed in paper yard waste bags. It was suggested to also have this announced in The Chronicle Herald and/or announced over the radio to reach those without internet access. CAO M. Dolter indicated he would contact the RECC about broadcasting this information on the electronic message board.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Report

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

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

8. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Councillor D. Joseph noted a large amount of garbage/litter dumped from Young Street to Cottage Street. Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon indicated his department would address the issue.

Councillor B. Kinsman inquired if line painting would take place during the summer on Prince Street as there appears to be confusion believing the road to be one lane. Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon confirmed the centre line on Prince Street will be painted this Spring/Summer.

9. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – N/A

10. NEW BUSINESS

a) 2020/2021 Budget Approval & Resolution

Director of Corporate Services B. Coulter presented the 2020/2021 budget to Council.

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor W. Talbot, it was moved to approve the general operating budget for 2020/2021 in the amount of \$29,453,011, the general capital budget for 2020/2021 in the amount of \$4,559,399, the water operating budget for 2020/2021 in the amount of \$4,312,480, the water capital budget for 2020/2021 in the amount of \$2,680,000 as well as the resolution establishing the 2020/2021 tax and sewer rates. Motion carried.

b) RFD – Refinance of MFC Debenture Payments

On motion of Councillors B. Kinsman and C. Fritz, it was moved to approve the refinancing of two (2) MFC debenture balloon payments totaling \$856,250 for a term not to exceed 10 years at an interest rate not to exceed 5.50%. Motion carried.

c) RFD – Borrowing Resolution with BMO

On motion of Deputy Mayor T. Chisholm and Councillor W. Talbot, it was moved to approve credit facilities with the Bank of Montreal authorizing an increase to the operating demand loan from \$2M to \$6M for 24 months and a re-advanceable equipment financing loan to a maximum of \$1M. Motion carried.

d) **Overview of Provincial COVID-19 Assistance for Municipalities**

CAO M. Dolter provided an overview to Council on the Property Tax Financing Program. Information on the program will be sent to residents along with their interim property tax bill this month. The program is designed to assist those who have been significantly impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic; it is not a tax deferral nor tax forgiveness; it is a payment plan to assist those affected while providing a bridge in cash flow to municipalities.

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

12. **ACCOUNTS**

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

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councillor C. Hinton, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 3:10 p.m. Motion carried.

W. R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M. Dolter
CAO