



Public Council Meeting

Town of Truro

Monday, November 6th, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Town Hall – Council Chambers

A regular Public Meeting of Truro Town Council took place on Monday, November 6th, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall in Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor W. R. (Bill) Mills, Deputy Mayor W. Talbot, Councillors A. Graham, B. Thomas, J. Flemming, C. Hinton, I. McGrath

In Attendance: CAO M. Dolter, Director of Public Works A. MacKinnon, Director of Planning J. Fox, Director of Corporate Services B. Coulter, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture A. Simms, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Communications A. Grant, Town Solicitor C. Thompson

Regrets: Fire Chief B. Currie

Mayor B. Mills called the meeting to order and began with a Land Acknowledgement recognizing that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq People.

Mayor B. Mills performed the Oath of Office ceremony for Ian McGrath as he was recently acclaimed as the new Councillor for Ward 3.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Councillor B. Thomas and Deputy Mayor W. Talbot, the agenda was approved as circulated. Motion carried.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a) **Draft Public Council Minutes of October 10th, 2023**

On motion of Councillor J. Flemming and C. Hinton, the minutes for the Public Council Meeting on October 10th, 2023, were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

3. **MOTIONS AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS** – N/A

4. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

a) **Public Hearing: Municipal Planning Strategy & Land Use Bylaw – Second Reading**

A Public Hearing took place in relation to the second reading of the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and the Land Use Bylaw (LUB). Numerous residents addressed Council during the Hearing to provide comments and to express concerns. Some written submissions were also provided to Council in advance of the Hearing for its consideration. Council's decision is captured below under section 5a (Old Business/Request for Decision: Municipal Planning Strategy & Land Use Bylaw – Second Reading).

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a) **Request for Decision: Municipal Planning Strategy & Land Use Bylaw – Second Reading**

Council was provided with a request for decision in relation to the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Land Use Bylaw in its package.

During today's Public Hearing, Director of Planning J. Fox presented two (2) amendments to this original motion. The first amendment proposed that the zoning map reflect Parks and Open Space (PO) Zone to all neighborhood parks. The second amendment proposed that the future growth area conceptual plans need to clearly state that General Residential (GR) Zone requirements apply to areas in the Future Growth (FG) identified as 'General Residential.'

A motion to approve second reading of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw with the inclusion of the above noted amendments was presented and moved by Councillors J. Flemming and A. Graham. However, Councillors C. Hinton and I. McGrath, requested an additional amendment where stronger wording on affordable housing is used in the plan; affordable housing thereby being a 'requirement' of developers as opposed to just being 'encouraged' to provide affordable housing.

After much discussion, Councillors C. Hinton and I. McGrath withdrew the amendment so it can be presented as a separate motion.

On motion of Councillors J. Flemming and A. Graham, and by way of a vote of five (5) to two (2) in favor of the motion, approval was granted for second reading of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw with the inclusion of the two (2) amendments presented by Director of Planning J. Fox noted above. Motion carried.

The motion to approve the amendment in relation to affordable housing being a requirement of developers presented by C. Hinton and I. McGrath was defeated by way of a vote of two (2) in favor and five (5) against the motion.

6. **IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT**

CAO M. Dolter advised there was no recent in-camera session of Council to report. There are no items to discuss with Council in-camera following today's meeting.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

In the essence of time, Council agreed to accept the departmental reports as circulated in its package. On motion of Councillors B. Thomas and C. Hinton, it was moved that all reports be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

CAO M. Dolter noted one (1) amendment to his report under the section titled 'TCPEP Intermunicipal Agreement,' whereby Millbrook First Nation should have been listed as a partner in addition to the Town of Truro, the County of Colchester, the Town of Stewiacke, and the Chamber of Commerce.

8. **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

On motion of Councillors A. Graham and C. Hinton, it was moved that staff arrange for Linda MacDonald and Jeanne Sarson attend an upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting to present to Council as it relates to a prohibition on adult entertainment. Motion carried.

Councillor I. McGrath inquired about being provided with a further break down of statistics from the Police Service as it may relate to intersection safety. Chief D. MacNeil indicated that this could be done if it was Council's wish, however, it would be onerous for staff.

On motion of A. Graham and B. Thomas, it was moved that staff report back to Council on a strategy for bringing forward recommendations on affordable/subsidized housing at December's Public Council Meeting. Motion carried.

Council agreed to host a New Year's Levee on January 1, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Town Hall.

There were a few other questions or comments made by Council members that were addressed by the appropriate staff, resulting in no action items.

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

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

a) **Request for Decision: Amendment of Non-Union Personnel Policy**

On motion of Councillors A. Graham and C. Hinton, the motion to approve the amendments to the Non-Union Personnel Policy was defeated. Some members alternatively requested that staff bring this item back to the December Public Council Meeting with the details of the changes for comparison purposes.

b) **Request for Decision: Public Transit Feasibility Study**

On motion of Councillors I. McGrath and B. Thomas, it was moved that staff investigate funding options to conduct a public transit feasibility study and approach the County of Colchester to determine if the County has interest in conducting a regional public transit feasibility study. Motion carried.

c) **Request for Decision: Valley-Kemptown Fire Brigade, Flight Path Request**

On motion of Councillor B. Thomas and Deputy Mayor W. Talbot, it was moved that Council approve the helicopter flight path over the Town of Truro allowing for the Valley-Kemptown Fire Brigade to carry out search and rescue training with the Canadian Armed Forces on November 18, 2023. Motion carried.

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

12. **ACCOUNTS**

On motion of Councillors C. Hinton and B. Thomas, approval was granted for payment of the accounts for October 2023. Motion carried.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Deputy Mayor W. Talbot, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 4:55 p.m. Motion carried.

W. R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M. Dolter
Chief Administrative Officer