



Public Council Meeting

Town of Truro
Monday, July 8, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.
Town Hall – Council Chambers

A regular Public Meeting of Truro Town Council took place on Monday, July 8th, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall in Council Chambers.

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

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, Fire Chief B. Currie, Town Solicitor C. Thompson

Regrets: Police Chief D. MacNeil, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Communications A. Grant

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.

1) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

M. Dolter noted a change in the agenda with the removal of item 10a, Request For Decision: Dog By-law, First Reading. On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Hinton and Councillor I. McGrath, the amended agenda was approved. Motion carried.

2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councillors J. Flemming and I. McGrath, the minutes for the Public Council Meeting on June 3, 2024, were approved as circulated. Motion carried.

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

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

5) **OLD BUSINESS**

a) **Request for Decision: Taxi By-law – Second Reading**

By motion of Councillors J. Flemming and B. Thomas the Taxi Bylaw was approved for second reading. Motion carried.

6) **IN-CAMERA SUMMARY REPORT**

CAO M. Dolter advised that an In-Camera session of Council took place on June 27, 2024, where an item of legal nature was discussed. Another In-camera sessions was held July 4, 2024, to discuss two items regarding Land. There are no items to discuss in-camera after this meeting.

7) **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **CAO Report**

The CAO report for June was presented to Council.

Questions were raised regarding the CN East End Cross Road Bridge reconstruction. M. Dolter explained that the bridge will be rebuilt to modern standards. Requests from the Town of Truro and County of Colchester to increase the width of the bridge and add lighting and an Active Transportation Lane are being considered by CN. Expenses for these additions are to be borne by the municipalities with an estimate expected in August 2024.

Councillor A. Graham requested an update on plans to make Council Chamber accessible. M. Dolter explained that there were no design plans yet but that the area in front of Senior Staff is a suitable place for wheelchairs until the changes are made.

b) **Corporate Services Report**

The Corporate Services for June report was presented to Council.

Councillor A. Graham inquired about status of the Colchester Legion Stadium repairs and if the Insurance coverage has been determined. B. Coulter explained that both the electrical and mechanical contractors are on site and that she expects to have the Insurance report next week. The schedule for reopening the Stadium remains unchanged.

c) **Fire Service Report**

The Fire Service report for the month of June was presented to Council

d) **Planning & Development Report**

The Planning & Development report for June was presented to Council.

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton raised concerns over the holding pond at 118 Lyman Street and the risk for neighborhood children due to lack of fencing. J. Fox explained that the pond was completed as designed and that fencing is not required but that staff would be willing to propose a by-law should Council feel it necessary. Councillor W. Talbot commented that if the decision is made to fence the holding ponds that all holding ponds should be fenced, not just Lyman Street.

e) **Police Service Report**

CAO M. Dolter presented the Police Service report for June in Chief MacNeil's absence.

Councillor W. Talbot recognized Truro Police Inspector Bruce Lake who received the Carnegie Medal for saving a young woman from drowning while off duty in Fundy National Park in 2023. Inspector Lake's achievement was applauded, and it was agreed that the Mayor and Council would send him a letter acknowledging his bravery.

f) **Public Works Report**

The Public Works report for June was presented to Council.

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton asked about the status of Laurie Street for paving and if it had been reassessed for ranking on the paving schedule. A. MacKinnon replied he had looked at it months ago and no changes were warranted but he will revisit the street and provide a written report for Council.

Councillor A. Graham asked if there was a new speed study at Golf Street and Smith Avenue planned. A. MacKinnon replied that a speed survey was done on 5 local collectors and three were worse than Golf and Smith. Staff will refresh that data and provide Council with the previous report.

Councillor B. Thomas commented that after the recent rainstorms, a tremendous amount of water was flowing down Harris Street from Truro Elementary, and residents are concerned. B. Thomas asked if there are any Capital projects planned to alleviate this problem. A. MacKinnon replied that there were two projects approved at the budget meeting, one being the diversion of the storm system at the headwaters of the subdivision, that water will be cut off and put into the detention pond on the school property. There will also be a curb installed on the north side of McCormack Street which will help. It was agreed that the town would communicate with residents of the area regarding these plans.

g) **Parks, Recreation & Culture Report**

The Parks, Recreation & Culture report for June was presented to Council.

Councillor W. Talbot inquired if Parks, Recreation and Culture were able to recruit a diverse workforce in the 36 summer staff recently hired. A. Simms replied that there was some visible and some nonvisible. W. Talbot requested a report outlining of the diversity of the new hires.

Councillor W. Talbot asked if it would be possible to provide a timeline to residents regarding the TAAC grounds. A. Simms replied that they will put together a community communication package including the timeline.

On motion of Deputy Mayor Hinton and Councillor A. Graham, it was moved that all reports for June 2024, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

8) **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Councillor A. Graham requested an update on the new Community Navigator role and asked if citizens should reach out to them or the Truro Police Service with concerns over the unhoused in Truro. Councillor J. Flemming replied that a meeting was held last week with the Community Navigator and Truro Police and that citizens should speak to the police directly.

Councillor B. Thomas asked for clarification on the rules for electric scooter. M. Dolter replied that they are to follow the same rules as bicycles and should not be on sidewalks.

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton requested that staff reach out to Truro Housing Outreach Society to present at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

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

10) **NEW BUSINESS** – N/A

11) **MUNICIPAL GRANT REQUESTS**

M. Dolter explained that two grant requests that were previously rejected at the budget time, where funds for grants are allocated, had been brought forward for reconsideration. One being for Scotia Pool and the second for the Community Action Fund. A motion was made by Councillor J. Fleming to approve the grant for the Community Action Fund, seconded by Councillor A. Graham. By vote of 4 to 3 the motion was defeated.

12) **ACCOUNTS**

On motion of Councillors W. Talbot and I. McGrath, approval was granted for payment of the accounts for June 2024. Motion carried.

13) **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor B. Mills adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:55 p.m.

W. R. (Bill) Mills
Mayor

M. Dolter
Chief Administrative Officer