



## Public Council Meeting

Town of Truro  
Monday, October 7, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.  
Town Hall – Council Chambers

A regular Public Meeting of Truro Town Council took place on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 Parks, Recreation & Culture A. Simms, Fire Chief B. Currie, Police Chief D. MacNeil, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Communications A. Grant, Town Solicitor C. Thompson

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*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.*

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1) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Deputy Mayor C. Hinton and Councillor J. Flemming, the agenda was approved as circulated. Motion carried.

2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councillors J. Flemming and B. Thomas, the minutes for the Public Council Meeting on September 9, 2024, were approved with noted typos corrected. Motion carried.

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

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

5) **OLD BUSINESS**

a) **Request for Decision: Community Energy and Emissions Plan**

CAO M. Dolter reviewed the CEEP plan which was brought to Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting on September 26, 2024. By motion of Councillors J. Flemming and I. McGrath, a motion was made for Council to approve and adopt the CEEP plan which outlines established targets for emission reduction and recommends actions for implementation. Motion carried.

b) **Request for Decision: George Jones Memorial**

An ad hoc committee of members of the Truro Fire Brigade and local historian Nevin Jackson proposed a memorial for George Jones, an African Canada barber who was instrumental in establishing a bucket brigade in Truro in 1860. The memorial is planned to be revealed in February during Black History month. By motion of Deputy Mayor C. Hinton and Councillor W. Talbot the plan for the memorial was approved with the expectation that the ad hoc committee

will explore funding avenues to off set the cost. Motion carried.

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**

a) **CAO Report**

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

M. Dolter updated Council on the TAAC grounds noting that the rubberized track will be laid in the spring as it requires warmer weather to cure.

With regards to the controlled deer hunt scheduled for this fall, M. Dolter provided an update that the site in the town's core will not be approved for this year.

Councillor J. Flemming requested an update on the Walker Street bridge. M. Dolter replied that there was no update yet but he would reach out to TIR staff for more information.

Councillor J. Flemming also requested an update on the CN bridge. M. Dolter will reach out to CN to see if there is anything required from the town although it is a county project.

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton asked if DNRR was aware that citizens in Truro are willing to allow the deer to be hunted on their property. M. Dolter replied that DNRR are very strict on distance restrictions for hunting.

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton asked if there was any follow up on the Legion's request to paint poppies on the town's streets for Remembrance Day. M. Dolter replied that he had just received an email with a formal request from the Legion and will talk to staff about this project.

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton asked if Truro would have any issue providing water considering current and proposed developments. M. Dolter answered that Truro has no issue with water capacity.

Councillor W. Talbot asked who responsible for the Equity and Anti-racism Strategy. M. Dolter clarified that all communities in Nova Scotia are required to have an Anti-racism plan by the first of April, 2025. Truro is partnering with neighboring communities to consult and draft an actionable plan.

Councillor I. McGrath inquired if there was an update on the insurance payment for the Legion Stadium. M. Dolter explained that the insurance company issued a deadline, and all claims should be submitted by the end of November and the final numbers should be available in December.

Councillor I. McGrath asked when the Truro Homeless Society would present to Council. M. Dolter replied that he would reach out and request that they appear at an upcoming Council meeting.

Councillor I. McGrath asked who funds the roads in a new development. M. Dolter explained that the developer builds the road to municipal specs and later they would be turned over to the town.

Councillor I. McGrath asked if the deer pellet count study had been received. M. Dolter replied that there is an upcoming meeting with DNRR where the information would be provided.

b) **Corporate Services Report**

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

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton asked if there were any updates on the water disconnects. M. Dolter replied that there were no updates at this time.

Councillor I. McGrath asked where the revenue from Victoria Park was generated. Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture A. Simms explained that it was from the pool as well as the reservation fee for the picnic pavilion.

c) **Fire Service Report**

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

Councillor A. Graham asked if the Truro Fire Service could support the new proposed development. Chief B. Currie replied that they are always evolving to meet the demands of the town and as an example some fire fighters are receiving training in Halifax on fighting fires in high rise buildings.

d) **Planning & Development Report**

The Planning & Development report for the month of September was presented to Council.

Councillor J. Flemming asked why development agreement signs were up on the property on Queen Street as well as Juniper Street as these developments have not been approved. Director of Planning J. Fox clarified that the signs indicated that there was a development application in the works.

Councillor I. McGrath asked what the status was of the Affordable Housing Regulatory Framework and if the town would not adopt a framework if the county was not moving forward on affordable housing. In that case, J. Fox explained that the town would use financial incentives for developers to take on affordable housing. J. Fox will reach out to the county again to arrange a meeting.

e) **Police Service Report**

The Police Service Reports for the month of September was presented to Council.

Councillor A. Graham asked what the role of the police is in regard to homeless people and noted that people are not feeling safe walking by the shelter. Chief D. MacNeil responded that the police role is public safety and that the police work within the confines of law.

Councillor B. Thomas asked what the town and Councils part is in the homeless issue. Mayor B. Mills noted that the town has worked with other organizations regarding this issue going back several years and that the town may bring in the Housing Navigator from Halifax for advice. M. Dolter added that he will be talking to Kentville as they are having some success in dealing with the problem.

f) **Public Works Report**

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

Councillor A. Graham asked how robust the capacity of our sewer and water systems are. Director of Public Works A. McKinnon explained that there is no concern for water capacity.

Councillor I. McGrath asked if there was an update on Parkdale Avenue paving. A. McKinnon replied that he does not yet have an answer but should be able to provide an update in a week or two.

Councillor A. Graham inquired if there would be an increase in UARB in the base water rate. A. McKinnon replied that the town is overdue on a water rate study, and it should be done in the next year. Rate increases won't be determined until after this process.

Councillor I. McGrath noted that the water level looks low in the spillway and asked if it had been drained. A. McKinnon replied that it has not been drained, it was the result of a dry summer.

Deputy Mayor C. Hinton requested an update on the development on 85 Young Street and the property on Brunswick Street which was experiencing water issues. A. McKinnon replied that Public Works has done some landscaping behind the property to ensure if there is water pooling it will drain away from the property.

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

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

Councillor I. McGrath asked if there was an update on Hemlock Woolie Adelgid plan. Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture, A. Simms replied that there is not a plan yet as the report from the tree committee has not been received.

Councillor B. Thomas noted that trees were planted in Civic Square in conjunction with Nova Scotia Power and requested a report for next Council meeting.

Councillor W. Talbot suggested that Council get periodic updates on committees. He asked if the Truro Diversity Advisory Committee has base line stats on underrepresented groups. M. Dolter replied that there are issues collecting that type of information unless it is volunteered.

Councillor I. McGrath asked if there is an update on the pigeon situation at the library. M. Dolter replied that there has been a tender put forward to deal with that; the endangered chimney swifts are a complicating factor.

By motion of Councillors A. Graham and Deputy Mayor C. Hinton the reports were approved.  
Motion carried.

8) **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS** – N/A

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

10) **NEW BUSINESS**

a) **Request for Decision: Ratification of Truro Police Service – Local 102 Atlantic Police Association**

By motion of Councillors J. Flemming and W. Talbot, it was resolved to ratify the tentative agreement negotiated between the towns negotiating team for APA 102 and authorize its execution. Motion carried.

Councillor A. Graham asked how the Truro Police Service compares to comparable size police forces as well as the RCMP. Police Chief D. McNeil answered that while he does not have that data, he has no problem attracting or retaining officers.

At approximately 3:10pm by motion of B. Thomas and I. McGrath the meeting was adjourned, to be reconvened after the Public Hearing.

At approximately 8:40 the meeting was reconvened.

b) **Public Hearing: 179 Queen Street**

On motion of Councillors A. Graham and I. McGrath, and by way of a vote of 6 to 1 in favour of the motion, it was moved that Council enter into a Development Agreement with Stanfield's Ltd. to permit a mixed-use development consisting of up to 221 dwelling units and 377 sq. m (4,053 sq. ft) of commercial space at 179 Queen. Motion carried.

c) **Public Hearing: 1 Logan Street & 9 Bayview Street**

On motion of Councillors A. Graham and I. McGrath, it was moved that Council enter into a development agreement with Stanfield's Ltd. to permit a mixed-use development consisting of up to 381 dwelling units and 4,789 sq. m (51,545 sq. ft) of office/commercial space. at 1 Logan Street & 9 Bayview Street. Motion carried.

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

12) **ACCOUNTS**

On motion of Councillors I. McGrath and A. Graham, approval was granted for payment of the accounts for September 2024. Motion carried.

13) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

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W. R. (Bill) Mills  
Mayor

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M. Dolter  
Chief Administrative Officer