

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

A Committee of the Whole meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor MacDonald; Councillor MacCulloch; Councillor Guthro; Councillor Lewis; Councillor Fraser and Councillor Proudfoot. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; GERALYN MacDonald, Director of Community Development; Bonnie Coulter, Director of Corporate Services; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant and Frank DeMont, Solicitor.

Mayor Dicks mentioned some events that took place over the past few weeks: she, the Town Engineer, Councillor Fraser and the Development Officer attended a Minimum Planning Standards Workshop in Truro; she attended the recent showing at the Studio Lab Art Gallery; she attended the official opening of the Ship Hector Curling Bonspeil; she attended the Westside Community Centre Winter Carnival; she attended the second stakeholder session regarding the Public Transit Pilot Study; the Ward 1 Winter Carnival Pancake Breakfast; the official welcoming of the new resident Sarah Mosher into the NSCAD Studio and the launch of African Heritage Month “Our History Your History” at Glasgow Square.

Councillor Fraser stated that he and Councillor Guthro attended the launch event for African Heritage Month held at the NSCC where Henderson Paris did a presentation and they raised the Pan African flag.

Mayor Dicks also thanked Councillor Guthro for co emceeing the African Heritage Month event at Glasgow Square.

Councillor Lewis stated that the Northend Recreation Centre Winter Carnival will take place this weekend.

AGENDA

It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes of the meetings held on January 21, 2019 be approved a circulated.

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

MFC SPRING DEBENTURE ISSUE – WATER UTILITY CAPITAL

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Corporate Services recommending that Council authorize borrowing not to exceed \$500,000 over terms not to exceed 20 years for Water Utility capital expenditures at an interest rate not to exceed 5.5%.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

Motion carried.

MFC SPRING DEBENTURE ISSUE – GENERAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Corporate Services recommending that Council authorize borrowing not to exceed \$1,000,000 over terms not to exceed 20 years for General capital expenditures at an interest rate not to exceed 5.5%.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

Motion carried.

JOHNNY MILES RUNNING EVENT SPONSORSHIP

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Community Economic Development stating that it is important that the Town continue the partnership with the Johnny Miles Marathon Running Event which draws an outstanding number of participants, significantly impacting the recreation, social and economic well being of New Glasgow and the region of Pictou County. The Town will fulfill the requests as outlined in the sponsorship request letter.

Councillor Lewis asked if there was anything different this year about the requests of the Town.

The Director of Community Economic Development stated that the request was the same as previous years.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the memo be approved for the partnership to continue.

Motion carried.

RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE CODE OF CONDUCT

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Community Economic Development which included a draft Code of Conduct for the Race Relations Committee. She recommended that the Terms of Reference for the Race Relations Committee be amended to include a Code of Conduct. It was noted that this Code of Conduct would be used for all Committees of Council.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO that included the draft terms of reference for the Audit Committee, the revised terms of reference for the Forbes Lake Watershed Source Water Protection Committee and the 2019 Council Committees appointments.

It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the draft Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee.

Motion carried.

It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Forbes Lake Watershed Source Water Protection Committee.

Motion carried.

It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the 2019 Council Committees as presented.

Motion carried.

MEMO TOWN ENGINEER VEGETATION PLAN FOR TRAILS

Council reviewed a memo from the Town Engineer regarding a vegetation plan for the trails in Town. He indicated that the Town trail system is a valuable asset to the community and must be maintained. Accessibility, active transportation, healthy living, environmental benefits, community benefits and event support are all directly related to having a usable, safe, enjoyable experience on our trails. He stated that increasing the Trail Maintenance operating budget by \$20,000 and by purchasing a boom flail mower,

much of the vegetation program within the right-of-way of the trails can be managed properly. Control over erosion, clear cutting, tree removal and improved cleanliness can be accomplished with a dedicated annual program. Some contract work may still be required for large trees but this can be managed using the annual tree maintenance budget. To quickly address the concerns by Council, a straight forward vegetation management approach is best as an urban forest management plan is too costly for consideration at this time. He noted that trail maintenance has been undertaken the last few weeks.

It was regularly moved and seconded that this matter be referred for 2019-2020 budget discussion.

Motion carried.

FCM 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that as a follow up to the last Committee of the Whole Council meeting Councillors Lewis and MacDonald have indicated an interest in attending the FCM Conference in Quebec City.

It was regularly moved that Mayor Dicks, CAO MacDonald, Councillor Lewis and Councillor MacDonald be granted permission to attend the FCM Conference in Quebec City from May 30 to June 2, 2019.

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PCSSA MEMO

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO providing an update on the Pictou County Shared Services Authority Meeting held on January 12, 2019.

It was regularly moved and seconded to place the memo on file.

Motion carried.

PCWCBAI MEMO

Council reviewed a memo prepared by the CAO regarding the meeting of the Pictou County Wellness Centre Building Authority Inc. held on November 19, 2018.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the report be placed on file.

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Councillor MacCulloch stated that Barry Trenholm will be retiring from the Pictou County Hall of Fame and they are seeking input on what direction people would like to see the hall take in five years in an effort to determine a succession plan for Barry.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION – TAX EXEMPTION 2019-2020

Councillor Fraser gave notice that at the meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, Council intends to pass a motion to adopt policy pursuant to Section 69 of the Municipal Government Act, that a property tax exemption in the amount of \$345.00 for the taxation year 2019-2020 be granted to a person whose property is assessed as taxable property in the Town of New Glasgow and is occupied by that person as their principal residence and whose total income for the calendar year 2018 from all sources, including the income of a spouse or partner and other family members residing at the same property but excluding an allowance or pension paid pursuant to the War Veterans Allowance Act, is equal or less than \$20,418.00.

NEW BUSINESS

MINERALS PLAY FAIRWAY PROJECT

Council reviewed a letter from Sean Kirby, Executive Director, Mining Association of Nova Scotia, requesting Council's support for their Minerals Play Fairway Project – a proposal for provincially-funded geophysical surveys that would lead to improved safety, more economic opportunities and better land, water and environmental management.

The Town Engineer stated that he does not consider this a town issue.

It was agreed to place the letter on file.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM N. S. PROGRAM

Council reviewed a letter from the Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia regarding the Town participating in the Nova Scotia Communities in Bloom Program. The memo recommended that the letter be referred to the Community Economic Development Advisory Committee for a discussion on participation so they can prepare a recommendation for Council's consideration at a future Council meeting.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

Motion carried.

PARL FISCAL 2019-2020 FUNDING REQUEST

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO which included a copy of a letter received from the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library regarding an increase to their municipal funding request for fiscal 2019-2020. She recommended that this matter be referred to 2019-2020 budget discussions.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

Motion carried.

APA NOTICE TO BARGAIN

Council reviewed a letter from the Atlantic Police Association giving notice to negotiate the collective agreement which expires on March 31, 2019.

It was agreed to place the letter on file.

FUNDING REQUEST FOR FISCAL 2019-2020

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the following requests for financial assistance: SPCA, Pictou County Sports Hall of Fame, Black Education Association Provincial Spelling Bee, CARMA Pictou County and Chignecto East Regional Science Fair. She recommended that the requests be considered during 2019-2020 budget discussions.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

Motion carried.

PROPOSED LIBRARY FORMULA 2020-2021

Council reviewed an email from the Deputy Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage regarding a new proposed Library funding formula for 2020-2021.

It was regularly moved and seconded that this email and content be referred to 2019-2020 budget discussions.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried.