

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020

A Committee of the Whole meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 6:35 p.m. using the Microsoft Teams platform. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor Lewis, Councillors Dorrington; Guthro, Fraser, Proudfoot, and MacDonald. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology; Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Thiv Tharma, Director of Community Development; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant; and Frank DeMont, Solicitor.

AGENDA

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

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

CAPITAL PAVING AND MICRO-SURFACING RECOMMENDATION

Council reviewed a memo from the Town Engineer recommending the list of streets for capital paving and micro-surfacing work for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

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

LARGE SCALE FESTIVALS RECOMMENDATION

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Community Development recommending that Council cancel all large-scale festivals or events until at least August 31, 2020, contingent on Provincial directives for the remainder of the year.

It was regularly moved and seconded that all of the events that are hosted by the Town be cancelled and in keeping with the Nova Scotia wide State of Emergency and requirements for social distancing, the use of Town facilities, parks and Town owned public spaces for large-scale gatherings be suspended until no sooner than August 31, 2020.

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

LETTER DR. STRANG AND COVID-19 UPDATE

Council reviewed a letter from Dr. Strang regarding some of the restrictions that have been lifted.

The CAO provided a Covid-19/PC REMO update to Council. The Provincial State of Emergency has been extended another 2 weeks so essentially effective noon on Sunday, May 17th to noon on Sunday, May 31st.

Some Provincial Restrictions eased on May 15, 2020 as per Dr. Strang's letter. Household bubble permitted but must be exclusive. Public beaches were opened. Outdoor activities such as archery, equestrian, golf, paddling, sailing/boating, and tennis. No practices, no coaching, no spectators, no tournaments, no competitions. Must not share equipment outside of immediate family bubble.

Ten new cases announced over the weekend for a total of 1044 cases with 956 cases considered recovered and 9 hospitalized, with 5, specifically in ICU. The province has experienced 1 additional death at Northwood due to covid-19. Northwood has experienced 50 deaths of the 56 total deaths in NS. Two long term care homes (licensed and non-licensed) have Covid cases. Northwood has 19 active resident cases and 7 active staff cases. The other facility has 1 active resident case.

PC Solid Waste – Started selling compost on a ‘load and go’ basis. No bagging permitted. Still asking the public to only go to the landfill for emergencies. Today there were 15 cars lined up.

The donation of hand sanitizer was received from NS Spirit Company and it has been distributed to the group providing delivery services for the Foodbank.

Provincial order of PPE order arrived last week at the Westville Town Hall Gym, which is serving as the logistics centre, and the orders have been distributed to the respective police and fire departments.

Planning - no municipal resources needed or identified for any units at this time.

Communications - continuing public service messaging and preparing new video content – new video for Police Week.

The removal of the Ship Hector is scheduled for June 15 and the barricade plan has been approved by the RCMP.

No municipal operational concerns currently. Municipalities working on their re-introduction to services in preparation of the State of Emergency being lifted soon.

Fire ban was extended to Monday, June 1st (within 305 metres (1000 feet) of the woods anywhere in the province and this includes domestic brush burning and beach

fires). Use of backyard appliances like chimineas and fire pits are permitted – CSA approved appliances.

NGRP have received 218 Covid related calls and 32 charges to date.

NSFM has another video call with the Mayors, Wardens and CAOs on Wednesday night with Dr. Strang and Minister Porter.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the report be received.

Motion carried.

PROPERTY TAX FINANCING POLICY DRAFT

Council reviewed the draft Property Tax Financing Policy. The CAO stated that the final Document will be on the June 2 Council meeting agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORT

PCSSA UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the PCSSA meeting held on May 11.

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

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY WELLNESS CENTRE BUILDING AUTHORITY INC. & FISCAL

BUDGET 2020-2021

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO providing an update on the PCWCBAI meetings held on May 4 and 7 as well as the approved PCWCBAI operating budget for the fiscal.

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

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY REN STRATEGIC PLAN

Council reviewed the PC REN Board approved Pictou County REN Strategic Plan for 2020-2023.

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

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.