

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

A Committee of the Whole meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:20 p.m. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor Lewis; Councillor Dorrington; Councillor Fraser and Councillor MacDonald. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant; Frank DeMont Solicitor; Mark Firth, Mayoral candidate for the upcoming municipal election; Dawn Peters – Ward 2 candidate for the upcoming election and Bob Curley . Present using the Microsoft Teams platform were: Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology; Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; Thiv Tharma, Director of Community Development; Rachel Mitchell, Climate Change Coordinator and Sarah Santos, Community Engagement Co-ordinator. Absent from the meeting were Councillors Proudfoot and Guthro.

AGENDA

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

Motion carried.

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

REQUEST FOR PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION – 428 STEWART STREET

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Corporate Services stating that Christina Simpson Dean is asking for a review of the property taxes for 428 Stewart. The building on the property was destroyed by fire on January 5, 2020 after PVSC had completed the annual assessment.

The Director of Corporate Services recommended that Council approve a reduction in the property taxes for 428 Stewart Street based on the value of the land (\$6,700) as the house is no longer on the property. PVSC will adjust their records for the 2020 assessment roll.

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

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ATLANTIC MAYORS CONGRESS

Mayor Dicks provided an update on the topics presented at the recent Atlantic Mayors Congress she attended in Summerside from September 2-4 and noted that if anyone wished to review any of the presentations, she has passed them along to the CAO.

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

Motion carried.

MEMO PCWCBAI

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the meeting of the Pictou County Wellness Centre Building Authority Inc. held on August 31.

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

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR GUTHRO

Council reviewed an email from Councillor John Guthro stating that he intends to run for Stellarton Town Council therefore has to resign from his Ward 1 seat in New Glasgow.

It was regularly moved and seconded that Councillor Guthro's resignation be accepted.

Motion carried.

DETOX CLOSURE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The CAO stated that she attended a Citizens for a Healthy Pictou County meeting recently and discussion was held regarding the closure of the Detox in Pictou and the lack of Mental Health Services causing even more stress for people during the pandemic. In 2018 the police had 403 mental health calls and 59 well-being calls; 2019 - 318 mental health calls and 143 well-being calls and so far in 2020 - 339 mental health calls and 122 well-being calls with 4 months remaining in the year. The Citizens for a Healthy Pictou County are requesting all Municipal units in Pictou County to send a letter to the Province requesting that the Detox and Mental Health Services be reinstated.

Mayor Dicks stated that the New Glasgow Police Commission has also discussed this matter and recommended a letter be sent to the Province regarding reinstating these services.

It was regularly moved and seconded that a letter be sent to the Nova Scotia Health Authority regarding this matter.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.