

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

A Committee of the Whole meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor El-Haddad, Councillors Dorrington; Borden, Fraser, Peters, and MacDonald. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Thiv Tharma, Director of Community Development; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant; Rachel Mitchell, Climate Change Co-ordinator and Frank DeMont, Solicitor. Present using the Microsoft Teams platform were: Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer and Sarah Santos, Community Engagement Co-ordinator.

AGENDA

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

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

TAX COLLECTION POLICY UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Corporate Services stating that in April of 2018 an amendment to the Collection of Taxes Policy was approved by Council. Part of the recommendation was to reduce the number of years required to be in arrears before a property is taken to tax sale from 3 years to 2. At that time, the Policy was not updated correctly therefore the policy requires edits to update to the current practices and approved amendment by Council. He is also recommending two additional amendments as follows “6. If the amount of taxes, including interest, is below five

hundred dollars (\$500), then, in accordance with Section 134(4) (b) of the Municipal Government Act, the property shall not be put up for tax sale.” and “11. Where an overpayment of taxes has been made, or where an assessment appeal is pending, the Town shall not pay interest on the excess taxes paid.”

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

Motion carried.

FCM MUNICIPAL ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Council reviewed a memo from the Climate Change Co-ordinator starting that the FCM Municipal Asset Program is offering funding to strengthen municipal asset management practices. The grant covers 80% of total eligible project costs, up to a maximum of \$50,000 for individual applicants. She recommended that the Town apply for a grant for Asset Management Inventory, Operationalization and Preliminary Capital Projections.

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

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

UPDATE WALTER BORDEN EVENT

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Community Development stating that at the November 16 Council Meeting, Council had received a request from Arleen Paris for Council to plan a special event acknowledging Walter Borden. Council suggested the event be held in conjunction with the Black Homecoming event scheduled for 2021. He subsequently spoke to Ms. Paris who indicated that she did not want the Homecoming Committee to plan the event and would like a small working

group to plan and support the event. He recommended that this be a standalone event, and a small working group supported by the Town be established to co-ordinate the planning, fundraising and execution of the event.

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

Motion carried.

UPDATE DEMOLITION 172 FRASER STREET

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that the contractor awarded the demolition of 172 Fraser Street, Dexter Construction, completed a site inspection and suspected hazardous material within the dwelling and they requested a HAZMAT assessment be completed before they begin the demolition. Stantec was engaged by the Town to complete the assessment for \$2,500 plus HST. The results of the testing should be available next week. Stantec will then prepare a report with the recommendations for the disposal of the demolition materials and this will be provided to the Contractor.

Councillor MacDonald suggested that in the future the site inspection take place before the tender documents are submitted.

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

Motion carried.

UPDATE 2ND READING NOISE BYLAW

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that the 2nd reading of the Noise Bylaw was intended to be completed at this meeting however it has been deferred as the NGRP need to complete further research on the measurement device proposed in the bylaw as well as the vehicle compliance regulations related to after-market mufflers.

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

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMO – PICTOU COUNTY REN LOC

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO on behalf of Mayor Dicks which provided some background documents in addition to an update from the Pictou County REN Liaison and Oversight Committee. Mayor Dicks noted that there are six vacancies currently on the REN board.

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

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LETTER FRANK PROUDFOOT – TRENTON CONNECTOR

Council reviewed a letter from Frank Proudfoot requesting Council to send a letter to the Municipality of the County of Pictou and the Province demanding immediately action to lessen the risk at the Abercrombie/Trenton connector intersection and hopefully prevent another tragedy from happening as the citizens of New Glasgow are frequently users.

Council also reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that she contacted the CAO of the Municipality of the County of Pictou and Councillor Turner who advised that N. S. TIR is currently designing a roundabout for the intersection and the project is expected to go to tender for 2021-2022. The project has been recommended by the N. S. TIR staff and they are awaiting formal approval by the Minister.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the email be placed on file and Mr. Proudfoot be advised of the status of the roundabout.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.