

**TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021**

A Committee of the Whole meeting was held on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. using the Microsoft Teams platform. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor El-Haddad; Councillor Dorrington; Councillor Borden; Councillor Peters; Councillor Fraser and Councillor MacDonald. Also present were Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; Thiv Tharma, Director of Community Development; Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant; Rachel Mitchell, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager; and Frank DeMont, Solicitor.

Mayor Dicks noted that the flags are flying at half mast in memory of the 215 children whose bodies were found in a mass grave at a former Indigenous Residential School in Kamloops, B.C. She spoke to Chief Andrea Paul and there may be opportunities to work with together to recognize this tragic event. She thanked Sarah Santos for the work on the Integrated Development Plan and the staff involved in the consultation sessions held last week. She and several staff participated in Session 1 of the Black History Learning Webinar today where Councillor Dorrington's sister Cynthia was the presenter. She also wanted to pay tribute to Burma Marshall who passed away this week. She was an educator and a community volunteer.

## **AGENDA**

Mayor Dicks added Presentation District Energy System to the agenda.

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

Motion carried.

## **MINUTES**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on May 17, 2021 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

## **PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

### **PRESENTATION DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEM**

The Climate Change and Sustainability Co-ordinator made a presentation on a front-end engineering design and feasibility study opportunity for a potential district energy system for the Town of New Glasgow. There are funding opportunities available, the FCM District Energy Feasibility Study Fund and Natural Resources Canada Investments in Forest Industry Transformation. FCM requires a 10% contribution from the Town in the amount of \$35,000 which is included in the 2021-2022 budget. The total project cost would be \$650,000 with a \$35,000 municipal contribution; \$175,000 FCM and \$140,000 NRCAN. In-kind contribution in the amount of \$300,000 would also be provided. She asked Council if they would like her to prepare a recommendation for the next meeting to proceed with applications for funding to the FCM and NRCAN for this project.

It was agreed that the Climate Change and Sustainability prepare a recommendation for the next Council meeting.

## **MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF**

### **MUNROE AVENUE WATER TANK INTERIOR RE-COATING**

Council reviewed a memo from the Town Engineer recommending that MacDonald Applicators Limited, the lowest bidder, be awarded the contract to re-coat the interior of the Munroe Avenue water tank at a cost of \$438,591.81 plus HST.

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

Motion carried.

### **FORBES LAKE WEST BERM REHABILITATION**

Council reviewed a memo from the Town Engineer recommending that Northeast TCL, the lowest bidder, be awarded the contract for an engineer design and rehabilitation of the Forbes Lake West Berm at a cost of \$91,055.00 plus HST.

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

Motion carried.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **NATIONAL HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY AND RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH**

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Community Development indicating events that are taking place for National Health and Fitness Day on Saturday, June 5 and throughout Recreation and Parks month for June.

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

Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PCSSA BOARD MEETING UPDATE**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Pictou County Shared Services Authority meeting held on May 17, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

### **MAYORS AND WARDEN MEETING UPDATE**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Mayors and Warden meeting held on May 17, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

## **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

### **ROLE OF COMMITTEES AND THEIR EFFICIENCY**

Deputy Mayor El-Haddad stated that he has heard from citizens who have sat on Town Committees that they feel their ideas presented at the Committee meetings do not go anywhere.

The CAO stated that it is the responsibility of the Director who supports the respective Committee of Council to bring any recommendations forward to Council that are recommended by the Committee as there may also be budget considerations. She will discuss this matter at the next Senior Leadership meeting to ensure the Directors understand the recommendation process from Committees as well as the orientation that should be completed with new volunteers to Committees.

## **RESIDENTIAL FIRE POLICY/BYLAW – RESIDENT COMPLAINTS**

Councillor Peters stated that she was contacted by residents in the Highland Drive/MacLaren Avenue area regarding the use of firepits.

The Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services stated that he attended the property where the firepit was being used on three occasions and was accompanied by a police officer the third time and the residents were advised of the rules for outdoor burning. He is currently working on updating the Town's Fire Bylaw which should help with these instances.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

### **RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH**

Councillor Peters presented a proclamation proclaiming June as Recreation and Parks Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed June as Recreation and Parks Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **GERRY AND MONICA PUNKE LETTER RE; TARTAN FIELD**

Council reviewed a letter from Gerry and Monica Punke regarding the recent development at the former John Brother MacDonald Stadium site and stated that they hoped the Town would develop something in the Tartan field green space in this area and not sell it for development purposes. They made some suggestions for the green space.

The CAO stated that she spoke to the Punke's and told them that the Town Council has no intention to remove the green space and will be applying for funding to enhance this area as an age-friendly green space.

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

Motion carried.

### **MAYOR SANDRA SNOW – SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT**

Council received an email from Mayor Sandra Snow stating that she has sent a letter to the Premier and Minister of Business requesting that Article 31 update to the Health Protection Act be amended as it has caused an unfair playing field for small businesses.

It was agreed that as the province is now opening again through a phased plan the email be placed on file.