

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2021

A Committee of the Whole meeting was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor El-Haddad; Councillor Dorrington; Councillor Borden; Council Fraser; Councillor Peters and Councillor MacDonald. Also present were Lisa MacDonald, CAO and Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant. Present using the Microsoft Teams platform were: Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology; Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; Thiv Tharma, Director of Community Development; Rachel Mitchell, Climate Change Co-ordinator; Sarah Santos, Community Engagement Co-ordinator and Frank DeMont Solicitor.

Mayor Dicks mentioned some of the events that have taken place over the last few weeks: she attended a virtual author presentation by Len Paris hosted by the Library and introduced by Councillor Dorrington; the REN AGM last Friday; an online presentation on Meaningful and Accessible Public Engagement; she participated in Part 2 of the Climate Change Leadership Course; the Business Unusual event hosted by the Chamber of Commerce; the launch and Proclamation signing for African Heritage Month at Glasgow Square today at noon. She mentioned that there will be a fundraising event for the Town's Coldest Night of the Year Team at Pizza Delight on February 11 with 20% of the sales for that day being donated to the Town's team for the walk She

also noted that former Stellarton Mayor, Joe Gennoe, passed away this week and expressed Council's condolences.

Councillor Fraser stated he attended a virtual talk by Lawrence Hill regarding the "Book of Negroes" which was sponsored by the Frank McKenna Foundation at St. F. X.

Mayor Dicks stated that the Trinity United Church is holding Tuc Talk with Dan Graham of Engage Nova Scotia entitled "Reset and Rebuild".

Councillor Peters stated that the Canadian Mint has released a silver coin honoring the legacy of the Black Loyalists for Black History Month. She suggested that the Town purchase some of these coins that could be used for presentation purposes.

Mayor Dicks noted that the African Nova Scotia Launch was done virtually also and available for viewing on the Town website.

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 18, 2021 be approved as presented

Motion carried.

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Corporate Services recommending that Council approve a property tax exemption for 2021 in the amount of

\$350.00 provided the total income for 2020 from all sources is equal or less than \$20,867.00.

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

Motion carried.

MFC SPRING DEBENTURE ISSUE

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Corporate Services recommending that Council authorize borrowing not to exceed \$700,000 over terms not to exceed 20 years for general capital expenditures at an interest rate not to exceed 5.5% and Council authorize a provision to allow for the payment of the June 2021 Balloon Payment of \$73,320 through a reserve.

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

Motion carried.

MUNICIPAL ENERGY LEARNING GROUP – RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE N. S. CLIMATE PLAN

Council reviewed a memo from the Climate Change Co-ordinator recommending that Council sign the letter of support for the Quest Municipal Energy Learning Group recommendations to the Province of N. S. in the development of the new Provincial climate plan.

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

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SNOW AND ICE CONTROL UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the Town Engineer indicating the Snow and Ice Control costs up to and including January 20, 2021. The summary shows that the Town has spent approximately 60% of what it did for the same general period last year.

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

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PCSSA MEETING UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Pictou County Shared Services Authority Board meeting held on January 18, 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 January 18, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

PCWCBAI BOARD MEETING UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Pictou County Wellness Centre meeting held on January 25, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS RECOMMENDATIONS

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that the Accessibility Advisory Board established two committees, the Education Standard Development Committee and the Built Environment Standard Development Committee that made recommendations on accessibility for their respective areas. The recommendations have been submitted to the Minister of Justice and are now posted on the Accessibility Directorate website. The Province is currently reviewing the recommendations to prepare proposed accessibility standards for the built environment and guidelines/a charter for education. Public consultation will be forthcoming.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF POLICING SERVICES ACROSS N.S.

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that the Police Chief received a copy of a letter from the Minister of Justice to the President of the Nova Scotia Chiefs Association regarding a preliminary analysis of policing service delivery across Nova Scotia. There has been no formal notification to the Town regarding this analysis of policing service. She has emailed the Municipal Advisor but has not received a response to date. She also contacted the CAO's of Amherst and Bridgewater as well but they did not have any further details.

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

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.