

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MARCH 15, 2021

A Committee of the Whole meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 6:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor El-Haddad, Councillors Borden, Fraser, Peters, and MacDonald. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant; Rachel Mitchell, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager; Veronica Deno, Active Living Co-ordinator; Frank DeMont, Solicitor and 3 students from NSCC who were attending the meeting as observers. Absent from the meeting was Councillor Dorrington.

AGENDA

Councillor Fraser requested that a request from the Pictou Antigonish Regional Library be added to the agenda.

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

Motion carried.

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

RECOMMENDATION MICHAEL THIEY AWARD

Council reviewed a memo from the Active Living Co-ordinator stating that the Inclusive Communities Committee is recommending that the name of the “Award of Merit Recognizing Contributions Towards the Creation of an Inclusive Community” be changed to “The Michael They Award”. Michael They was a refugee from South Sudan who lived in New Glasgow from 2011-2019.

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

Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDATION NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA, GREEN
INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS PROGRAM**

Council reviewed a memo from the Climate Change and Sustainability Manager stating that the Town of New Glasgow is continuously working to advance low-carbon solutions and assess emerging opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Natural Resources Canada is accepting applications to their Green Infrastructure – Energy Efficient Buildings to advance Canada’s efforts to build a clean economy. The Town partnered with the ReCover Initiative on their expression of interest to the program for panelized deep energy retrofits of Municipal buildings. She recommended that Council submit a letter of support for the ReCover Initiative’s application to the Natural Resource Canada’s Green Infrastructure - Energy Efficient Buildings Program to complete a front-end engineering design study and deep energy retrofit demonstration at the Transportation Department Facility (Public Works Building). The letter of support will outline the Town’s commitment to contributing to the feasibility study in the amount of \$25,000 and a conditional funding commitment for the approximate full project cost of \$750,000 if the funding application is successful. This will be based on the findings from the feasibility study.

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

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PAC WARD 3 REPRESENTATIVE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that further to the March 2, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting, we reached out to David Davis about his potential interest in serving as the Ward 3 representative on the Planning Advisory Committee and he confirmed that he would serve as the Ward 3 representative on this Committee.

It was regularly moved and seconded that David Davis be appointed the Ward 3 representative on the Planning Advisory Committee.

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMO CAO MEETING UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo prepared by the CAO which provided the topics discussed at the recent meeting of the Pictou County CAO's

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

Motion carried.

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

TERRACE STREET SIDEWALK EXTENSION

Deputy Mayor El-Haddad stated that he had been contacted by citizens requesting that a sidewalk be installed on Terrace Street from the Kinsmen Look Off to Terrace Heights Drive.

The CAO stated that the last time this matter was discussed the land-owners were not interested in losing land for the construction of a sidewalk.

The Town Engineer stated that there is a warrant system for sidewalks and they could also look at the boundaries in this area related to the right-of-way.

It was regularly moved and seconded that this matter be referred to the Town Engineer for a report and recommendation back to Council.

NEW BUSINESS

NSFM – N. S. MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS – LETTER RE; 12 MONTHS NOTICE

Council reviewed a copy of a letter from the NS Municipal Affairs and Housing Department directed to the President of the NSFM in April 2020 giving twelve months' notice of changes that were coming that may affect Municipal Units throughout the province. The letter specifically mentions the code of conduct, procurement, DOTIR and DOJ initiatives. Due to miscommunication and the beginning of the Covid virus, the NSFM failed to notify members that they had received the letter in April of 2020.

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

PICTOU ANTIGONISH REGIONAL LIBRARY REQUEST

Councillor Fraser stated that the Library was recently informed that the Federal Government has announced it intends to cut CELA by \$3,000,000 annually and NNELS by \$1,000,000 annually. This funding provides accessible reading materials and services for those with print disabilities including those with vision loss, learning disabilities and physical disabilities. The Library Board is asking all municipal units in the Pictou-Antigonish region to write to the Federal Government urging them to restore the full funding for CELA and NNELS.

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

Motion carried.