

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021

A Committee of the Whole meeting was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. 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; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant; Rachel Mitchell, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager; Frank DeMont Solicitor; Denise Ross, a NSCC student; Brooke Barsness; Keeley Shipley; Ashley Kenney and Lilah Ross representing Pictou County Fridays for Future Youth Climate Council. Present using the Microsoft Teams platform were: Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services and Sarah Santos, Community Engagement Co-ordinator

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 March 15, 2021 be approved as presented

Motion carried.

PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION PC FRIDAYS FOR FUTURE YOUTH CLIMATE COUNCIL

Keeley Shipley, Brooke Barsness, Ashley Kenney and Lilah Ross, members of the Youth Climate Council made a presentation on Bee City Canada and recommended that New Glasgow join this national organization in hopes of making a safe space for the pollinators.

The Town Engineer asked for some ideas of what we could do as a Town in this capacity.

The students suggested planting specific flowers that attract bees would be one idea.

Mayor Dicks thanked the students for their presentation.

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

BEE CITY CANADA APPLICATION

Council reviewed a memo from the Climate Change and Sustainability Manager stating that the Pictou County Fridays for Future Youth Climate Council discussed the Bee City Canada program at a recent meeting. She will complete the Bee City Canada application in the coming weeks and work with the Youth Climate Council to promote education and awareness on the importance of pollinator habitat. There is no initial fee and the annual renewal for a Town of our size is \$150.00.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Town of New Glasgow submit an application to join Bee City Canada.

Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF 550/5500 SERIES TRUCK

Council reviewed a memo from the Town Engineer recommending that the 550/5500 series truck be purchased from Highland Ford, the lowest tender received with the highest evaluation score, at a cost of \$59,900 plus HST.

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

Motion carried.

BICYCLE PARKING ON PROVOST ST.

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Community Development recommending that Council approve the replacement of number 18 parking meter (beside the community garden on the corner of Provost Street and MacLean Street) with a corral style bike rack designed to hold 5 bicycles.

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

Councillor MacDonald asked if there was any way to install the bike rack without removing a parking meter as the parking meters are a major source of revenue and metered parking is limited.

The Director of Community Development stated that Bicycle Nova Scotia completed an assessment and this location was chosen because it is accessible and visible which may encourage cycling.

The motion passed by a vote of five in favour and two nay votes cast by Councillors MacDonald and Dorrington.

PROVINCIAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Community Development stating that the Community Development Advisory Committee is recommending Allan Davis as the Town's 2021 Provincial Volunteer.

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

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SPCA/TOWN OF STELLARTON FUNDRAISING REQUEST

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO stating that the SPCA made a presentation to the Mayors and Warden as a follow up to the original request from the Town of Stellarton requesting that New Glasgow provide funding for a new SPCA shelter in Stellarton. She recommended that this support material be added to the original funding request which will be considered during budget deliberations.

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

Motion carried.

PROVINCIAL POLICING STUDY

Council reviewed a letter from the Department of Justice stating that the analysis of the current policing service delivery model is to be completed as a matter of prudent fiscal responsibility and to ensure sustainability and effectiveness of this model. They will be looking at both RCMP contract policing jurisdictions as well as those served by municipal police.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PCSSA MEETING UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Pictou County Shared Services Authority meeting held on March 22, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

MAYORS AND WARDEN'S MEETING UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Mayors and Warden meeting held on March 22, 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 Building Authority Inc. meeting held on March 29, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

PC REN LOC UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO, on behalf of the Mayor, regarding the Pictou County REN Liaison and Oversight Committee meeting held on March 25, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

GLEN HAVEN MANOR AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Council reviewed the March 31, 2020 audited financial statements for Glen Haven Manor.

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

Motion carried

PROCLAMATIONS

AUTISM AWARENESS & ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Councillor Borden presented a proclamation proclaiming April as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed April Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

Deputy Mayor El-Haddad presented a proclamation proclaiming April as National Poetry Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed April as National Poetry Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Councillor Dorrington presented a proclamation proclaiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the Town of New Glasgow.

NEW BUSINESS

LETTER CARMA – TEMPORARY HOLDING FACILITY

Council reviewed a letter from CARMA asking if New Glasgow has a location that can be used for a temporary holding facility for cats primarily for pre-op and post-op situations and is also used where stray cats need to be assessed to determine if they are possibly social and could have an opportunity to be rehomed.

The CAO stated that we do not have a current location for a temporary holding facility for cats.

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

Motion carried.

EASTERN MAINLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY DEFICIT PROJECTION

Council received a memo from the CAO stating that the N. S. Department of Infrastructure and Housing provided an update on the new projected operational deficits for the fiscal 2020-2021 that are the responsibility of the municipalities in Nova Scotia. The projection for the Town of New Glasgow is \$297,012 lower range and \$327,455 upper range.

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

The CAO stated that she has requested a detailed listing of all expenses associated with each Eastern Mainland Housing property in New Glasgow.

Councillor MacDonald stated that we deal with numerous issues with EMHA housing on a regular basis and suggested that the units in Pictou County approach this with a collective voice.

Deputy Mayor El-Haddad asked if we can “not” pay the bill.

The CAO stated that the option of working with other Pictou County municipalities on the matter can be explored.

The Director of Corporate Services stated that we could hold off paying the bill until we understand it.

Motion carried.

LETTER - GUYSBOROUGH WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the letter from the Guysborough Waste Management Facility giving notice of the upcoming increase in tipping fees for the solid waste going to their facility. They also mentioned the Waste Management Agreement. The contract negotiations happen at the Pictou County Solid Waste/Pictou County Shared Services Authority level.

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

Motion carried.