

**TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 6:30p.m. in Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor MacDonald, Councillors Dorrington, Peters, Fraser, MacDonald and McKenna. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Kim Livingston, Director of Corporate Services; (via MS Teams) Prasad Patil, Communications and Engagement Manager; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works; Rebecca Lewis-MacNeil, Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications; Michelle Ward, Director of Community Development; Ryan Leil, NGRP Chief; Alison Tait, Deputy Clerk; Jeff Hamelin, Technology Support Services; and Solicitor DeMont. Absent from the meeting were Audrey Buchanan, Assistant Director of Engineering; Derek Eisan, Director of IT; and Jeff Turnbull, Senior Planner.

**AGENDA**

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

Motion carried.

**MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF**

**RECOMMENDATION - DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – AWARD**

**RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW GLASGOW LIBRARY REVITALIZATION PROJECT CONSTRUCTION**

**CONTRACT**

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Director of Engineering and Public Works recommending that Council approve the contract for the New Glasgow Library Revitalization Project be awarded to the sole bidder, PCL Constructors Canada Inc., of Dartmouth, based on the negotiated Cost Saving Plan, known as Scenario A which reduces the cost from the original bid of \$12,320,000.00 to \$10,711,000.00 plus HST.

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

Deputy Mayor MacDonald inquired of Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works whether the contract award to PCL Constructors Canada Inc. would go back to tender if the Town does not accept it by November 30, 2024.

Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works, explained that Contract A has already been established. Returning to tender could raise two key concerns: whether there would be any bidders and whether the costs would exceed the previously submitted proposal. Legal advice would be necessary to proceed with re-tendering.

Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **MEMO - PICTOU COUNTY WELLNESS CENTRE BUILDING AUTHORITY INCORPORATED AGM UPDATE**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Annual General Meeting which took place on October 17, 2024.

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

Deputy Mayor MacDonald inquired whether the 10% increase in energy was due to a rate hike by Nova Scotia Power.

The CAO explained that the energy improvements for the building were not fully commissioned at the fiscal year end and the update reflects both rates and usage. It was noted that the recent financial report for the current fiscal year shows a decrease in kilowatt hours following the commissioning of the new equipment.

Motion carried.

#### **MEMO – PICTOU COUNTY PARTNERSHIP 2ND QUARTER REPORT**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Pictou County Partnership 2nd Quarter Update Report from July 1 to September 30, 2024.

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

Motion carried.

#### **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

#### **FLYER BYLAW**

Councillor Peters requested that staff draft a bylaw to address the ongoing flyer delivery issue in the Town.

This bylaw would aim to stop the delivery of flyers to residents who request not to receive them due to safety concerns, such as unoccupied homes or flyers being left in walkways, driveways, or doorsteps, where they can accumulate and become unsightly.

It was moved and seconded that the Town staff investigate a process for flyer delivery and explore the framework for a potential bylaw.

Councillor Dorrington inquired about how this would be monitored and tracked. It was also suggested that the Town post the phone number for the flyer delivery contact on the Town social media platforms.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald expressed concern that a bylaw would be ineffective if it cannot be enforced, citing a lack of resources to manage it.

Councillor McKenna noted that his constituents often find flyers scattered on their property and suggested enforcing a requirement that flyers be placed in mailboxes.

Councillor Dorrington pointed out that compared to Halifax's flyer bylaw, Halifax has more apartment buildings, whereas New Glasgow predominantly consists of single-family homes.

Motion was defeated due to an even split between those in favor and those against, with the deciding vote cast by Mayor Dicks.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES FOR 2025**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Council appointments for the 2025 Committees of Council.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Council appointments for the 2025 Committees of Council be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

### **DEPUTY MAYOR APPOINTMENT**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the appointment of Jocelyn Dorrington as Deputy Mayor.

It was regularly moved and seconded that Jocelyn Dorrington be appointed Deputy Mayor for the term ending November 2025 in line with the current policy.

Motion carried.

### **APPOINTMENT OF LEVEL II BUILDING OFFICIAL**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the appointment of a Level II Building Official.

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the appointment of Travis Spears to Level II Building Official from the Municipality of the County of Pictou for the Town of New Glasgow, effective immediately.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald inquired if this would be a permanent appointment. The CAO clarified that this was a temporary appointment.

Motion carried.

### **2025 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING DATES**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the 2025 Council and Committee of the Whole meeting schedule.

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the 2025 Council and Committee of the Whole meeting schedule as presented.

Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Motion carried.