

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. in Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Dorrington, Councillors, Fraser, Joe MacDonald, Jessica MacDonald, McKenna and Peters (participated virtually via MS Teams). Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Kim Livingston, Director of Corporate Services; 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, Information Technology Support Services; Prasad Patil, Communication and Engagement Manager and Rohan Misha, Environmental and Sustainability Lead. Absent from the meeting were Audrey Buchanan, Assistant Director of Engineering; Derek Eisan, Director of IT and Frank Demont, Solicitor.

AGENDA

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

Motion carried.

MATTER FOR SENIOR STAFF

RECOMMENDATION ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – AWARD

RECOMMENDATION – TNG24-PW-021WASTEWATER FLOWMETERS

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works recommending that BioMaxx Environmental, with the highest overall qualified evaluation,

be awarded the contract for the TNG24-PW-021 Wastewater Flowmeters with specified attachments at a cost of \$126,264 plus HST [\$131,675 Net HST].

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – PERMISSION FOR OUT OF PROVINCE TRAVEL TO ACCESSIBILITY PROFESSIONAL NETWORK (APN) CONFERENCE 2025

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works to attend the Accessibility Professional Network (APN) conference from March 27-28, 2025 in Vancouver, BC. The conference will provide the required Continuing Education Units to maintain the professional designation of Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification.

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS – FOUR DAY WORK WEEK

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications, recommending the permanent implementation of a Four Day Work Week for Town employees outside of the respective collective agreements. The proposed schedule would maintain Town Office operating hours from Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., provided it continues to align with the best interests of New Glasgow residents.

Councillor Fraser inquired how this would apply to internal and external staff in relation to flex time.

CAO advised that Atlantic Police Association member of the Platoon and CUPE Fire staff and Public Works Mechanical staff are already working a four day work week schedule but all other CUPE employees under the current CUPE contract, water treatment facility, transportation department and environmental services are working Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY LEAD – EXPLORING CARBONRUN’S RIVER ALKALINITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT FOR EAST RIVER

Council reviewed a memo from the Environmental and Sustainability Lead recommending the approval for the exploration of CarbonRun’s River Alkalinity Enhancement methodology to East River.

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

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMO – PICTOU COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY UPDATE – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REGULAR MEETING

Council reviewed a memo from the Director of Corporate Services regarding the Pictou County Transit Authority Annual General Meeting and Regular Meeting held on December 19, 2024.

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

Motion carried.

MEMO – PICTOU COUNTY WELLNESS CENTRE BUILDING AUTHORITY INC. UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the regular quarterly Board of Governors meeting for the Pictou County Wellness Centre which took place on December 16, 2024.

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

Motion carried.

MEMO – PICTOU COUNTY PARTNERSHIP 3RD QUARTER AND LIAISON AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

ORIENTATION (LOC) UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Pictou County Partnership LOC 3rd Quarter Update.

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

Motion carried.

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING FLIGHT (CEF) UPDATE

Councillor McKenna gave a verbal update regarding the Advisory Board Meeting held on December 3, 2024. There were 2 requests approved, one request was for building walking/biking trails and another was for kitchen renovations in a community centre to meet the standards to become a comfort/warming centre for residents in the area.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the verbal report be received as presented.

Motion carried.

RIVERVIEW HOME CORPORATION UPDATE

Councillor McKenna gave a verbal update regarding the Riverview Home Corporation Board meeting held on December 12, 2024. Board and staff priorities are the implementation of the Remedy

Report and the closure of the Adult Residential Centre. The board plans to construct suitable accommodations as options for residents with high medical needs that can not be met within institutionalized settings. He further noted the new executive for the board.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the verbal report be received as presented.

Motion carried.

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

DEER POPULATION

Councillor Joe MacDonald asked for the results of the Department of Natural Resources Deer Study which was conducted in 2019 and what actions will be taken to address the deer population.

The CAO advised that the Town will work to hold a public session with biologist, Mark Pulzier, and an invitation to form a committee will be sent to community members, including other councils as this is a regional issue. She also noted that our Bylaw Enforcement Officer will be going door-to-door with a pamphlet on deer.

NEW BUSINESS

LETTER FROM MICHELLE JOHNSON RE: PUBLIC WATER FLUORIDATION

Council reviewed a letter from Michelle Johnson, Resident Physician, Memorial University of Newfoundland regarding the discontinuation of fluoride in the Town's potable water.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM NS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

Council reviewed a letter from the NS Association of Realtors proposing collaboration on the current housing situation.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Council reviewed a letter from Municipal Affairs regarding implementation of the new Municipal Code of Conduct.

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

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Motion carried.