

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor El-Haddad, Councillors Dorrington, Borden, Fraser, Peters, and MacDonald. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; Thiv Tharma, Director of Community Development; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant; Rachel Mitchell, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager; Sarah Santos, Community Engagement Co-ordinator; Frank DeMont, Solicitor; and Walter MacDonald, Bylaw Enforcement Officer; Sarah Wiseman and Heidi Sinclair from Pictou County REN for a portion of the meeting. Present using the Microsoft Teams platform were: Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency - Services; and present for a portion of the meeting through Microsoft Teams were: Mike Thompson, Building Inspector and Karen Whitney.

EVENTS

Mayor Dicks stated that the official unveiling of the plaque on the Town Hall building recognizing Sammy Stewart was held last Thursday; Summit Centre for Music had a successful fundraising event at Glasgow Square on Friday evening, the annual New Glasgow Music Festival has been taking place over the past couple of weeks and will continue, Glasgow Square is starting to have a few some smaller events with the first one selling out within hours, Go Clean Get Green will be happening this week. Sarah has asked that Council share the Integrated Development Plan online engagement platform with citizens.

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 and April 6, 2021 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

ORDER TO APPEAR TO CONSIDER AN ORDER TO DEMOLISH 531 PLEASANT ST.

Council reviewed a package of information and pictures of the property at 531 Pleasant Street owned by Karen Whitney. The Bylaw Enforcement Officer recommended that a 30-Day Order to Demolish be served on this property owner. Since purchasing the property in 2014 nothing has been done to maintain or protect the property, including mowing the grass, since the purchase. The doors to the property were open on his initial investigation in November 2020 at which time he had the doors and windows boarded up. The property is also semi-detached to 529 Pleasant Street which causes concern for that property owner. There is a hole the size of a basketball in the front side of the roof and the back porch and step are falling off the building which has created access for raccoons that have been sighted going in and out of the property by the neighbours. The Building Inspector noted that he has been dealing with the property for seven years and inspected the building in November and determined the building to be significantly unsafe.

Karen Whitney connected by telephone through Microsoft Teams and asked for six months to have the property remedied. She has arranged for a contractor to visit the property tomorrow morning to determine what must be done.

The Building Inspector stated that the rear porch roof is collapsed, the chimney is going to fall over, there is a hole in the roof and the property has not been maintained in 7 years. He stated that the roof must be repaired if she wants to save the structure.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation of the Bylaw Enforcement Officer be approved.

Councillor Dorrington suggested that Ms. Whitney provide a plan to Council within 14 days indicating what she intends to do to remedy the property.

The Solicitor suggested that the motion be tabled until the next meeting, May 4th and in the meantime, Ms. Whitney provide a written report by April 28 indicating what her proposal is for the property, who is doing the work, and a timeline to have it completed for Council's consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that this matter be tabled until the May 4 Council meeting.

Motion carried.

PRESENTATION PICTOU COUNTY REN

Sarah Wiseman, CEO, made a powerpoint presentation on the activities of the Pictou County REN over the past year and some of the new initiatives for the fiscal.

Mayor Dicks thanked Sarah for her presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole Report be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Finance Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Engineering and Public Works Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Climate Change and Sustainability Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Solid Waste Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Police Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Community Development Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Business Development Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

FIRE REPORT AND FIRE INSPECTION REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Fire Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

There was no Fire Inspection Report due to Covid.

BUILDING REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Building Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Information Technology Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS

VOLUNTEER WEEK

Councillor Peters read a proclamation proclaiming April 18-24, 2021 as Volunteer Week in New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed April 18-24, 2021 as Volunteer Week in New Glasgow.

Motion carried.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Councillor Fraser read a proclamation proclaiming April 24, 2021 as Human Rights Day in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed April 24, 2021 as Human Rights Day in New Glasgow.

EARTH DAY

Councillor MacDonald read a proclamation proclaiming April 22, 2021 as Earth Day in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed April 22, 2021 as Earth Day in New Glasgow.

NEW BUSINESS

ACCOUNTS

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM IN-CAMERA MEETINGS

MACGILLIVRAY PROPERTIES LAND EXCHANGE

The CAO stated that it is the recommendation to Council from the Committee of the Whole meeting that the letter of intent with MacGillivray Properties for the land exchange with MacGillivray Properties for a subdivided portion of the land beside the New Glasgow Farmers Market in exchange for the Town property, formerly known as New Glasgow Foundry, be approved.

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

Motion carried.

ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACT - PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

AGREEMENT

The CAO stated that it is the recommendation to Council from the Committee of the Whole meeting that the Project Development Agreement for the Energy Savings Performance Contract with Johnson Controls be approved.

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

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.