

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, February 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. using the Microsoft Teams platform. Present were: Mayor Dicks; Deputy Mayor Dorrington, Councillors Borden, Fraser, Peters, El-Haddad, and MacDonald. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Earl MacKenzie, Town Engineer; Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology; Thiv Tharma, Director of Community Development; Corey Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; Rachel Mitchell, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager; Kelly Sloan, Executive Assistant and Frank DeMont, Solicitor.

Mayor Dicks stated that as we gather this evening, we pause to remember that in this province we live and work on lands that are by law the unceded territories of the Wabanaki peoples - predominantly the land of the Mi'kmaq. May we live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with its people.

Council held a moment of silence in memory of former Deputy Mayor/Town Councillor Francis Dorrington.

Mayor Dicks also noted that Wanda Robson, sister of Viola Desmond, also passed away this week. The last couple of weeks several people in our community have passed away.

She also noted that the 2021 Census numbers were released and the Town of New Glasgow has seen tremendous growth in population.

Councillor Fraser acknowledged the CAO's contribution in initiating the "Not Myself Today" mental wellness program for Town staff and elected members.

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 Council meetings held on January 17, 2022, be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

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 amended.

Councillor Fraser noted a typo on Page 3 replace “assess” with “asset”.

Councillor Peters asked what changes were made to the lunchroom at the former K-Mart Building.

The Town Engineer stated that the lunchroom was expanded to provide sufficient room for social distancing.

Motion carried.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

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

Councillor Peters asked how many chargers for electric vehicles we applied for?

The Climate Change and Sustainability Manager stated that she anticipates at least 2 dual port chargers. Funding can be obtained up to \$100,000 with fifty percent cost sharing required.

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.

Councillor Peters noted that the report indicates that art will be installed along the trail. She asked if the art installation of the car that was previously at Glasgow Square can be placed on the trail.

The CAO stated that the car, 'Chillin' by the River' was vandalized and is currently being repaired. After it is repaired it will be placed somewhere along the east side of the river in proximity of Glasgow Square. The 'Chillin' by the River' artwork is not the same project as the art along the trail initiative.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

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

Councillor Fraser asked about the video promotion that was done for the park.

The CAO stated that we will circulate it by email.

Motion carried.

FIRE REPORT AND FIRE INSPECTION REPORT

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

Motion carried.

BUILDING REPORT

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

Motion carried.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

There was no report.

PROCLAMATIONS

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

Councillor MacDonald presented a proclamation proclaiming February 21 as International Mother Language Day in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Dicks proclaimed February 21 as International Mother Language Day in the Town of New Glasgow.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

1ST READING FIRES & BURNING OF MATERIALS BYLAW

Councillor Fraser presented for first reading the proposed Fires and Burning of Materials Bylaw for the Town of New Glasgow.

The object of the Fires and Burning of Materials Bylaw is to modernize the language and simplify the process for administering the penalties by the New Glasgow Regional Police and/or Bylaw Enforcement Officer by incorporating the Summary Offence Ticket (SOT) designation into the bylaw.

Councillor Peters asked if the word “shall” in Section 21 can be changed to “may” as there may be instances where they have mental health issues and special considerations could be given.

The Solicitor stated that the word “may” grants discretion and you would have to worry about how it gets exercised. The word “shall” should be used and the matter does not have to be pursued if there are special considerations.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the proposed Bylaw proceed to second reading in accordance with the procedures set out in the Municipal Government Act of Nova Scotia.

Motion carried.

MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY – TAX EXEMPTION

It was regularly moved and seconded pursuant to Section 69 of the Municipal Government Act, that a property tax exemption in the amount of \$367.00 for the taxation year 2022-2023 be granted to a person whose property is assessed as taxable property in the Town of New Glasgow and is occupied by that person as their principal residence and whose total income for the calendar year 2021 from all sources, including the income of a spouse or partner and other family members

residing at the same property but excluding an allowance or pension paid pursuant to the War Veterans Allowance Act, is equal or less than \$21,850.00.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ACCOUNTS

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

Motion carried.

IN CAMERA RECOMMENDATIONS

Sale of PID00993502 – The CAO stated that it is the recommendation to Council that property known as PID 00993502 be sold to the adjacent property owner, Bernard O’Laney, following the Town’s Sale of Land Policy.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.