

**TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW**  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025**

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Dorrington, Councillors Peters, Fraser, Joe MacDonald, and McKenna. 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; Frank DeMont, Solicitor; Ross MacDonald, Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs Advisor; Ron Jones, President and Terry Cornet, Past President representing the New Glasgow Kinsmen Club; Dr. James Lees, John McMullin, Krystle Barclay, Rebecca Lees, and Susan MacIntosh; members of the Pictou County Historical Society. Absent from the meeting were Councillor Jessica MacDonald; Audrey Buchanan, Assistant Director of Engineering; and Derek Eisan, Director of IT.

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. We also recognize the African Nova Scotians whose culture, heritage, and history have been and remain a key part of our province for more than 400 years.

**AGENDA**

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

Motion carried.

## **PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **PRESENTATION TO NEW GLASGOW KINSMEN CLUB AND SIGNING OF PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Dicks signed a proclamation proclaiming February 20, 2025 as Kin Kindness Day and February 16-22, 2025, as Kin Canada Week.

Mayor Dicks presented the proclamation to Ron Jones and Terry Cornett, representatives of the Kinsmen Club of New Glasgow. Mayor Dicks expressed gratitude for their valuable contributions to our community and the many dedicated volunteers who support our youth.

Mayor Dicks acknowledged the passing of Wes Jones, who was a successful businessperson for many years in the Town and extended condolences to Ron Jones and family.

### **PRESENTATION BY PICTOU COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Dr. James Lees, along with fellow members of the Pictou County Historical Society (John McMullin, Krystle Barclay, Rebecca Lees and Susan MacIntosh), provided a brief overview of the organization's long-term strategic plan and vision for the next five years. The Society aims to redevelop the museum space through grant and donor funding to make the location more sustainable, while also adding office, storage, and conservation facilities. The Society requested funding support from the Town for a feasibility study and sustainability plan for the museum space.

Councillor Fraser extended appreciation for the work that is being done to bring awareness of the society. Councillor Fraser asked if there was any involvement/engagement with the local schools to promote the history of the Town.

Dr. Lees responded that the society is actively working to encourage engagement with school aged students, with a focus on the history of the Town.

Councillor McKenna inquired whether Dr. Lees believes it is an advantage or a disadvantage for the Town to own the Carmichael House Museum.

Dr. Lees replied that the Society views it as an advantage, noting that other similar institutions without a partnership with their Town would struggle to manage the associated costs of maintaining a museum.

Councillor Joe MacDonald asked if the Society had reached out to any other municipalities to offer a presentation.

Dr. Lees explained that one part of the Society's upcoming plans is to give more presentations to groups within Pictou County as well as other municipalities.

Councillor Joe MacDonald suggested that the Society give a presentation to the Mayors and Wardens Committee to promote future involvement.

Mayor Dicks thanked Dr. Lees for his attendance at the recent 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee meeting and is looking forward to the opportunities that were presented. Mayor Dicks also expressed a sincere thank you to Dr. Lees and the Board members for their dedication and the hard work involved in managing the Heritage Garden and all aspects of the Carmichael House Museum. She emphasized that the Town appreciates their efforts and hopes to continue being a supportive partner for many years to come.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the consent agenda including the Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of January 20, 2025 and proclamations for:

- i. Kin Kindness Day – February 20 and Kin Canada Week – February 18-24, 2025
- ii. International Mother Language Day – February 21, 2025
- iii. Amyloidosis Awareness Month – March 2025
- iv. International Women's Day – March 8, 2025

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

Motion carried.

### **REPORTS**

#### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

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

Motion carried.

### **ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

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

Mayor Dicks and council expressed their appreciation for the winter maintenance on the trail system throughout the Town.

Motion carried.

### **SOLID WASTE REPORT**

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

Motion carried.

### **POLICE REPORT**

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

Councillor McKenna expressed concern over the high number of domestic violence occurrences in the Town.

Chief Leil explained that the information in the police report underscores that the town is not immune to such incidents. The department currently has two subject matter experts in domestic violence, Sgt. Kelly Moore-Reid and Sgt. Claire Corkum, both of whom recently facilitated a training session for over 70 individuals from various organizations. The department remains committed to prioritizing domestic violence and will continue to share relevant data as it becomes available.

Mayor Dicks asked for an update regarding the Downtown Community Policing Officer.

Chief Leil advised that there has been positive feedback from the residents and business owners.

The department is developing initiatives and exploring ways to utilize resources and location as a community asset. A community launch will take place in the Spring/Summer to raise awareness of the resources available to residents and businesses in the downtown area. Relevant reporting data will be available in upcoming police reports.

Motion carried.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

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

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 INSECTION REPORT**

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

Motion carried.

#### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

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

Motion carried.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Human Resources and Corporate Communications Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

## **MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

### **FIRST READING – DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT APPLICATION – BELOVED HOMES AND RENTALS 211 NORTH AVENUE – PID 01006337**

A development agreement proposed by Sueann MacNeil/Beloved Homes was presented for the construction of two 4-unit residential buildings on 211 North Avenue, New Glasgow (PID: 01006337). Councillor Joe MacDonald requested a supplementary report on the development agreement application due to concerns raised by local residents of the area. Councillor MacDonald requested the report will address the lot elevation related to servicing, the easement size, and the power requirements for the development related to easement requirements so it can be brought before Council for further consideration.

Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ACCOUNTS**

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

Motion carried.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Motion carried.