

This month in KENTVILLE COUNCIL

The monthly municipal update from Kentville Nova Scotia



Lots of snow and lots of sledding at Burgher Hill this month!

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DEED TRANSFER TAX INFORMATION

WELCOME JEFF LAWRENCE

APPOINTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

BUDGETS!

ALL MOTIONS APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Kentville
A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

Each month, staff bring together the highlights from the month's Council meeting. On November 27, Council met and talked about a number of issues. Here are the highlights!

More Information About a Deed Transfer Tax

Staff presented a detailed report on deed transfer taxes in Nova Scotia and in Kentville. The report showed that Kentville is the only town in the province that does not collect this tax, the revenue of which could help support infrastructure, accessibility and other significant project. Council asked staff to bring more information about this tax to the March meeting of Council Advisory Committee meeting.

Welcome Jeff Lawrence

Kentville is proud to announce that our new Chief Administrator joined our team on January 29! Jeff Lawrence joined us from his previous term as CAO at the Town of Antigonish, and before that in Lac LaBiche.

Changes in Planning Department

Council approved the appointment of not one but TWO Development Officers through C+D Consulting, who are helping us with our planning services. Development services are getting caught up and will be greatly helped by these two able staff who are joining the team!

Budgets, budgets budgets!

Council reviewed and approved operating and capital budgets for Kings Transit Authority and Valley Regional Waste Management Authority. Kings Transit has an operating budget of \$3,836,948 and Kentville’s share of this cost is \$345,821. Valley Waste has an operating budget of \$6,859,565 and Kentville’s share of this cost is \$708,444. Meanwhile, town staff are working hard on Kentville’s operating and capital budgets. The 2024-2025 TOK capital will be presented to Council in February, and the operating budget will be presented in the coming months.

Legal Expense Reporting

Upon request, CAO Jeff Lawrence presented legal expenses to Council in a number of categories. Legal expenses fall into a number of categories, shown below:

Legal Fees by Category

Contracts (Leases, CAO recruitment)	\$ 6,143
General Governance (Council, policies, FOIPOP)	\$ 23,618
Labour (HR matters, code of conduct, terminations)	\$ 76,235
Legal Counsel Fees (Opinions general)	\$ 8,727
Litigation Costs (Court preparation, lawsuits, prosecution)	\$ 41,665
Regulatory Compliance (UARB, Bylaws, Appeals related to bylaws)	\$ 66,860
Total Legal Fees Expense from 01 April 2023 to Dec 31, 2023	\$ 223,248

Fire and Ice Festival!

There are SO MANY events and activities in the Fire and Ice Festival, we couldn’t possibly list them all here! Visit kentville.ca to see the full list!



FIRE & ICE

WINTER ACTIVITIES & HOT OFFERS IN KENTVILLE

- FEB
09

6PM: SLEDDING & HOT CHOCOLATE AT MEMORIAL PARK ♥

6:30PM: VALENTINE'S DINNER & DANCE AT KENTVILLE LEGION 🎟

7PM: MUSIC AT ST. JAMES CHURCH W/ ZAKARY MILLER & JESSE POTTER ♥
- FEB
10

8AM: LION'S CLUB BREAKFAST AT 78 RIVER STREET

11AM & 2PM CENTRESTAGE'S TWO DUMB DOGS (FAMILY-FRIENDLY) 🎟

1PM- 4PM BRILLIANT LABS POP-UP AT REC CENTRE ♥

2PM-3:30PM GRAPEVINE WREATH MAKING WITH BENJAMIN BRIDGE IN KENTVILLE'S PUBLIC GARDEN 🎟

4:10PM DISCO PUBLIC SKATE AT KENTVILLE ARENA ♥

8PM DEEP ROOTS DANCE AT MAIN STREET STATION 🎟

8PM CAPTAIN KEVIN DANCE PARTY AT KINGS ARMS PUB 🎟
- FEB
11

10AM: DOG MUSHING WORKSHOP & DEMO (PRE-REGISTER)

2PM: FAT BIKE RIDE AT THE GORGE WITH AVMBA LED BY BANKS BIKES ♥
- FEB
13

9AM-11AM BIRD WALK WITH SARAH FOOTE AT MINER'S MARSH

6:30PM TEA & TUNES AT THE KENTVILLE LIBRARY ♥

7PM IRISH SESSION BAND AT PADDYS
- FEB
14

FIND THE 'HEART OF DOWNTOWN' IN CENTRE SQUARE FOR A VALENTINE'S DAY PHOTO OP! ♥

VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIALS IN DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES

🎟 = PRE-PURCHASE TICKETS ♥ = FREE EVENT

Motions Passed

- That Council approve the attached Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$174,000, the Town of Kentville 10.23% share is \$17,800 of the Valley Regional Solid Waste Resource Management Authority Partnership.
- That Council approve the attached Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$553,000, the Town of Kentville 10.33% share is \$57,125 of the Valley Regional Solid Waste Resource Management Authority Partnership.
- That Council adopt the correspondence best practices, as presented.
- That Council approve the Sustainable Communities Challenge grant application in support of a two-year project “Climate Resilience Initiative: Natural Stormwater Management”
- And further that Council support the cost of the project at \$156,450 with \$124,000 coming from the SCC grant
- That Council give First Reading to the amendments of the Municipal Planning Strategy
And further schedule a public hearing prior to second reading on February 26, 2024.
- That Council support the Community Climate Capacity grant application.
- That Council direct the CAO provide support to the Heritage Committee request as detailed in the December 11 memo to Council.
- That Council direct the CAO to provide a recommendation on deed transfer tax and draft bylaw to CAC in March.
- That Council direct the CAO to implement the proposed legal expense report, and further provide quarterly reporting of legal expenses at CAC meetings
- That Council direct the CAO to prepare the Cornwallis Street Sign for loan to the Kentville Historical Society as discussed.
- That Council approve the attached Kings Transit 2024/25 Operational budget in the amount of \$3,836,948; and
Further that council approve the 2024/25 capital budget in the amount of \$5,630,000; and
Further that council approve the municipal operating grant in the amount of \$1,729,103, the Town of Kentville 20% share is \$345,821.
- That Council approve the attached Valley Waste 2024/25 Operational budget in the amount of \$6,859,565; and
Further that council approve the 2024/25 capital budget in the amount of \$1,545,000; and
Further that council approve the municipal contribution in the amount of \$6,859,565, the Town of Kentville 10.33% share is \$708,444.
- That Council appoint Fuki Asai and Raleigh Kings from C+D Planning Consultants as the Town of Kentville Active Development Officers.