

TOWN OF KENTVILLE KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL Meeting Minutes: May 27th, 2019

PRESENT

Mayor Sandra Snow, Deputy Mayor Cate Savage, Councillor John Andrew, Councillor Eric Bolland, Councillor Craig Gerrard, Councillor Cathy Maxwell, and Councillor Lynn Pulsifer.

Staff in attendance included Solicitor Geoff Muttart, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Mark Phillips and Recording Secretary Jennifer West.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Sandra Snow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and CAO Phillips reported that all members of Council were present, in addition to Solicitor Geoff Muttart.

Note: *“Points from Discussion” below show various comments made by individual councillors during debate. They do not necessarily represent the opinion of the group, nor do they always reflect accurate information.*

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

That the agenda of May 27th, 2019 be approved with the following additions:

- Addition of 4.b Kentville Historical Society Green Space Report
- Correction of “Presented by” from “Councillor Lynn Pulsifer” to “Councillor Cathy Maxwell”

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Minutes of Special Council meeting on April 11, 2019

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Minutes of Council meeting on April 29, 2019

MOTION CARRIED

(c) Minutes of Special Council meeting on May 6, 2019

MOTION CARRIED

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) Smoking Bylaw – Second Reading

CAO Phillips gave a review of the process of discussing and approving a new bylaw, and the proposed Town of Kentville Smoke Free Public Place bylaw.

Report available

- Points of Discussion
 - What are the plans for staff to create awareness about this change? Social media, signage, and police service.
 - Could staff send a notice to local schools? Newsletters, etc.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage and seconded by Councillor Lynn Pulsifer

That the existing by-law 84 – Smoke Free Public Places be rescinded and replaced with a revised by-law Chapter 99 Smoke Free Public Places. This revision will include expanded definitions covering Cannabis, public places and smoking to include vaping or other methods of inhaling substances.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

(b) Kentville Historical Society Green Space Proposal

CAO Phillips gave a review of the request by the Kentville Historical Society for a green space that would be designed and built by the society at no cost to the Town. The proposed park would be located at 66 Cornwallis St (Station Lane) on Town-owned land. There are no conflicts with surveys, infrastructure, and curbs, and minimal impacts to parking and traffic flow. The park will complement the upcoming active transportation plan.

Report available

- Points of Discussion
 - The traffic study may be impacted with the departure of the County of Kings, however when the Justice Department scales up traffic will increase again.
 - The asphalt will be removed and some gravel will be removed.
 - Will the Town require a bond and will a contract will be required? The work is not being carried out by the Town but in spirit will be done to our standards. It is possible to draft an agreement between the Town and the society.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Cathy Maxwell and seconded by Councillor Eric Bolland

That Council approve the Kentville Historical Society’s proposal to develop a green space in the north parking lot following the recommendations and guidelines in the attached report.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

5. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Council Advisory Committee

Councillor Cathy Maxwell presented the following recommendations from the Council Advisory Committee:

(1) Recommendation – 2019-2020 Interest Rates for Overdue Accounts

At the May 13th, 2019 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell presented her report on interest rates for 2019-2020. Failure to collect taxes can impact revenue and financial stability and appropriate interest rates ensure that outstanding payments are paid when due. The recommended interest rate is within industry standard range.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Cathy Maxwell and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

That the interest rate on outstanding accounts for the Town of Kentville remain at 2% per month, or part thereof (26.8% per annum) for the year April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

(2) Recommendation – Flood Preparedness and Response Plan

At the May 13th, 2019 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Dan Stovel, Coordinator of the Kings Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO), gave a presentation about the draft flood preparedness and response plan in the event of a major flood. Flooding and road closures can have a significant impact however with coordinated risk assessment and strategic planning, response can be more efficient and reduce injuries and property damage. He requested that council review and approve this plan, which is being reviewed by all municipal partners of the Kings REMO.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Cathy Maxwell and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

That Council approve the attached Flood Preparedness and Response Plan from the Kings Regional Emergency Management Organization.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

(3) Recommendation – Kentville Wildcats Baseball Club

At the May 13th, 2019 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Sandy and Margaret VanBlarcom gave a presentation regarding the status and sustainability of the club. The Club requested a one-time grant or in-kind support from council to support the team's operations for this year.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Cathy Maxwell and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

That Council approve the funding request from the Kentville Senior Wildcats Baseball Club for a grant of \$2875.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

(4) Recommendation – Recreation Complex in Kentville

At the May 13th, 2019 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Jeff Zettler, Kentville resident and business owner, gave a presentation regarding the idea of building a recreation complex in the Town. The 8-person committee believes that many people would enjoy a wellness complex that provides different recreation spaces and could also host a variety of significant recreation events.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Cathy Maxwell and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

That council support in principle a request from a group of Kentville citizens for a community recreation complex and provide Town recreation staff for support.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

- Discussion
 - A recent newspaper article stated that the Kentville arena needs to be replaced and this statement does not reflect the status of the arena.

(5) Ice Resurfacer

The ice resurfacer at the Kentville Centennial Arena is used daily from 8am to midnight from September through to March. In 2018-2019, the resurfacer was out of service three times costing additional lost revenue through cancelled ice rental times. Parks and Recreation issued a tender for new ice resurfacer on May 8, 2019 with a closing date of May 17.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Cathy Maxwell and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

That council approve the purchase of an ice resurfacer from Saunders Equipment for \$104,200.00 from the 2019-2020 Capital Budget.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

- Discussion
 - What kind of warranty comes with these vehicles?

(b) Councillor's Reports

(1) Councillor John Andrew

Councillor Andrew presented his report on his activities over the past month. Highlights included the regional and provincial Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) meeting of mayors and councils, Kings Transit meetings, National Day of Mourning, meeting with municipal affairs representative, and Kentville Historical Society grand opening.

Report available

(2) Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

Deputy Mayor Savage presented her report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included the NSFM regional meeting and provincial meetings, the Valley Regional Enterprise Network (REN), investment committee meeting, opening of the Kentville Farmers Market, presentation of an award to Constable Angie McQuaid.

Report available

(3) Councillor Eric Bolland

Councillor Bolland presented his report on his activities over the past month. Highlights included a Valley Waste meeting, NSFM spring workshop, the opening of the Kentville Historical Society and Town of Kentville budget meetings.

Report available

(4) Councillor Cathy Maxwell

Councillor Maxwell presented her report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included the Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition meetings, Town budget meetings, police service award presentation, Kings County Academy parent teacher academy, and the pet expo at the Kentville arena.

Report available

(5) Councillor Lynn Pulsifer

Councillor Pulsifer presented her report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included the regional NSFM at the Kings County municipal building, water commission meeting, Town budget meetings, provincial NSFM in Truro, Kentville Police service award presentation, the unveiling of a statue of Abraham Gesner and the opening of the Kentville Heritage Centre.

Report available

(6) Councillor Craig Gerrard

Councillor Gerrard presented his report on his activities over the past month. Highlights included the Kentville water commission meetings, Town budget meetings, a NS Association of Police Governance meeting, Valley Waste, Kentville Police collective bargaining meetings, and the upcoming webinar on Police budgets and community safety.

Report available

(c) Mayor Sandra Snow

Mayor Snow presented her report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included the Valley REN meeting, Police union negotiations, NSFAM spring workshop, National Day of Mourning for workers injured or killed in the workplace, NSFAM regional meeting, opening of the Kentville Farmers Market, opening game of the Kentville Wildcats Seniors, and the water commission. The Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee (LOC) discussed the strategic plan and the intermunicipal service agreement.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Lynn Pulsifer and seconded by Councillor John Andrew

That the reports from Council and the Mayor be accepted as presented

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Town of Kentville Operating Budget

Director Crowell gave a presentation highlighting the proposed 2019-2020 operating budget. The budget reflects the vision and goal statements developed by Council and its residents and is one of the most important tasks undertaken by council each year. The proposed plan is a balanced budget of \$13,265,000, an increase of 3.1% over last year. The draft Town of Kentville Operating Budget was presented to Council at public meetings on May 6 and May 7, 2019. During these meetings, it was moved that Council recommend the draft 2019-2020 Town of Kentville Operating Budget in the amount of \$13,265,000.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councillor Lynn Pulsifer

That Council approve the draft 2019-2020 Town of Kentville Operating Budget in the amount of \$13,265,000.

And further, that Council approve the following proposed tax rates from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020: residential rate 1.53 and ³/₄ cents, and commercial rate of 3.52 and 2/5 cents.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

- Discussion
 - Is there an opportunity to revisit the grants to organization budget process? This policy was discussed at a meeting, and grants have some flexibility to approval.

(b) Recommendation – Town of Kentville Capital Budget

Director Crowell gave a presentation of the highlights of the 2019-2020 Capital Investment Plan. In order for the Town's various departments to carry out their specific mandates, the Town must acquire and maintain a variety of infrastructure. Capital infrastructure must be safe, reliable, and meet the needs of the department to provide efficient and effective service delivery to the Town's residential and corporate citizens. The draft Capital Investment Plan was presented to council at a public budget meeting on May 2, 2019. During this meeting, it was moved that council recommend the draft 2019-2020 Capital Budget in the amount of \$2,438,500.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor John Andrew and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

That Council approve the draft 2019-2020 Town of Kentville Capital Budget in the amount of \$2,438,500.

And further that Council approve the future years 2020-2021 to 2023-2024 in principle (along with related funding sources as noted) as follows:

2020-2021: \$1,669,500
2021-2022: \$2,252,500
2022-2023: \$2,341,500
2023-2024: \$1,736,200

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow

- Discussion
 - How did the sign relocation increase from \$16k to \$40k? The costs of reinstating the sign has several unknowns.
 - Why are we required to approve in principle future budgets? This is a legislated requirement to keep the flow of gas tax funding flowing.
 - Burke Subdivision infrastructure has been delayed again. Why? This is a large project in the \$1,000,000 range. We expect a larger gas tax allotment and this could push the Burke project into this years budget.
 - What is the Park Street west project and why is it a priority over Burke? This is the sidewalk from Toyota to Bonavista.
 - Are there revenue sources to offset the skatepark project? Funding has been 50 cents on the dollar for the entire project, however with this last phase there is no offset. The County of Kings supports this project, however this phase is heavy on the Town's finances.
 - *CAO Phillips gives appreciation to Director Crowell and her leadership for the delivery of these budgets.*

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

9. IN CAMERA

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage and seconded by Councillor Eric Bolland

That the May 27th 2019 meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED
Adjourned at 8:56 p.m.