



TOWN OF KENTVILLE KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL Meeting Minutes: February 24, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Sandra Snow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Acting Chief Administrative Office (CAO) Debra Crowell reported that all members of Council were present except Councillor Cate Savage: Mayor Sandra Snow, Deputy Mayor Craig Gerrard, Councillor John Andrew, Councillor Eric Bolland, Councillor Cathy Maxwell, and Councillor Pulsifer.

Staff in attendance included Acting Chief Administrative Officer Debra Crowell, Solicitor Geoff Muttart, and Recording Secretary Jennifer West.

REGRETS

Councillor Cate Savage

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

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.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Geraldine Hickman of the New Horizons Seniors Club gave a short presentation about the social club for seniors aged 70-90 which meets for cards, bingo, carpet bowling and painting in the Kentville Recreation Centre.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved that the agenda of February 24, 2020 be approved with the change below:

- Deletion: Legal. 4.c Kentville Business Park Covenants

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Minutes of Council meeting on January 27, 2020

It was moved that the minutes of Council meeting on January 27, 2020 be approved

MOTION CARRIED

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) Appointment of Returning Officer

Acting CAO Crowell presented the report on the appointment of a Returning Officer for the Town of Kentville for the October 2020 municipal elections.

Report Available

Points of Discussion

- Suggestion that the upcoming election have more attention to poorly positioned and poorly placed election signs.
- Is there a cost for the Returning Officer? Yes, it is part of the elections costs and is in the 2020-2021 budget.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor John Andrew and Councillor Lynn Pulsifer

That Council appoint Mr. Al Kingsbury as the Returning Officer for the Town of Kentville for the 2020 municipal election.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(b) Calkin Building Price Adjustment

Acting CAO Crowell presented the report outlining the background of the sale of the Calkin Building, and the recommendation to reduce the sale price.

Report Available

Points of Discussion

- Other smaller buildings on the same block sold for much higher than the proposed sale price of the Calkin Building. There are concerns that the price reduction may not be in the best interest of the Town.
- The second floor of the Calkin Building has a significant impact on the proposed price reduction.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Eric Bolland and Councillor John Andrew

That the list price on the Calkin Building at 2 Webster Street be reduced to \$250,000 in order to expediate the sale of the property;

And further, that should the Calkin Building remain on the market beyond March 31, 2020, that Council approve a budget allocation for the hiring of a professional property management company to take over the operation of the property until it does sell.

MOTION FAILED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion: Andrew, Bolland and Snow

Councillors who voted against this motion: Gerrard, Maxwell and Pulsifer

(c) Deleted from Agenda

5. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Council Advisory Committee

Councillor Eric Bolland presented the following recommendations from the Council Advisory Committee:

(1) Recommendation – Sundry Accounts Receivable Write Offs

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell presented her report outlining the need to write off a sundry receivable account in the amount of \$563.94 which has been outstanding since September 2018. The account has been sent to the external collection agency.

Report available

Points of Discussion

- There are concerns about the source of this debt and chance of recovery.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval of the write-off the sundry receivable account as attached in the amount of \$563.94.

MOTION FAILED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:

Pulsifer and Snow

Councillors who voted against this motion:

Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard and Maxwell

(2) Recommendation – Withdrawal Equipment Reserve (Draw #1)

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell presented her report outlining the need to withdraw funds from the Town’s Capital Equipment Reserve to support the purchase of various equipment. These purchases require a resolution of Council to withdraw funds.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval the withdrawal of \$31,945.53 from the Town of Kentville Capital Equipment Reserve to partially fund 2019-2020 transportation equipment acquisitions.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:

Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer and Snow

(3) Recommendation – Withdrawal Capital Reserve

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell presented her report outlining the need to withdraw funds from the Town’s Capital Reserve to support several projects. Several projects are complete or partially complete and require a resolution of Council to withdraw funds.

Report available

Points of Discussion

- The cancelled dyke project needs to capitalize the amount of money which has already been spent.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Eric Bolland and seconded by Deputy Mayor Craig Gerrard

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval the withdrawal of \$299,898.48 from the following reserves:

- 1. Town of Kentville Capital Reserve – General Allocation - \$232,054.20**
- 2. Town of Kentville Capital Reserve Recreation - \$67,844.28**

To partially fund several capital acquisitions and one addition during the year 2019-2020.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(4) Recommendation – Tax Exemption – Section 69, 2020/2021

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell presented her report on partial tax exemptions to property owners meeting certain requirements. Council must pass a resolution annually setting the maximum exemption and the income ceiling. In general, the Town sets the income ceiling to the maximum Old Age Security, and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) paid to a married couple.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval of the resolution for Low Income Tax Exemption for the 2020/2021 year at the February 24, 2020 Council meeting:

- Exemption Amount: \$256 to \$544**
- Income Ceiling: \$27,619**
- Deadline for applications: June 30, 2020**

MOTION CARRIED

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

(5) Recommendation – Pre-Approval for Pick Up Trucks

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Bell presented the recommendation for tendering the purchase of two pick-up trucks at \$80,000 from the 2020-2021 budget.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval \$80,000 for purchase of two Pick-Up Trucks in fiscal 2020/2021 for tenders in early March and payment in April on delivery.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(6) Recommendation – Street Closure – Crescent Avenue

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Gentleman presented her report outlining the need to close a portion of Crescent Avenue to facilitate renovations and changes to property lines at the site. A policy was developed that facilitates the permanent closure of a portion of this street.

Report available

Points of Discussion

- Solicitor Muttart confirmed that a public announcement has been posted, and that neighbours of the property have been contacted regarding this closure.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Eric Bolland and seconded by Deputy Mayor Craig Gerrard

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval the attached policy to close a portion of Crescent Avenue.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(7) Recommendation – Approval of Street Names – MacDougal Heights

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Gentleman presented her report her report describing the street names proposed by Parsons Development for the MacDougal Heights community, according to Policy Statement G67 Recognition of Community Contributions.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Eric Bolland and seconded by Deputy Mayor Craig Gerrard

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval the proposed street names Mount Allison Place and Mount Vincent Drive for the MacDougal Heights community to be approved at the February 24, 2020 Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

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

Councillors who voted against this motion: Bolland

(8) Recommendation – Kentville Business Community Special Projects Request

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Mayor Snow reviewed the report submitted by the Kentville Business Community outlining the request for the remaining \$4,909 of the Town’s 2019-2020 special project funding for this organization.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council Advisory Committee recommend for approval the allocation of the remaining \$4,909 of the 2019-2020 budget special projects funding to KBC to procure a portable stage.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(9) Recommendation – Anti Violence in the Workplace

At the February 10, 2020 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, CAO Kelly Rice introduced a draft policy titled “Anti-Violence in the Workplace”, which is required by provincial law in every workplace, and will support a safe work environment for staff and Council.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councillor John Andrew

Council Advisory Committee recommends approval of the attached Anti-Violence in the Workplace Policy Statement G72.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(b) Councillor’s Reports

(1) Councillor John Andrew

Councillor Andrew presented a verbal report on his activities over the past month. Councillor Andrew indicated that he would not submit monthly reports to avoid divisive discussions. Highlights included the Regional Fire Services equipment and training to improve services, and the cost of a new truck (around \$950,000). Kings Transit has ordered three 10-metre long buses and is working on a long-term transportation strategy. Kings Point to Point has opted not to participate in strategic discussions with Kings Transit. Kentville’s Accessibility Committee has launched and has excellent potential.

No report available

Points of Discussion

- Councillor Pulsifer responded that Kings Point to Point is still considering possibilities to collaborate with Kings Transit.

(2) Deputy Mayor Craig Gerrard

Deputy Mayor Gerrard presented his report on his activities over the past month. Highlights included the review of the Police Act, updated training for Boards, Valley Waste Resource Management, strategic workshop, and the Board of Police Commission meeting.

Report available

(3) Councillor Eric Bolland

Councillor Bolland presented his report on his activities over the past month. Highlights included the lead testing programs discussed at the Source Water Protection Advisory Group. Councillors are invited to the upcoming Joint Committee Meeting for Valley Waste in Berwick.

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 meeting, National Flag Day, the retirement party for Russell Ferris, and the Kings County Academy viewing of Screenagers.

Report available

(5) Councillor Lynn Pulsifer

Councillor Pulsifer presented her report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included the Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings, Annapolis Valley Regional Library, Kentville Water Commission, doctor recruitment celebration, and Kings Point to Point.

Report available

(6) Councillor Cate Savage (absent)

(c) Mayor Sandra Snow

Mayor Snow presented her report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included meetings with the Valley Regional Enterprise Network, strategic planning, Municipal Finance Committee Board meeting, Investment Advisory Committee, the Kentville Water Commission, interview with Ian Fairclough, branding with Flower Cart Group, Regional Entrepreneurial Acceleration Program, the Status of Women dinner and the Mentoring Plus Funding Announcement.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Lynn Pulsifer and seconded by Deputy Mayor Craig Gerrard

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 and Snow

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Support for Epilepsy Month

Acting CAO Crowell read the letter from the Epilepsy Association of the Maritimes and their request for Council to support Purple Day on March 26, 2020.

Letter available

7. NEW BUSINESS

(a) None.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(a) None.

9. IN CAMERA

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councillor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councillor John Andrew
That the February 24, 2020 meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED