

# TOWN OF KENTVILLE

## COVID-19 PROTOCOL MEETING

### MEETING MINUTES

#### April 14, 2020

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Snow called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m., and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Kelly Rice reported the following members of Council and staff were present:

#### PRESENT

Council:

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

Staff:

- Kelly Rice, Chief Administrative Officer
- Geoff Muttart, Solicitor
- Jennifer West, Recording Secretary
- Jason Bethune, IT Manager

#### REGRETS

None.

#### 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.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved that the agenda of April 14, 2020 be approved with the following changes:

- Change, Title change to COVID-19 protocol
- Addition, 7.c. Kentville Trail

#### MOTION CARRIED

#### 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Council Advisory Committee meeting minutes of March 9, 2020

- Deletion, Police Chief Julia Cecchetto was not present at the meeting and should be removed from the minutes
- Change, item 8.c “Motion Failed” should be changed to “Motion Amended”.

#### MOTION CARRIED

(b) Council meeting minutes of March 30, 2020

- Change, item 5.a.5. Add to discussion points: “There are no future funding requests and no future budgets implications”

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **(a) Finance**

##### **(1) Director’s Report**

Mayor Snow received the report for the period ending March 31, 2020.

*See report for more information*

##### **(2) Projection Report**

Mayor Snow received the projection report for the period ending March 31, 2020.

*See report for more information*

#### **(b) Planning and Development**

##### **(1) Director’s Report**

Mayor Snow received the Planning report for March 2020.

*See report for more information*

##### **(2) Community Economic Development Coordinator’s Report**

Mayor Snow received the CEDC report for March 2020.

*See report for more information*

- Points of Discussion:
  - The group who expressed interest in organizing the Pumpkin Walk in Miners Marsh feel it is not feasible to take on this event, based on the amount of work and the event is weather dependent so is difficult to plan.

#### **(c) Parks and Recreation**

##### **(1) Director’s Report**

Mayor Snow received the Parks and Recreation report for March 2020.

*See report for more information*

#### **(d) Engineering and Public Works**

##### **(1) Director’s Report**

Mayor Snow received the Engineering and Public Works report for March 2020.

*See report for more information*

#### **(e) Administration**

##### **(1) Communication Report**

Mayor Snow received the Communications report for March 2020.

*See report for more information*

## **(2) Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

Mayor Snow received the CAO's report for March 2020.

*See report for more information*

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

**That the reports from the directors be received.**

### **MOTION CARRIED**

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

## **6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**(a) None**

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**(b) COVID-19**

The Mayor stated that there will be an ongoing collection of correspondence and other documents related to COVID-19, including deferred agenda items, on the Sharepoint Drive for Council's review (accessible by Council).

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

**(a) Valley Waste Proposed 2020/2021 Budget**

Mayor Snow reviewed the proposed 2020/2021 budget for Valley Waste.

*See report for more information*

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

**That Council approve the Valley Region Solid Waste Resource Management Authority 2020/2021 operational budget of \$9,714,115 of which \$611,184 is the Town of Kentville's 9.97% share.**

### **MOTION CARRIED**

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

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

**That Council approve the Valley Region Solid Waste Resource Management Authority 2020/2021 capital budget of \$1,478,750 of which \$147,431 is the Town of Kentville's 9.97% share.**

### **MOTION CARRIED**

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

**(b) River Street Dedication**

Mayor Snow reviewed this report which states portions of River Street, though open for vehicular and pedestrian traffic, have never been officially accepted by Council in accordance

with section 308(3) of the Municipal Government Act. The street meets municipal standards and specifications as confirmed in the Town Engineer's report (attached).

*See report for more information*

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

**That Council dedicate River Street as per the resolution below:**

WHEREAS Council approved the opening of Parcel TK-1A as an extension of River Street;

AND WHEREAS the Town Engineer has reported to Council that the portion of River Street constructed over Parcel TK-1A satisfies the specifications adopted by the Town for the construction of streets and is ready for use;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council confirms that Parcel TK-1A is opened as a public street in the Town of Kentville, and said street parcel is described as follows:

ALL THAT parcel comprised of the following two parts: Part 1:

Place Name: TOWN OF KENTVILLE, KINGS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA

Town/Municipality/County: TOWN OF KENTVILLE

Designation of Parcel on Plan: PARCEL TK-1

Title of Plan: SUBDIVISION OF LAND OF CP RAIL LOT C.P.-1, LOT C.P.-2 & PAREL T.K.-1 AT TOWN OF KENTVILLE, COUNTY OF KING, PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA, PREPARED BY FRANK LONGSTAFF, N.S.I.S. # 279, DATED APRIL 4, 1996

Registration County: KINGS COUNTY Registration Number of Plan: 82025132

Registration Date of Plan: MAY 25, 2005

AND Part 2:

Place Name: KENTVILLE, KINGS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA

Town/Municipality/County: TOWN OF KENTVILLE Designation of Parcel on Plan: PARCEL A

Title of Plan: PLAN OF SURVEY SHOWING PARCEL A SUBDIVISION OF LAND OF KINGS RIVERSIDE COURT RESIDENCIES LIMITED TO BE AN ADDITION TO PARCEL TK-1 LANDS OF TOWN OF KENTVILLE TO FORM PARCEL TK-1A and remainder LOT KRC-1A

Registration County: KINGS COUNTY Registration Number of Plan: 108412819

Registration Date of Plan: JANUARY 20, 2016

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow*

**(c) Kentville Trail**

Councillor Maxwell indicated that some citizens would like to see the trail opened for public use. She suggests that social distancing would be easier on a trail than on a sidewalk, and therefore trails should be a safer location for recreation and physical activity. She would not advocate the opening of Miners Marsh because social distancing would not be possible in most of that trail.

- Points of Discussion
  - There are some who support this action, to allow for physical activity and there are some who do not support this in support of Provincial health directives and protocols.

- Councillor Pulsifer indicated many Rail Trails have remained opened in the Annapolis Valley.
- Trails may support maintaining social distancing because of their width, however some sidewalks are more narrow.
- Kentville Police and staff have indicated that people are congregating on the trails.
- Discussion about how Council should listen to health experts' advice. The disease may be slowed or stopped by listening to the advice of health professional and keeping the trail closed.
- The Town has more density and more health services and Council should be very mindful of reopening the trail which will bring more people into Town.
- Opening the trail may indicate that the Town is not heeding Provincial directives and protocols.
- Travelling to a neighbouring community to walk is not essential, and Council should make the right decision to keep the trails closed and avoid this activity.
- The decision to close the trail was not taken lightly. Senior staff from all municipalities in the Valley agreed to close all of their trails. After this meeting, some municipalities chose to reopen their trails. When trails were opened, many people gathered and did not follow social distancing.
- Senior staff continue to support the decision to keep the trail closed. The decision to keep the trail closed is to protect all residents, not just the walkers.
- There are more than 30 km of sidewalks in Kentville whereas the trail is only 7.5km.
- If Council opens the trail, the perception would be that Kentville is relaxing restrictions not in line with the Province.
- Some suggest that there is fear to change the decision, and not accountability to adjust to a better decision. Residents' mental and physical health are being disregarded by the decision to keep the trail closed.
- The pandemic may last a long time- discussion about when trails might be reopened.
- Could the communications team create some recommendations about sidewalk etiquette? Yes, this is in progress.
- Concern about the residents of Bonavista Estates who have limited sidewalk paths to walk on.
- Council is not qualified to make broad decisions around health and safety, and should be mindful of their role. Council decisions must be made that respects the Provincial directives and protocols in place.

Point of Order 1:

- Councillor Maxwell interrupted Deputy Mayor Gerrard while he had the floor to speak
- *Councillor Savage called Point of Order on Councillor Maxwell*

Point of Order 2:

- Councillor Andrew made inappropriate statements about Councillor Maxwell's conduct **spoke out of turn with regards to Councillor Maxwell's comments.**
- *Councillor Savage called Point of Order on Councillor Andrew.*

It was moved by Councillor Cathy Maxwell and seconded by Councillor Lynn Pulsifer

**That Council directs the CAO to direct the Recreation Director to open the Kentville section of the Harvest Moon trail and further, to block trail head parking lots and put up signs reminding residents about COVID-19 precautions.**

**MOTION FAILED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Maxwell, and Pulsifer*

*Councillors who voted against this motion:*

*Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Savage and Snow*

**9. IN CAMERA**

It was moved by Councillor Craig Gerrard and seconded by Councillor Cate Savage

**That Council proceed to a closed session at 5:17 pm**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Savage, Pulsifer and Snow*

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

**That Council return to open session at 5:56 pm**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Andrew, Bolland, Gerrard, Maxwell, Pulsifer, Savage and Snow*

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**That Council adjourns.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Adjournment at 5:57 p.m.**