

TOWN OF KENTVILLE

COVID-19 PROTOCOL MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Snow called the meeting to order at 4:00 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 May 11, 2020 be approved with the following changes:

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Council Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 27, 2020

MOTION CARRIED

4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Finance

(1) Director's Report

Mayor Snow received the report for the period ending April 30, 2020.

See report for more information

(b) Planning and Development

(1) Director's Report

Mayor Snow received the Planning report for April 2020.

See report for more information

- Points of Discussion:
 - How many units will be added to the Parsons Green? Still proceeding with the original proposal.

(2) Community Economic Development Coordinator's Report

Mayor Snow received the CEDC report for April 2020.

See report for more information

- Points of Discussion:
 - What is the status of the public green space beside Kings Arms Pub? We are waiting for the budget to be completed and passed, then it will be completed.

(c) Parks and Recreation

(1) Director's Report

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

See report for more information

- Points of Discussion:
 - What are the surveys for the recreation programs? Staff will be gathering information about what recreation programs the public is using and what the public would like to see more of.
 - Want to remind people not to block paths by gathering at entrances during this pandemic.
 - The recreation team is preparing new signage to make the Miners marsh trail one-way only to improve flow of foot traffic.

(d) Engineering and Public Works

(1) Director's Report

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

See report for more information

(e) Administration

(1) Communication Report

Mayor Snow received the Communications report for April 2020.

See report for more information

(2) Chief Administrative Officer's Report

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

See report for more information

- Points of Discussion:

- Is there an update on the unsightly premises list? Staff has been reviewing this file and are launching a dangerous and unsightly committee (internal).
- What is the status on the Calkin building? There is an interested buyer

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

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. NEW BUSINESS

(a) COVID-19 Property Tax Financing Plan Policy

CAO Rice reviewed the proposed COVID-19 Property Tax Financing Plan Policy. The province is proposing a one-time property taxation financing program to municipal units, which permits the Town to borrow from the Province of Nova Scotia for its operating needs.

See report for more information

- Points of Discussion:
 - Recommend that the Town does not participate in the Property Tax Financing Plan Policy.
 - Staff suggest dealing with cashflow challenges internally on a case-by-case basis, and not through a policy. There have been no calls yet from residents or businesses about inability to pay their taxes.
 - Some support for a Kentville policy to support tax relief.
 - The intent is that the total amount of interest would be added to the principle over 24 payments, with no allowable defaults.

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

That Council direct the CAO and the Finance Department to draft the Town of Kentville Covid-19 Property Tax Installment Payment Plan for initial review by legal and further for review and approval by Council to include the general criteria listed in the attached report.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(b) Accessibility Committee Statement of Commitment

Mayor Snow reviewed this report which describes the legislated requirement for the Town of Kentville's Accessibility Committee to develop a Statement of Commitment that Council could support.

See report for more information

- Points of Discussion

- The committee is moving ahead through online meetings with great ideas, conversation and input from the committee and from the public. The Town is positioning itself to become the leader around accessibility in the province.

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

That Council adopt the Statement of Commitment around accessibility in the Town of Kentville.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(c) Provincial Flood Risk Assessment Grant

Mayor Snow reviewed the report which described the legislated requirement for Council to make a motion that supports proceeding with this provincial grant application with a regional collaboration.

- Points of Discussion
 - Council wants to ensure that staff review the 2013 flood mitigation study.
 - In the previous budget, the River Street Dyke project was not approved but this is a different project.
 - This project will not be included in the 2020-2021 budget.

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

That Council approve the Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program (FRIIP) grant application.

MOTION CARRIED

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

9. IN CAMERA

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

That Council adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment at 4:42 p.m.