



TOWN OF KENTVILLE KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL COVID-19 PROTOCOL Meeting Minutes: May 25, 2020

This meeting was held via electronic means in accordance with the Direction from Minister Chuck Porter: "Effective at 2 pm on March 22, 2020, all municipal councils will discontinue holding their meetings in person, instead only virtual meetings may be held by video or telephone. Those virtual meetings must be recorded, and the minutes posted on a public website within 24 hours of the meeting."

Town Hall is closed to the public. Council voted by poll.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Sandra Snow called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m due to technical difficulties getting signed on to Facebook Live.

PRESENT

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

Staff in attendance included Chief Administrative Officer Kelly Rice, Solicitor Geoff Muttart, Director Beverly Gentleman, IT Manager Jason Bethune and Recording Secretary Jennifer West.

REGRETS

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor John Andrew declared a conflict of interest regarding discussion and decisions about 118 Oakdene Avenue.

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

It was moved that the agenda of May 25, 2020 be approved as presented

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Minutes of Council meeting on May 11, 2020

It was moved that the minutes of Council meeting on May 11, 2020 be approved as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED

4. PRESENTATION

(a) Valley Community Learning Association Request for 118 Oakdene Avenue

Peter Gillis, Executive Director of the Valley Community Learning Association gave a presentation about the interest from his organization in moving their operations to the property at 118 Oakdene Avenue (currently owned by Open Arms Society). Councillor Andrew withdrew from the presentation as a Conflict of Interest, by shutting off his audio and video. He remained present in the Zoom meeting.

Presentation Available

- **Points of Discussion**

- What is the funding source for VCLA? 90% government funding.
- Would most of the activities take place during the day or would there be evening traffic? Largely daytime, occasional evening classes.

5. REZONING APPLICATION

(a) Stoneridge Properties

Director Gentleman gave a presentation about the request to rezone the Stoneridge Property lands (PID) #55290241 from one and two-unit dwellings (R2) to medium density residential (R3).

Report Available

- **Points of Discussion**

- What are the implications to stormwater management? There will be a stormwater management plan developed for this property.
- Is the site plan approval similar to a development agreement? A site plan is developed between owner and staff through the response from the public. A development agreement allows the Town to deal with more issues.
- What is the effect on the condition of Prospect Avenue? Would the street have to be enlarged to accommodate more traffic? This will not change the designation of the street.
- What are the impacts of the density increase in that area? There is room for a sidewalk on one side. This tax base would support new sidewalk infrastructure. The developer will incur the cost of new sewer infrastructure.
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RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council give first reading of the Stoneridge request for rezoning of PID55290241 from 1- and 2-unit dwellings (R2) to medium density residential (R3) zone, and further that Council hold a virtual public hearing on June 17, 2020 at 4:30pm.

MOTION CARRIED

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

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

(a) Councillor's Reports

(1) Councillor John Andrew

Councillor Andrew gave a verbal report on his activities over the past month.

(2) Deputy Mayor Craig Gerrard

Deputy Mayor Gerrard gave a verbal report - there were no committee meetings scheduled since the last Council meeting.

(3) Councillor Eric Bolland

Mayor Snow received Councillor Bolland's report on his activities over the past month. Highlights included Chrysalis House sod turning and Valley Waste. A summer student will be doing research on waste in the Valley.

Report available

(4) Councillor Cathy Maxwell

Mayor Snow received Councillor Maxwell's report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included an update from the Annapolis Valley Trail Coalition.

Report available

(5) Councillor Lynn Pulsifer

Mayor Snow received Councillor Pulsifer's report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included meetings with Kings Point to Point, Accessibility Advisory Committee, and Mentoring Plus.

Report available

(6) Councillor Cate Savage

Mayor Snow received Councillor Savage's report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included meeting with the Investment Advisory Committee, Regional Sewer Committee, and Town budget meetings.

Report available

(c) Mayor Sandra Snow

Mayor Snow submitted her report on her activities over the past month. Highlights included the weekly Mayors meetings, regional discussions with the Province and Federal Government, and the Kentville Business Community.

Report available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

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

7. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Public Garden Request – Joey Murphy – May 20, 2020

CAO Rice read the letter from local restaurant and café owner Joey Murphy. He is requesting that the Town suspend development of the Public Garden adjacent to his establishment to provide him with more space for outdoor dining and take out during the Covid-19 social distancing protocols.

Letter available

- **Points of Discussion**

- Council should consider supporting commercial businesses to succeed through this pandemic.
- Mr. Murphy will take over responsibility for the property.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the concept of use of public space to increase commercial space in principle.

MOTION CARRIED

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

8. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Valley Community Learning Association Request

Councillor Andrew leaves the meeting due to a stated conflict of interest. Councillor Andrew withdrew from the discussion as a Conflict of Interest, by shutting off his audio and video, he remained in the Zoom meeting.

Mayor Snow reviewed the letter to Council outlining the VCLA interest in developing the property at 118 Oakdene Avenue in Kentville to support this organizations programs.

Report Available

- **Points of Discussion**

- Is this a zoning change or a development agreement? It would be an MPS and LUB site specific amendment. This is not a zoning change, but it would be an agreement with this group.
- The building offers many opportunities for this organization.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve consideration and support of the necessary changes to the Land Use Bylaw and the Municipal Planning Strategy to facilitate the Valley Community Learning Association move of the adult learning centre to 118 Oakdene Avenue.

MOTION CARRIED

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

Councillor Andrew returns to the meeting

(b) Request for Amendment to Special Events Bylaw

Mayor Snow reviewed the requests to amend the Special Events Bylaw, submitted by Jessica Healey. Ms. Healy would like to add 5 more special events annually (currently the Bylaw permits 15 events). If this is not permitted, she would like to move 5 events cancelled due to COVID-19 from 2020 to 2021. Finally, she would like to notify neighbours once a season rather than each event.

Report Available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve an amendment to the Special Events Bylaw to carry over 5 2020 COVID-19 cancelled events to 2021, And further that Council refer the request to amend the Bylaw for 20 events per year and one notification per season, to staff for a report detailing the effect on the neighbourhood and any remaining concerns.

- **Points of Discussion**

- What would the “detailed report” include? Noise, traffic, calls to police, and other concerns from the surrounding neighbours. Have these concerns been addressed or are there still concerns in that neighbourhood?
- This is an amendment to a bylaw and must be advertised and given first and second reading. There could be several amendments to this bylaw.
- A public hearing would also be helpful in this request for the community.
- Would there be any impacts from the Stoneridge development to this property? There would be no impacts.
- This bylaw applies to all venues, if any there are any additional venues. Amendment to the bylaw will require first and second reading, public announcement and public hearing.
- The wording of Covid-19 should be used in the preamble but not in the bylaw itself. The bylaw could be amended to show an increase in special events in 2021 and a reduction in number of events thereafter.

AMENDMENT

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

That Council approve an amendment to the Special Events Bylaw to permit 20 events in 2021. And further that Council refer the request to amend the Bylaw for 20 events per year and one notification per season, to staff for a report detailing the effect on the neighbourhood and any remaining concerns.

MOTION CARRIED

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

- The amendment to the bylaw is going to provoke public discussion and engagement.

Councillor Savage leaves the meeting

Councillor Savage returns to the meeting

- Discussion about 1-2 amendments to the Special Events Bylaw
- Council can make this change but the new Council in October may change it back. It is not a contractual agreement with this property owner. If there are problems in the fall, the new Council could change the bylaw again.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve an amendment to the Special Events Bylaw to permit 20 events in 2021. And further that Council refer the request to amend the Bylaw for 20 events per year and one notification per season, to staff for a report detailing the effect on the neighbourhood and any remaining concerns.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(c) Police Commission 2020-2021 Budget Report

Deputy Mayor Gerrard presented the Town of Kentville 2020-2021 Police Commission approved budgets and service delivery changes to Council for approval.

Report Available

- **Points of Discussion**

- There have been discussions around 2-tier police service, which includes cadets. There are several new officers which are covering services in the short term. This has brought cost savings to the Town and to KPS.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the addition of one (1) General Investigative Services (GIS) Officer to the Kentville Police Service.

MOTION CARRIED

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

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

That Council approve the reduction of one crossing guard at the Kings County Academy School.

MOTION FAILED

- Councillor Maxwell states that she felt under attack during the Council Operational budget meeting regarding the discussion of this recommendation from the Police Commission. This was upsetting to her and could have been disappointing to Commission members who made this decision.
- There may need to be more discussion to support cost savings for the Police Commission. Discussions with the Police Commissions could result in greater cost savings.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the Kentville Police Service Capital Budget for 2020-2021.

MOTION CARRIED

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

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the Kentville Police Service Operational Budget for 2020-2021.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(d) Town of Kentville 2020-2021 Water Commission Budget Report

Mayor Snow presented the Town of Kentville 2020-2021 Water Commission approved budget report.

Report Available

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council accept the Town of Kentville Water Commission 2020-2021 Budget Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(e) Town of Kentville 2020-2021 Operating Budget Report

Mayor Snow reviewed the Town of Kentville 2020-2021 Operating Budget report which was initially presented to Council for review and recommendation to Council on May 20, 2020.

Report Available

- **Points of Discussion**

- Is it possible to have a legal page included with this budget? This will be included in later drafts.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the draft 2020-2021 Town of Kentville Operating Budget in the amount of \$13,480,600

And further that Council approve the proposed tax rate for 1 April, 2020 to 31 March, 2021 of residential \$1.53 and $\frac{3}{4}$ cents and the commercial rate of \$3.51 and $\frac{2}{5}$ cents.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(f) Town of Kentville Sanitary Sewers 2020-2021 Capital Budget and Operating Budget Reports

Mayor Snow reviewed the Town of Kentville Sanitary Sewers 2020-2021 Operating and Capital Budget reports. The budgets were initially presented to Council on May 19 and 20, 2020, respectively for review and recommendation to Council.

Report Available

- **Points of Discussion**

- If there are changes to the expenditures side, they will be nominal.
- Should there be any increases, additional funds can come from the sewer operating reserve.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the Kentville Sanitary Sewer Area Service Operating Budget 2020-2021 as follows:

Revenue of \$1,285,100 with expenditures of \$1,283,400, leaving a surplus of \$3,700.

MOTION CARRIED

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

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the Kentville Sanitary Sewer Area Service Capital Budget 2020-2021 in the amount of \$235,300 including its funding sources.

MOTION CARRIED

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

(g) Request for Decision: Downtown Summertime Social Distancing

Mayor Snow reviewed the request for decision regarding rebalancing the public sidewalks and streets to promote social distancing in the downtown during the summer, from June to October 2020.

Report Available

- **Points of Discussion**

- This is progressive a plan that adapts to the new normal. It may be well received by residents and business owners this summer and may be a good idea long term as well.
- A study was completed several years ago to investigate a permanent closure of Aberdeen Street, this should be reviewed by staff.
- There is one business for furniture that may require a curbside drop off and pick up.
- There is a pedestrian only street in Halifax that allows drop offs and pick ups.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

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

That Council approve the concept of creating more space principle and refer to staff for a report on implementation in June.

MOTION CARRIED

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

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(a) Joey Murphy (via email)

Gratitude for Council decision to expand public space.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

That the May 25, 2020 meeting of Council be adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED