



TOWN OF KENTVILLE COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes: April 20, 2021

Town Hall, 354 Main Street, Kentville, Nova Scotia, B4N 1K6

This meeting was held in Town Hall and virtually using Zoom. It was livestreamed on Facebook and posted to YouTube with closed captioning after the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Sandra Snow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Council:

- Mayor Sandra Snow
- Deputy Mayor Cate Savage
- Councillor Craig Gerrard
- Councillor Paula Huntley
- Councillor Cathy Maxwell
- Councillor Gillian Yorke
- Councillor Andrew Zebian

Staff:

- Dan Troke, Chief Administrative Officer
- Rachel Bedingfield, Director of Parks and Recreation
- David Bell, Director of Engineering
- Debra Crowell, Director of Finance
- Beverly Gentleman, Director of Planning
- Jason Bethune, IT Manager
- Jennifer West, Recording Secretary

REGRETS

None.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

Note: "Points from Discussion" below show 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 by Councillor Paula Huntley, and seconded by Councillor Andrew Zebian

That the agenda of the Special Meeting of Council on April 20, 2021 be approved.

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MOTION CARRIED

3. BUDGET PRESENTATION

(a) Capital Program 2021-2022 Projects

Director Crowell reviewed the draft of the proposed capital budget for the Town of Kentville, inviting questions at the end of the presentation.

Presentation Available

GAS TAX PROGRAM \$450,000

Funding (prior year and current year) from gas tax payments.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE \$154,000

Funding to support active transportation projects.

- **Points of Discussion**

- What is the West Main Street pathway? This is the crosswalk and path at the intersection near the Ultramar.

ADMINISTRATION \$20,000

Funding for IT projects.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES \$118,200

Funding from operations (\$50,000), reserve (\$68,200).

TRANSPORTATION (YEARLY PROJECTS) \$425,000

Funding from reserves (\$175,000) and borrowing (\$250,000).

TRANSPORTATION (Flood Mitigation) \$40,000

TRANSPORTATION (Sidewalks) \$100,000

- **Points of Discussion**

- Clarification of where these sidewalks are. Near Headliners and Ultramar.

TRANSPORTATION (STORM SEWER) \$330,000

Funding from reserves borrowing.

- **Points of Discussion**

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- Clarification of borrowing amortization of ten years.

TRANSPORTATION (STUDY) \$25,000

Funding from reserves.

Summary of Transportation

- **Points of Discussion**

- The asset management study is Town-wide. It is a requirement that this study be completed for the Town.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT \$54,500

Funding from reserves.

- **Points of Discussion**

- Clarification of number of benches downtown.

RECREATION (SOCCER) \$8,000

Funding from reserves.

RECREATION (FACILITIES) \$41,500

Funding from reserves.

- **Points of Discussion**

- Clarification of building improvements funding sources.

RECREATION (PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS) \$408,000

Funding from reserves (\$65,000) and borrowing (\$343,000).

- **Points of Discussion**

- Clarification of outdoor gathering spaces infrastructure.
- Clarification of dog park collaboration with the Village of New Minas.

RECREATION (EQUIPMENT) \$87,000

Funding from reserves.

RECREATION (STUDIES) \$15,000

Funding from reserve to support the Ravine Trail.

Review of future projects and funding sources, debt service ratio, per capita debt, debt affordability.

Summary of the Capital Investment Program:

- **Points of Discussion**

- Note that the Federal budget may have an impact on the Capital Budget. These are incremental changes to the budget that may come back to Council.
- This budget is a base case for Council's information.
- Discussion of the rebranding of the gas tax. There is no change to the calculation, but there may be a top up in the near future.
- Clarification about strategic planning in the coming months.

Councillor Feedback and Discussion:

- Suggestion that if more federal grants become available, that funding support acceleration of the existing plans (AT and accessibility).
- Support for active transportation, accessibility plan implementation and asset management. Support for Centre Square improvements and involvement of arts community.
- Concerns about the cost of the loader, the police station signage and the cost of benches.
- Concerns about the state of downtown sidewalks.
- Concerns about exterior restoration at Town Hall.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Paula Huntley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

That Council approve the second draft of the 2021-2022 Capital Budget in the amount of \$2,135,100.

To be ratified at the April 26, 2021 meeting of Council

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:

Gerrard, Huntley, Maxwell, Savage, Yorke, Zebian and Snow

4. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councillor Paula Huntley

That the April 20, 2021 meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED