

**Beautification Committee Meeting
April 10, 2018
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Chair, Councillor A. Murray
Councillor M. Farrell
A. Arnold
D. Geldart
L. Jewkes
D. Kyle
O. Landry

Absent with Regrets

Deputy Mayor D. Roberts
David Miller

Also Present

Special Projects Coordinator, S. Scannell
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order

Councillor A. Murray, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM and welcomed everyone.

Approval of Agenda

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda as presented."

Approval of Minutes

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Minutes of the February 13, 2018 meeting with amendments." Motion carried.

Business from Minutes

- Tree Committee Report
 - Date for Meeting with A. Williams Re: Town of Truro Tree Program
- Councillor A. Murray noted that A. Williams will be in Town this Thursday, April 12th at 1:00 PM at the Department of Natural Resources office.

D. Geldart noted that at their last meeting the focus was on soils, and that they are hoping to do soil samples.

At 5:05 PM Deputy Mayor D. Roberts joined the meeting.

In response to a query from O. Landry, S. Scannell noted that the Gardener did follow recommendations from the tree sub-committee and has carried out pruning, as well as low branches that may have been a hinderance.

- 2018/19 Budget Preparations – Ranking Results and Initial Estimates
- S. Scannell advised that the that the Urban Forest Management Plan, the hiring of a summer student and Planter Box Replacement will be included as part of the proposed budget. He noted he requested staff to cost a 17-week placement for a student.

The Committee was advised that S. Scannell had applied for a 'green grant' for a student, but the funding was not successful.

S. Scannell advised that funding toward the Urban Forest Management Plan was added as a line item for the upcoming budget, as well as a stipend for a GIS student to begin tree inventory (\$300) and soil samples (\$500), along with new tree stock (\$800).

S. Scannell advised that he had begun working on a quote for planter box replacement, and that one of the new Syrian family members was able to provide a quote for the planter box replacement. It was noted that CACL had been approached, however they are swamped. 4-H was also approached however he did not receive any uptake. He noted he is now working with the single quote from the Syrian resident.

The Committee was advised that \$3,000 was also included for Christmas décor. S. Scannell noted he had submitted the proposed budget to the CAO who will review it during budget deliberations.

O. Landry requested S. Scannell go back to the 'green grant' in an effort to determine what would fit under that title. Discussion ensued. It was agreed to wordsmith the application next year as a 'green management plan'.

The Chair suggested the Town keep in mind the young lady who used to work at Pleasant Valley Nurseries in mind for future hiring, as she has a great deal of experience.

S. Scannell noted he had included an increase for some costs based on costs from last year (mainly MMI).

S. Scannell noted that the watering costs appear to be lower than last year. He expanded on the details of the contract and payment plan.

It was noted that the proposed budget includes an increase of approximately \$13,000. over last year. S. Scannell noted that once the budget is finalized the Committee can go back and review the 'wish list'.

New Business

- New Town Flower (Discussion)

The Chair noted that he had lost a large number of lilies last year, with A. Arnold noting it was the Asiatic Iris. The Chair questioned whether the Committee would consider utilizing an Iris as a Town flower and expanded on details.

Discussion took place on various types of lilies that would result in a longer blooming season. She noted the Town has had a limited selection of lilies, depending on what the local stores carry. She expanded further on various species of Irises and noted there hasn't been a concerted effort to add additional varieties of lilies.

Discussion took place, and it was noted that the idea of a lily was discussed many years ago.

Deputy Mayor D. Roberts stated she has day lilies and loves them. It was generally agreed to further investigate various species of lilies.

Councillor M. Farrell stated any planting should be encouraged.

- Removal of Greenery

Councillor A. Murray advised he had attempted to remove some greenery from the planters, and that it would have to wait until they have thawed.

It was generally agreed to go around a bit later this Spring.

Councillor M. Farrell spoke to the Waste Committee utilizing a town-owned truck, and questioned whether this committee could also have access to the truck.

At 5:33 PM it was Moved and Seconded that the meeting be adjourned.