

**Regular Council Meeting
February 27, 2017
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor L. Boucher
Deputy Mayor W. Cormier
Councillor M. Farrell
Councillor D. MacInnis
Councillor J. MacPherson
Councillor D. Roberts

Also Present

CAO J. Lawrence
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

Absent

Councillor A. Murray

Delegates and Media

Call to Order

Mayor L. Boucher called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.”

Approval of Agenda

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda with three additions.” Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Minutes of the January 16, 2016 (Regular Council), January 16, 2017 (In Camera Council), February 26, 2017 (Email Poll), February 22, 2017 (Special Council), and February 22, 2017 (In Camera Council).” Motion carried.

Presentations

- Recognition of Mr. P. MacDonald
Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair of the Town’s Waste Management Committee, called on Mr. P. MacDonald to come forward. Mayor L. Boucher expressed appreciation and presented him with an award of recognition and a small gift in acknowledgement of his commitment to environmental sustainability.

Waste Reduction Coordinator, Ms. N. Haverkort also thanked Mr. P. MacDonald and presented a gift.

Mr. P. MacDonald thanked Council and then left the meeting.

- Ms. E. MacDonald & M. D. Tebrinski

The Mayor acknowledged correspondence received from the delegates.

Ms. D Tebrinski and Ms. E. MacDonald confirmed that water quality has been rectified, and Council was advised that they have once again made a request for reimbursement for items listed in their correspondence to Council. The delegates provided comments on the matter to Council.

Mayor L. Boucher called for questions from Council. Deputy Mayor W. Cormier spoke briefly on the matter. Brief discussion took place with Ms. D. Tebrinski noting that she assumed that when she was speaking with S. Brophy that other staff were being made aware.

At 6:20 PM the Mayor thanked the delegates for their attendance and assured them that they would have a response by the next Council meeting.

- Antigonish Heritage Museum; Ms. J. Gillis

Balance Sheet to the end of January were distributed to Council. Ms. J. Gillis noted she was appointed as speaker to appeal the decision of Council with regard to the decrease to the Antigonish Heritage Museum's previous grant, and spoke to the impact on the Museum. She spoke to various aspects of the Museum where funding is key. She thanked Council on behalf of the Board.

Mayor L. Boucher called for questions from Council. Brief discussion took place on partnership funding and Ms. J. Gillis confirmed that they did have to make cut-backs due to the decrease in funding.

Business from Minutes

- Accessibility Committee Terms of Reference

CAO J. Lawrence noted that the Mayor, Ms. T. Cameron and Ms. S. Scannell came up with the Terms of Reference and process. He then spoke to the proposed make-up of the committee.

Deputy Mayor W. Cormier questioned whether this would have an impact on the Capital budget. Brief discussion ensued.

"It was Moved and Seconded to accept the Accessibility Committee Terms of Reference as presented." Motion carried.

New Business

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference; June 1-4, Ottawa, ON
The Mayor questioned whether any Councillors were interested in attending, and spoke to the policy. Deputy Mayor W. Cormier provided his expression in attending. Councillor D. Roberts requested time to consider the matter. Councillor M. Farrell also expressed an interest in attending.

- Appointment to RCMP Advisory Board
“It was Moved and Seconded to appoint Councillor D. Roberts to the RCMP Advisory Board.” Motion carried.
- Temporary Borrowing Resolution; Spring Debenture
CAO J. Lawrence noted the items included in the Borrowing Resolution, and advised that municipal debentures can only be taken out once a project has been completed.

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution for the 2017 Spring Debenture in the amount of Two million one hundred seventy thousand Dollars (\$2,170,000).” Motion carried.

- Grants Program
S. Scannell noted he was here to speak to the Community Grants Program. He noted that the recommendations were coming out of a review of the current program. S. Scannell stated they continued to try to make improvements the programs.

For the benefit of Council, S. Scannell went through the four (4) recommendations and spoke to discretionary versus non-discretionary funds. Various scenarios of different organizations were briefly reviewed. Discussion ensued. Brief discussion took place on Community Transit.

S. Scannell provided comment on how making the proposed changes could impact the overall ask as a whole. Council was advised that it was also recommended that the funds for grants be capped at 3% of tax revenue. Discussion ensued.

It was noted that in the past too much onus was put on staff to determine grant levels. The proposal would now see Council evaluate the applications and determine the levels of funding. S. Scannell spoke to the appeals process as proposed.

At 7:10 PM S. Scannell concluded his presentation.

“It was Moved and Seconded to accept the recommendations with respect to community grants as presented.” Motion carried.

Meeting Date; April Council Meeting

- “It was Moved and Seconded to move the April meeting to April 24th, 2017.” Motion carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Staff Reports

- CAO Report
“It was Moved and Seconded to accept the CAO Report as presented.” Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Special Council Meeting

“It was Moved and Seconded that council authorize the Town to fund the 2015-16 deficit of \$69,710. from the Operating Reserve.” Motion carried.

- Waste Management

Councillor J. MacPherson advised that the Waste meeting scheduled for February was moved to March due to inclement weather.

- Police & License Committee

Councillor D. Roberts spoke to a presentation given at a recent Police & License Committee.

“It was Moved and Seconded that Council direct staff to initiate a pilot project on a crosswalk, and crosswalk flag on Hawthorne Street and further that \$200 be allocated from this year’s budget.” Motion carried.

- Planning and Building Inspection Department

“It was Moved and Seconded that Council appoint Mr. B. Poirier, Canadian Registered Building Officer (CRBO) Level II of ITC Associates, to provide interim review, issuance of building permits, and permit related inspections for the Town of Antigonish.” Motion carried.

- Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee

“It was Moved and Seconded that the Town participate in the 2017 Communities in Bloom Canada 150 Non-competitive program.” Motion carried.

“It was Moved and Seconded that Council have the Town Engineer direct the Electric Utility investigate to have the banner arms and light standard plug ins tested and repaired.” With there being no seconder the motion was defeated.

Add Recreation Under Committee Reports

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the appointment of Ms. C. Henderson, Ms. K. MacGillivray, and Ms. K. Sutherland to the Recreation Committee.” Motion carried.

Adjournment

“With there being no further business it was Moved and Seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM and go to In Camera Council.” Motion carried.