

**Public Hearings and Regular Town Council
June 19, 2017
Town Council Chambers**

Present

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

Also Present

CAO J. Lawrence
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
S. Rector, Corporate Services

Delegates
Media

Call to Order

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

Mayor L. Boucher apprised those in attendance of an accessibility challenge held earlier in the day.

Approval of Agenda

“It was Moved and Seconded that the Agenda be approved as presented.” Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Minutes of May 15, 2017 Regular and In Camera Council, May 23, 2017 EPoll Re: PCAP funding, June 6, 2017 EPoll Re: Wreath Prototypes, and June 13, 2017 EPoll Re: PCAP funding.” Motion carried.

Public Hearings

Mayor L. Boucher outlined the role of Council and the process that would be following during the public hearings, and called on Ms. B. Nheiley, Planner, to begin the Hearings.

- **Commercial Periphery Amendment**

B. Nheiley, Town Planner noted she would speak to the highlights of the proposed amendment to the Commercial Periphery zone and form-based Code. She noted these ideas came from observations from staff and comments from the public.

Ms. B. Nheiley expanded on what form based code is, and demonstrated an existing form based code building recently constructed within the Town. She noted form-based development would appeal to developers, budding entrepreneurs, students, individuals, families and empty-nesters seeking flexible housing options.

Those in attendance were advised that the main features of Form-based Code are uses and architecture, and works on an assumption that the types of uses that go in to those spaces are

based on the architecture of the site. She then spoke to existing requirement for commercial based properties to have commercial services on the bottom and facing the street. The proposed amendment would also allow residential development, having active development while maintaining their infrastructure.

It was noted that three districts are being proposed: the Downtown, James Street, and East Main Street. In all areas this change would not impact on any existing uses, which can continue, but would allow the market to respond to what is needed.

Mayor L. Boucher called for questions from the public. Various members of the public asked questions and provided comment. Ms. B. Nheiley responded in turn.

At 6:56 PM the public hearing on the proposed amendment closed.

“It was Moved and Seconded to amend the commercial periphery zone.” Motion carried.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor provided their comments on the Commercial Periphery Zone.

- 116 Church Street Rezoning

B. Nheiley noted the approximate location of 116 Church Street and provided details regarding the lot, noting it met the conditions for an R2 zone. She then noted various sections of Planning documents that need to be considered.

Mayor L. Boucher called for questions from the public, which were responded to by Ms. B. Nheiley.

Mayor L. Boucher called three times for any additional questions.

“It was Moved and Seconded to give second and final reading to rezone 116 Church Street from R1 (Residential First Density) to R2 (Residential Second Density) zoning.” Motion carried.

At 7:40 PM the meeting was recessed. At 7:48 the meeting reconvened.

Mayor L. Boucher reiterated the Policy regarding a public hearing.

- 52 Victoria Street

B. Nheiley noted the owner of 52 Victoria Street was also seeking a rezoning to R2, and would have to meet the same requirements as the previous rezoning request. She noted an error in her original report and that she had misunderstood the previous development. She then went through the 9 points that need to be considered when considering a rezoning.

Those in attendance were provided with details on the Town’s policies with respect to the floodway and ways to mitigate flooding.

B. Nheiley noted no complaints had been received, that the proposal does not impact heritage housing, has limited impact on neighborhood, and meets the Town’s Vision Statement by providing more housing options.

Mayor L. Boucher called on the owner of the property who provided brief comment. She then requested members of the public pose their questions, with follow-up responses provided by B. Nheiley.

Mayor L. Boucher called 3 times for questions. In response to a request from Mayor L. Boucher, the owner of the property located at 52 Victoria Street provided his comments. Additional comments were provided from members of the public.

“It was Moved and Seconded to rezone 52 Victoria Street from R1 (Residential First Density) to R2 (Residential Second Density).” Motion defeated.

Discussion took place.

With there being no further business, the public hearings closed.

Presentations

- Comments Re: CAO J. Lawrence

Mayor L. Boucher took the opportunity acknowledge that CAO J. Lawrence had recently attended the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators in Ottawa, where he received a pin in recognition of his 20 years in municipal administration. The Mayor and Council congratulated him. Mayor L. Boucher provided background details on J. Lawrence’s past experience, and once again congratulated him.

- Mr. K. Farrell Re: Laneway to Club 60

Mr. K. Farrell was in attendance to speak to and request Council consider having the laneway into the Club 60 building renamed in honor of the late Frank McGibbon. He provided background information on Mr. McGibbon and his accomplishments.

Mayor L. Boucher thanked Mr. K. Farrell for his heartfelt presentation.

Various Councillors provided comments on Mr. Farrell’s presentation.

“It was Moved and Seconded that the laneway to Club 60 be named McGibbon Lane.” Motion carried. Discussion ensued.

Business from Minutes

- St. Martha’s Regional Hospital

“It was Moved and Seconded to make a pledge to St. Martha’s Hospital in the amount of \$350,000 to be paid over 10 years.” Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor W. Cormier noted that this is the second large donation the Town has made to St. Martha’s fundraising efforts and referred to a previous donation of \$400,000. Mayor L. Boucher provided clarification to Councillor D. Roberts on when the pledge would be made.

New Business

- Ratification of 2017-18 Budget

Mayor L. Boucher vacated the Chair and the Deputy Mayor took to the Chair.

Resolution 2017-06-17 Re: 2017-18 Budget

It was "Moved and Seconded

WHEREAS the Town of Antigonish estimates the amount of \$9,853,182.35 as necessary expenditures for the lawful purposes of general Town operations, and revenue, other than taxation revenues in the amount of \$4,702,127.77 for the year 2017-18;

AND WHEREAS the net amount required to be raised by taxation is in the amount of \$5,151,054.58;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the tax rate to be set for 2017-18 at the rate of \$1.06 for Residential and Resource and \$2.58 for Commercial properties per \$100.00 of taxable assessment; and a Fire Levy of \$0.026 per \$100.00 of assessment.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the due date for 2017-18 taxes to be paid to the Town of Antigonish be July 31, 2017;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the interest charged on taxes be set at 9% per annum on the taxes outstanding after the aforesaid due date of July 31, 2017." Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor W. Cormier noted residential and commercial taxes are remaining the same, however a Fire Levy has now been introduced. Jeff, university residences exempted. Brief discussion ensued. Jeff expanded on how the levy is used.

Mayor L. Boucher put forth the following resolution:

Resolution 2017-18A Re: 2017-18 Waste Management Collection

It was "Moved and Seconded

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Antigonish that the Waste Management Collection charge for 2017-18 be established as \$289.57 per equivalent unit;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the due date for 2017-18 charges to be paid to the Town of Antigonish be July 31, 2017;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the interest charged on charges be set at 9% per annum on the amounts outstanding after the aforesaid due date of July 31, 2017." Motion carried.

- Draft Statements

S. Rector provided a brief overview on the Draft Statements.

- Appointment to Antigonish Community Transit

Mayor L. Boucher provided details on why Council is making an appointment to the Antigonish Community Transit Committee.

After calling three times for nominations, the following motion was put forth:

"It was Moved and Seconded to appoint Councillor J. MacPherson to the Antigonish Community Transit Committee.

- Proclamation Re: Canada 150 Community Leaders Network

Mayor L. Boucher read and signed the Canada 150 Community Leaders Network Proclamation.

- Sympathy and Gifts Policy

Deputy Clerk D. Wilson noted that the Sympathy and Gifts Policy needed to be amended to allow the CAO to provide a sympathy gift to others who may not fit into the current categories, and spoke to the recent death of Warden Boucher.

“It was Moved and Seconded to amend the Sympathy and Gifts Policy as presented.” Motion carried.

- Advisory Committee Policy

Deputy Clerk D. Wilson noted the Advisory Committee Policy needed to be amended to include the recently created Accessibility Advisory Committee.

“It was Moved and Seconded to amend the Advisory Committee Policy as presented.” Motion carried.

- Accessibility Advisory Committee Policy

The Deputy Clerk noted the Accessibility Advisory Committee was in need of a couple of housekeeping amendments.

“It was Moved and Seconded to amend the Accessibility Advisory Committee Policy as presented.” Motion carried.

- Ratification and Public Works Union Agreement

S. Rector, Director of Corporate Services, spoke to recent meetings which resulted in an agreement to ratify a new Public Works Union Agreement. She then spoke to specific details.

“It was Moved and Seconded to ratify the Public Works Union Agreement as presented.” Motion carried.

- Appointment to Land Rehabilitation and Beautification (Beautification) Committee

Mayor L. Boucher noted that Ms. D. Kyle had responded to an advertisement seeking new membership for the Beautification Committee.

“It was Moved and Seconded to appoint Ms. D. Kyle to the Beautification Committee.” Motion carried.

Correspondence

- Request for Use of Dome Tent

Mayor L. Boucher noted that she had received a request for use of the Town’s dome tent during a fundraiser for St. Martha’s Hospital, and provided further particulars on the request. Discussion followed.

Mayor L. Boucher noted she had sought out information regarding the request. Deputy Mayor W. Cormier noted he was in favor of the request and spoke to specific conditions that should be attached.

Councillor M. Farrell questioned whether this result in similar requests from other organizations. It was noted the cost for rental of the tent is \$5,000., and that there is a policy in place for the rental of the tent.

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the loan of the dome tent subject to the organization meeting specific requirements.” Motion carried.

Staff Reports

- CAO Report

Various Councillors provided comment on the CAO Report.

Councillor A. Murray provided positive comment on the activities of the Recreation Director.

Mayor L. Boucher noted she travelled to Ellershouse Windfarm with a group of Coady students who were working on a project, and provided comment on the trip, which two (2) staff members also attended. She further noted the students were very grateful for the trip.

“It was moved and seconded to accept the CAO Report as presented.” Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Recreation Report

Councillor M. Farrell reported on various activities being undertaken by the Recreation Department, noting they are working toward gathering information relative to putting in a bid for Seniors 55+ Games. She further noted details related to Canada Day and the Antigonish Art Fair are being worked on, and that Ms. E. Stephenson is working on funding for an accessibility ramp entrance for Town Hall.

- Accessibility Committee

Councillor D. MacInnis noted that he is Chair of the new created Accessibility Committee, which recently met for first time. He noted there appears to be a great wealth of knowledge amongst the members.

- Police & License Committee

Councillor D. Roberts reported on matters discussed at a recent Police & License meeting. She noted the Town is seeking sponsors for the crosswalk flag program.

- Canada Day/Beautification Committees

Councillor A. Murray reported that Beautification projects are coming along well, noting some flowers have put up and more will go up soon, contingent on arms going on lamp posts. He referred to an Accessibility challenge held earlier in the day.

Councillor A. Murray noted plans for Canada Day are coming along very well, and the struggle to get 50 dancers and choir members, and further noted they are still on budget.

- RCMP Advisory Board

Councillor J. MacPherson reported on matters from the RCMP Advisory Board, noting that for the month of July, the RCMP will be focusing on seat belts. Discussion ensued on membership on this Committee.

- Waste Management

Councillor J. MacPherson noted that this Saturday the Town would be sponsoring a clean-up of the downtown, and he would like all of council attend, noting that Council Chambers and the washrooms would be open.

Deputy Mayor W. Cormier spoke briefly to loud mufflers

- Fire Committee

Deputy Mayor W. Cormier noted that the new pumper tanker should be arriving in August.

- Planning Advisory Committee

Mayor L. Boucher reported on matters being discussed at the Planning level, and referred to the public hearings held earlier.

At 9:50 PM it was moved and seconded to adjourn