

**Public Hearings and Regular Town Council
October 15, 2018
Town Council Chambers**

Present

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

Also Present

D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
M. Barkhouse, Director of Corporate Services
S. Scannell, Special Projects Coordinator
K. Gorman, Marketing and Communications

Media

Absent with Regret

Councillor W. Cormier
CAO J. Lawrence

Call to Order

Mayor L. Boucher called the public hearings and Council meeting to order at 6:01 PM and welcomed everyone.

Public Hearings

- Proposed Development Agreement 62 The Heights
Planner, P. Dec of the Eastern District Planning Commission (EDPC) welcomed everyone to the meeting noting he would be providing specific details related to the proposed development agreement.

P. Dec noted the Agreement would be between the owners of 62 The Heights and the Town for a medical massage therapy. He noted this is a temporary solution as the operator hopes to establish itself in the downtown within 24 months.

Details were provided on the square footage of the proposed practice of approximately 400 square feet. A map showing the location was presented.

Council was then presented with the policies that lead the Planner to believe a development agreement was required, and the specific policy related to a chiropractor, and the criteria needed to enter into a development agreement.

Considerations were given to meeting the Antigonish Vision Statement, Municipal Planning Strategy as well as the impact on the neighborhood.

Parking as proposed in the initial review was presented, although parking provisions are required, however it was not felt that this type of business would require 4 parking spaces, therefore required parking was reduced to requiring two (2) parking spaces. It was noted that

Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) suggested that the owners arrange their own parking layout, without 'Schedule B' (schematic of parking) with a requirement to designate two parking spaces for the massage practice."

P. Dec noted that it is somewhat unusual to receive letters of support, however, in this case 9 letters of support were received for this project.

In response to a query from Councillor D. MacInnis, it was noted that the business owner has not requested permanent signage.

In response to a question from Mayor L. Boucher on the parking signs, P. Dec noted that with the removal of Schedule 'B' from the development agreement, the parking signs and demarking would not be required.

B. Landry of The Heights, noted he is not against the proposed business, but feels the signage for parking, as previously presented, would not fit in with the neighborhood. He then provided comment on this being a rental space that is being let as a business.

"It was Moved and seconded to accept the proposed development agreement details as presented." Motion carried.

In response to a query from the proposed practitioner, M. Barkhouse agreed to look into approximately how much the property taxes would increase, and noted any increase would only be relative to the amount of space used.

- Amendments to the Taxi Cab By-law

S. Scannell advised he was in attendance to present amendments to the Taxi-cab Bylaw, which were mostly vehicle considerations, changes to the application process, and safety of the drivers and passengers.

"It was Moved and Seconded to accept the proposed amendments to the Taxi-cab Bylaw as presented." Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda as amended." Motion carried

Approval of Minutes

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the September 17, 2018 Regular and In Camera Council meetings and September 19th and 20th Email Polls." Motion carried.

Welcome and Introductions

Mayor L. Boucher welcomed Ms. K. Gorman as the Town's new Marketing and Communications employee and expressed her delight in having her join the Town. K. Gorman introduced herself and provided a background on her employment history. She noted that currently she is focusing mostly on internal matters.

Presentation

- Eastern Strait Region Enterprise Network (ESREN) Connector Program (M. Berrigan)

M. Berrigan introduced himself and provided an overview of the Connector Program. He noted the follower are the targeted groups: Recent Immigrants, New/Upcoming Graduates and Boomerangs. Council was advised that currently Nova Scotia Strait Campus (NSSC) and St.

FX University can refer people to the Connector program, and that a business or community leader can also make referrals.

M. Berrigan noted further requirements for program approval may include assistance with profession resumes, professional English or French skills and interpersonal skills, and noted where they may be referred to for further assistance. Council was then taken through the referral process, what makes a great referral, program benefit and outcomes, and some frequently answered questions.

Council was advised that currently there are 36 of these programs running, which began in Halifax and which is now an international program.

The floor was then opened up for questions. M. Berrigan responded to a query from Deputy Mayor D. Roberts, noting he would look forward to her connections with new Syrian community members.

Business from Minutes

- Homecoming

Mayor L. Boucher noted that events surrounding Homecoming were much improved from last year. She noted Staff Sgt. McBeath and St. Martha's Hospital both reported improvements over last year.

Council was advised that following homecoming last year a working group was formed, including the Antigonish Landlord Association, and all helped in keeping the lines of communication open. She noted that the RCMP had zero tolerance for open liquor, large parties, and noise violations. She noted further that Bylaw staff took the opportunity to reach out to areas where problems may be.

The Mayor then called on comments from Council. Deputy Mayor D. Roberts questioned whether the university would be interested in assisting with overtime costs associated with Homecoming. Discussion took place.

Mayor L. Boucher noted that there would be a follow-up meeting regarding Homecoming.

- **Order to Remedy P.I.D. #1295096 Re: Section 346 of the Municipal Government Act**

"It was Moved and Seconded that as prescribed under Section 346 of the Municipal Government Act, Dangerous or Unsightly Premises – Order to Remedy Condition, that Council order the owner of Property Identification #1295096 to remove: 1. The large advertising sign, post and cement bumpers. 2. The former entrance sign and post on the west side of the property and 3. The former exit sign and post." Motion carried.

New Business

- Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) Resolution Priorities

"It was Moved and Seconded that Council advise the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities that they prioritize the following five (5) resolutions:

- 1 Extender Producer Responsibility #6
2. Cannabis
3. Municipal Modernization
4. Municipal Funding
5. Sustainability and Infrastructure Support

“It was Moved and Seconded that Council advise the NSFM of their priorities from the list of resolutions.” Motion carried.

- Motion to Amend the Municipal Fee Structure Policy

S. Scannell noted that changes to the Municipal Fee Structure Policy are related to changes proposed to the Taxi By-law, which included an increase to the driver and business licenses. He noted the increase goes from \$25.00 to \$30.00

“It was Moved and Seconded to amend the Municipal Fee Structure Policy as proposed.” Motion carried.

- Pop Up Poster

S. Scannell presented a Pop-Up Poster with created with assistance from K. Gorman, noting he wanted to share the pop-up details. He noted that K. Gorman has also been involved with ongoing changes to website etc, related to the MPS/LUB review, and noted recent stakeholder meetings which have been held.

- Interim Appointments to the Antigonish Arena Association

Mayor L. Boucher noted that this is interim appointment to allow the Antigonish Arena Association to get up and running.

“It was Moved and Seconded to appoint Councillors J. MacPherson and Councillor D. MacInnis to the Antigonish Arena Association on an interim basis.” Motion carried.

- Correspondence

Antigonish Farmers’ Market

Mayor L. Boucher read aloud the correspondence received from the Antigonish Farmers’ Market.

Mayor L. Boucher noted that following the Town’s confirmation of funding, she was stopped by three individuals at the Market acknowledging the support from the Town.

Staff Reports

- CAO Report

Mayor L. Boucher noted that the CAO was unable to be here this evening.

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

Committee Reports

- BLRC

Councillor A. Murray stated he had nothing to report.

- Police & License Committee

Deputy Mayor D. Roberts noted that the Police & License Committee met recently and reviewed everything from previous meeting. She then spoke to some of the matters reviewed.

Council was advised that Deputy Mayor D. Roberts represented the Town at Cadet Flag Raising at Town Hall October 6th.

Deputy Mayor D. Roberts noted the 55 Plus Games are coming along, with great team involvement. She acknowledged the assistance of T. Cameron and noted that A. Murray has come up with a logo for the event.

- Accessibility Committee

Councillor D. MacInnis noted that a recently scheduled Accessibility meeting was cancelled as they did not have a quorum.

Councillor D. MacInnis noted that the Town currently has 374 Inactive accounts on the books from 2000-2012, and noted that the Town cannot go after accounts after 6 years.

“It was Moved and Seconded to write off 374 inactive electric utility accounts totaling \$154,262.01.” Motion carried.

- Recreation Committee

Councillor M. Farrell reported on matters discussed at a recent Recreation meeting

Council was advised that Sat. November 24th and (snow date Sunday, November 25th) are the dates for the tree lighting and Christmas parade; 6:00 PM beginning at Fairview Street, and may or may not finish at the Mall.

“It was Moved and Seconded that Council name the trail at the bottom of Annie’s Bluff that goes down toward MacLellan Street “John’s Pass.” Motion carried.

Councillor M. Farrell noted the name was created from a Town employee who practices active living by walking this trail everyday back and forth to work.

- Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)

Mayor L. Boucher noted PAC held its first meeting duly called by the Eastern District Planning Commission (EDPC), and that consideration was given to a development agreement and stakeholders for the MPS/LUB review.

Mayor L. Boucher brought to light that the Antigonish Skateboard Collective have a significant amount of fundraising to do, and referred to their participation in the Kraft-Heinz Play Project. A video of the groups’ submission was presented.

With there being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.