



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

Place: Council Chambers and conducted through Zoom and streamed live to Facebook

Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Presiding Officer: Mayor Gregory Henley

Councillors present: Councillor Wade Adshade, Councillor Carla Black, Councillor Brenton Colborne, Councillor Paul Jones, Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald and Councillor Chrystal McNutt

Regrets: nil

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: CAO – Linda Cloney, and Office Assistant – Stan McDougall (recording secretary)

Media Present: Six Rivers News, Radio, and TV – Mark Rushton

1. Call to Order

Mayor Henley called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Jones that the agenda of the Town Council Meeting for May 24, 2022, be approved, as amended.

Motion Carried

3. Proclamations

3.1 Apraxia Awareness Day

May 14, 2022, is declared Apraxia Awareness Day in the Town of Oxford. Childhood apraxia of speech is a challenging speech disorder that affects nearly 1-in-1,000 children and without frequent, intensive, and appropriate speech therapy children with apraxia will not learn to speak. Furthermore, a lack of appropriate speech therapy intervention may affect individual outcomes in education, independence, mental wellness, and employment.

3.2 Access Awareness Week – included in package

May 29th to June 4th, 2022, is recognized as Access Awareness Week and marks the 35th year that this awareness initiative has taken place in Nova Scotia. Access Awareness week aims to celebrate achievements made both by and for persons with disabilities in the areas of accessibility, transportation, housing, employment, recreation, education, and communication. Access Awareness Week promotes the inclusion of all Nova Scotians with disabilities as full citizens within our communities; and through public awareness, community partnerships and education, aims to foster an environment of equal participation for persons with disabilities within the Town of Oxford.

4. Approval of minutes from the previous meetings

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by councillor Black that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting for May 2, 2022, and the Town Council Meeting for April 19, 2022, be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

5. New Business

5.1 Water and Sewer Service – 726 Sunset Avenue

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor McNutt to approve the request for 726 Sunset Avenue to hook up to town water and sewer services as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.

Motion Carried

5.2 Request for Sewer Services – 1720 Black River Road

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Adshade to approve the request for 1720 Black River Road to hook up to town sewer as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.

Motion Carried

5.3 Request for Water Services – 1720 Black River Road

Moved by Councillor Black and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald to approve the installation of a water service on the main water line at 1720 Black River Road as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.

Motion Carried

5.4 Bylaw #01-2018 Commercial Development District Improvement Plan Bylaw for approval

Moved by Councillor Adshade and seconded by Councillor Jones to approve bylaw #01-2018 as recommended by staff as it presents itself as required to be reviewed every 4 years.

Motion Carried

5.5 Contracted Services for recreation

Councillor McNutt discussed that the recreation committee was approached by an individual interested in being contracted out for the months of July and August to oversee the recreation program while the process of hiring a recreation director takes place in September of 2022 at the rate of \$23/hour for 7 hours/day, 5 days/week.

Moved by Councillor McNutt and seconded by Councillor Jones to contract the recreation department program services for two months as presented.

Motion Carried

5.6 Piano at the Gazebo

Mayor Henley discussed the pictures of litter in and around the gazebo and piano in the gazebo. A letter has been sent to the school

requesting a response to curtail the amount of garbage being left around the town.

Councillor Jones inquired who the town bylaw enforcement officer was or who could enforce a fine for littering.

Councillor Adshade made recommendation that a few more frequently emptied garbage cans be placed around the gazebo as it was noted there was only one can present.

Council suggested that rates of littering may be improving in the town.

Mayor Henley recommended to Council that the youth be given a chance to look to each other to self-patrol the littering problem with the goal of avoid closure of public facilities this summer.

Linda recommended to re-assess at the next Committee of the Whole meeting and add two more garbage cans at the gazebo.

5.7 Dangerous and Unsightly properties

Linda reported that dangerous and unsightly properties are being worked on and the process is going well. The County has offered some enforcement if necessary.

5.8 Municipal Boundary Survey

Linda reported that the Municipal Boundary Survey has been receiving some great responses from the public. The survey will be re-posted again on May 25th to encourage more participation.

Mayor Henley inquired if the survey would be accessible on the Town of Oxford website.

5.9 Accessibility Expo – June 2, 2022

Linda reported that the Accessibility Expo will take place June 2, 2022, at the Oxford Legion from 6pm-8pm, with tables setup by different accessibility organizations in Cumberland county and

surrounding area. An accessibility survey will also be going out soon to help put together an Accessibility Plan for the Town of Oxford.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald reported that there will be 14 tables, and video presentations offered by different organizations. The availability of door prizes was also discussed.

Everyone is encouraged to attend.

5.10 Recommendation from Public Works Committee

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald to recommend to council that Councillor Colborne be added to the hiring committee overseeing the hiring of the Public Works supervisor, which interviews are taking place Thursday May 26, 2022.

Motion Carried

6. Consideration of correspondence

6.1 Grad Banners – 1st of June – Council support

Linda received an email from a parent of a graduating student requesting support of town council and the Town of Oxford for the placing of banners on town poles of graduating students again this year.

Moved by Councillor McNutt and seconded by Councillor Jones to approve the placement of banners on town poles as requested by the letter.

Motion Carried

6.2 Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing – John Lohr – 12-months' notice

Mayor Henley encouraged council to review the detailed letter. The letter indicates an 11% increase to the cost of RCMP services to the town. The initial meeting was cancelled last week but dates are being discussed for a second meeting.

7. **Adjournment**

At 6:27 pm, it was moved by Councillor Jones that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried



Gregory Henley, Mayor



Stan McDougall, Recording Secretary