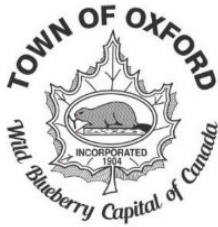




TOWN OF OXFORD
Special Council Meeting
Council Chambers and Zoom – *livestream on Facebook*
Thursday, October 3, 2024

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Public Hearing – Transfer of Municipal Property – 177 Lower Main Street to the Oxford Community Centre Association**
4. **Adjournment**



**Town of Oxford
NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING
Transfer of Municipal Property**

TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Oxford will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, October 3, 2024** beginning at **5:30 pm** in the **Town Hall Council Chambers, 105 Lower Main Street, Oxford, NS**, during a **Special Town Council Meeting**.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the Public Hearing will be regarding a transfer of municipal property located at 177 Lower Main Street (PID number 25500943) to the Oxford Community Centre Association for the establishment of a Community Centre. The appraised value of the property is \$97,500. It is proposed that the transfer of land be for a nominal \$1.00.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the reason for this proposed transfer is the numerous benefits the Oxford Community Centre will bring to the Town. The purpose of the Community Centre is to promote community involvement, not just in relation to the Centre's programming, but also by building relationships with and among people in the community. The Centre will foster a sense of belonging, provide educational opportunities, promote health and wellness, offer recreational activities, and support economic development. It will be a place where local people can come together, share resources, and work towards a common goal of building a stronger and more vibrant community. The Centre will be a gathering place where friendships and social networks are built. It will serve as a neutral ground where people of all ages, ethnicities, and socioeconomic statuses can meet, interact, and engage with each other.

Council will hear submissions in support or opposition to proposed transfer of land. Written submissions may be provided to the Chief Administrative Officer at 105 Lower Main Street, or by email to lcloney@oxfordns.ca no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 4:00 pm.

For additional information please contact Linda Cloney, CAO at 902-447-2624 or by email at lcloney@oxfordns.ca.

DATED at Oxford, Nova Scotia, this 16th day of September 2024

Linda Cloney, CAO

To: Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Oxford
105 Lower Main Street
Oxford, NS

September 25, 2024

Dear Chief Administrative Officer,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed transfer of municipal property located at 177 Lower Main Street (PID number 25500943) to the Oxford Community Centre Association for the nominal sum of \$1.00. While I recognize the value and benefits of the new community center, I believe that this particular property should remain available for commercial use, as it is one of the few viable spaces left for retail and business on Main Street.

Over the years, Main Street has seen a significant reduction in retail space due to the demolition of several buildings that were in disrepair. With so few rental spaces remaining, giving away this property for purposes that could be housed elsewhere would, in my opinion, be a missed opportunity. A business located at 177 Lower Main Street could generate much-needed tax revenue for the town and help revitalize the local economy by encouraging residents and visitors to shop locally. Given the current shortage of available commercial property, this space should be seen as a valuable asset for economic growth.

Additionally, using this property for a commercial venture would support long-term financial stability for the town. A business on Main Street would not only contribute to the tax base but also provide jobs and encourage further investment in the area. I believe that finding a more suitable location for the community center, one that doesn't sacrifice the town's limited commercial opportunities, would be a more balanced solution that serves both community and economic interests.

I strongly urge the council to reconsider this transfer, as I believe it is short-sighted and does not fully take into account the broader impact on the town's economic future.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Brenda Robinson

Oxford Resident