

MINUTES
TOWN OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL
REGULAR COUNCIL
April 20, 2009
9:00 a.m.

The regular meeting of the Council was held on Monday, April 20, 2009 in Council Chambers at Town Hall. In attendance were Chair Mayor Phil Roberts, Deputy Mayor Jane DeWolfe, Councillors Kathie Fearon, Doug Shaffner, Sherman Hudson and Pat Power, CAO Amery Boyer, Director of Finance Melony Robinson and Administrative Assistant Jackie Longmire as recording secretary.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

March 16, 2009

Motion # 1

It was moved by Councillor Power, seconded by Councillor Shaffner, that the regular Council minutes dated March 16, 2009 be approved, as presented. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Under New Business add:

- {e} Postage Meter Contract
- {f} LED Streetlights

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

April 20, 2009

Motion # 2

It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Shaffner, that the agenda dated April 20, 2009 be approved, as amended. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
{a} Budget Discussion	Approximately 20 members of the business community turned out at 11:00 am to discuss their concerns about the proposed 2009-2010 budget. Val Peterson presented a letter on behalf of the group. A list of 33 questions was also presented. It was agreed that the Town would review the questions and answer them as quickly as possible. It was agreed that another budget meeting would be scheduled in the near future.		
{b} Grant Application	<p>The Board of Police Commissioners has recommended to Council that the Town complete and submit a grant application through ecoNova Scotia for the purchase of two hybrid vehicles to be used as police vehicles.</p> <p>A letter from the Town supporting the application and confirming financial and in-kind contributions is required.</p> <p><i>Motion #3</i> <i>It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Shaffner that the Hybrid Fleet Project proposal and application for funding through ecoNova Scotia be supported and that a financial and in-kind contribution of at least 20% of the total project costs be confirmed.</i> Motion carried with one nay vote recorded.</p>		

NEW BUSINESS

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
{a} Water Tests	Water tests have been reviewed and found to be satisfactory.	CAO	
{b} New Rifle Purchase	<p>The Board of Police Commissioners has recommended to Council that the purchase of two C8 Carbine rifles for the Police Department be approved through the capital budget. Chief Matthews explained the need for the rifles and stated that the white paper on policing had been reviewed as a reference.</p> <p><i>Motion #4</i> <i>It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Fearon</i></p>		

	<i>that the purchase of two C8 Carbine rifles be referred to capital budget deliberations.</i> Motion carried with 2 nay votes recorded.		
{c} Tax reductions for non-profit organizations	<p>The Director of Finance said that non-profit organizations were automatically granted tax reductions in previous years but she suggested a policy change that would require each organization to apply for the reduction. A successful application would result in the commercial property tax for the organization being reduced to the residential rate. A deadline of October 1 for applications will also be added to the policy.</p> <p>Motion #5 <i>It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe that the suggested changes for the Non-Profit Tax Exemption Policy that will require that an application be submitted before October 1 of each year to be eligible for the reduced tax rates be approved. Motion carried.</i></p>		
{d} Camera System for the Police Office	Chief Matthews has requested approval for the purchase of a used camera system to be installed in the newly created interview room. The cost of the system is \$250.00 and Council agreed that the purchase would not be capitalized and could be made at the discretion of the Chief.		
{e} Postage Meter	<p>The agreement with Pitney Bowes for the lease of the postage meter has expired. A new agreement has been negotiated with a reduction in the fee for a three-year contract.</p> <p>Motion #6 <i>It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Shaffner that the agreement with Pitney Bowes for the postage meter with a total cost of \$1,000.00 over three years be accepted and approved. Motion carried.</i></p>		
{f} LED Streetlights	A \$1.2 million dollar LED street lighting project has been announced by the Province through ecoNova Scotia funding. The mercury vapour streetlights in Annapolis Royal will be converted to energy efficient LED streetlights as a result of the funding. There will be no cost to the Town for the conversion.	Executive Assistant	
{g} True Check Contract	The Board of Police Commissioners has recommended to Council the contract with True Check be accepted and approved. TruCheck was explained to be a company that provides criminal record checks through the internet. TruCheck will pay the Town a sum of \$10.00 for every check that		

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	<p>is completed by the Annapolis Royal Police Department. The agreement has the potential to generate a significant amount of revenue.</p> <p><i>Motion #7</i> <i>It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Fearon, that the contract between TruCheck and the Town of Annapolis Royal be accepted and approved. Motion carried.</i></p>		
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RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
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<p>{a} Recommendations from Committee of the Whole</p>	<p>8. <i>It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Fearon, that a letter of support under the signature of the Mayor be sent to the Buy Back Nova Scotia Coalition endorsing their efforts to lobby all levels of government to engage in a meaningful dialogue with the J.D. Irving Company and stakeholders in order to delay the private sale of the lands in question until all viable and mutually acceptable options for public ownership are explored and considered, and that a copy of this letter be forwarded to MLA Stephen MacNeil, MLA Darrell Dexter, the Honourable Carolyn Bollivar-Getson, Minister of Natural Resources, Premier Rodney MacDonald and all municipal councils in Yarmouth County, Digby County, and Annapolis County. Motion carried.</i></p> <p>9. <i>It was moved by Councillor Power, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, that staff receive a 3% cost of living salary increase effective April 1, 2009. This includes the Marketing and Events Coordinator. Motion carried with one nay vote recorded.</i></p>		
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| | <p><i>10. It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Power, that Champlain Drive be made a two-way street all along its length. Motion carried with one nay vote recorded from Councillor Shaffner.</i></p> <p><i>11. It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Councillor Hudson, that a letter of support be sent to MP Gerald Keddy in support of the Municipality of the District of Barrington's initiative to have 2009 declared as the Year of the Lobster. Motion carried with one nay vote recorded.</i></p> <p><i>13. It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Hudson, that the old business occupancy account 07095015 in the amount of \$16.38 be written off. Motion carried</i></p> <p><i>14. It was moved by Councillor Shaffner, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, that the existing contract for website maintenance be approved for 2009-2010. Motion carried.</i></p> <p><i>15. It was moved by Councillor Power, seconded by Councillor Hudson, that the Town support the establishment of a community foundation through the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia. Motion carried.</i></p> <p><i>16. It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Shaffner, that the Town proceed with an application for funding from Building Canada Round 2 for construction of a safe sidewalk along St. Anthony Street and a safe sidewalk for Drury Lane. Motion carried.</i></p> <p>It was noted that the Town's financial commitment to the Sidewalk Project would be approximately \$225,000.00.</p> | | |
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17. It was moved by Councillor Shaffner, seconded by Councillor Fearon, that Acting Police Chief Preston Matthews be appointed Traffic Authority for the Town of Annapolis Royal. Motion carried.

18. It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, that the Town accept the invitation from the Town of Royan, France to enter into a formal twinning agreement and that Mayor Roberts travel to Royan at his own expense for the signing of the agreement on May 29, 2009. Motion carried.

19. It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Power, that an engineering assessment regarding development of Prince William Street be conducted. Motion carried.

20. It was moved by Councillor Power, seconded by Councillor Hudson, approval of the recommendation to Council from PHAC that the Town enter into a development agreement with Suzan Hebditch for the purposes of permitting the development of an accommodation unit in an existing accessory building located at 150 St. George Street. Motion carried.

21. It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Fearon, for first reading of the By-law to Permit the Production and Distribution of Energy from Specific Renewable and Green Energy Sources be approved, subject to clarification of the definitions for "geothermal and "electrical." Motion carried.

	<p><i>22. It was moved by Councillor Shaffner, seconded by Councillor Hudson, that a low-income exemption be granted to a Town resident (tax account 02599554) who qualifies under the Town's policy with the condition that a income statement from Canada Revenue Agency be provided.</i></p> <p>It was noted that the above low-income exemption will be given for the 2008-2009 budget year but will appear in the 2009-2010 budget. This policy will be placed on the website and advertised in the local press. All applications must include the relevant year's assessment notice from the Canada Revenue Agency.</p> <p><i>23. It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, that the Marketing and Events Coordinator position be made permanent effective April 13, 2009. The incumbent will manage the VIC from May 15 to October 15, 2009 and will focus on grant writing, the wharf project, and website management for the remainder of the year. Motion carried with two nay votes recorded.</i></p> <p>Councillor Power said that she had concerns about the addition of another permanent staff member in the Town Hall and therefore voted nay to the motion. Councillor Shaffner agreed and voted nay for the same reason.</p>		
{b} Board of Police Commissioners	Deputy Mayor DeWolfe said the last meeting of the Board was held on April 15, 2009 and most of the business discussed has already been addressed by Council through recommendations from the Board. She said that the new members are settling in nicely and a good team seems to have been created.	Deputy Mayor DeWolfe	
{c} Mayor's Report	Over the past month, Mayor Roberts has attended several events including: Rural Development Workshop, Digby Ferry meeting and the Amazing Race at the Fort grounds on Easter Sunday. He commented on the great turn-out for the Amazing Race and will be forwarding a letter of thanks to the organizers of the event. Mayor Roberts also canvassed that mayors of Middleton, Bridgetown, and Digby, and the wardens of the municipalities of Annapolis County and the Region of Digby to ask for financial support for the waterfront development project.	Mayor Phil Roberts	

	<p>Mayor Roberts was unable to attend the Mayors and Warden's meeting in April but the Deputy Mayor, who attended, said that it was a positive meeting with items such as RCMP, by-laws, schools and intermunicipal agreements being discussed.</p> <p>Mayor Roberts did attend the meeting concerning the future of the Annapolis Royal Regional Academy. He said that Harry Jost is continuing with plans on how the building could be reconfigured to host, for example, studios, practice rooms and apartments for visiting artists. It appears that moving existing downtown institutions such as the Town Hall and the Legion to the school space seems no longer an option. Mayor Roberts also attended the fifth anniversary of the Convergry call centre in Cornwallis.</p>		
{d} ADEDA	Deputy Mayor DeWolfe said she did not attend the last meeting of ADEDA but will be attending the next meeting.	Deputy Mayor DeWolfe	
{e} King's Theatre	Councillor Fearon said that the following issues were discussed at the last meeting: stimulus package, possible lobby expansion, website improvements, safety features on the catwalk, and possible backstage tours as a fundraising initiative.	Councillor Kathie Fearon	
{f} REMO	The next meeting will be held at COGS in Lawrencetown on April 30 at 7:00 pm.	Councillor Sherman Hudson	
{g} Historic Gardens	The Annual General Meeting was held on March 31, 2009 with good attendance. Three new directors were voted in at the last Board meeting. Keith Crysler is now the Chair of the Board.	Councillor Pat Power	

CORRESPONDENCE

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
{a} Letter from the Department of the Environment - Water Supply System	The town's application for approval to operate the water distribution system has been approved for a further ten year period.		

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Mayor Roberts reminded Council of the meeting scheduled with three representatives of the AIMS Institute to discuss the recent report card on Annapolis Royal. The meeting will take place at Town Hall on May 8 at 10:30 am.

IN CAMERA

It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Fearon to move in camera to discuss staffing and negotiations.

It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe to move out of camera.

Motion #24

It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe, seconded by Councillor Power that the salary schedule for the Chief of Police and Constables be accepted as recommended by the Board of Police Commissioners. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING As a result of the Victoria Day holiday on Monday, May 18 the next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 9:00 am

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Deputy Mayor DeWolfe to adjourn the meeting.

<i>Action:</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Signature</i>
Reviewed by Mayor Phil Roberts		

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Changes made by Administrative Assistant Jackie Longmire		
Approved for website by Mayor or CAO		
Forwarded to the Website		