

**Committee of the Whole  
Approved Minutes of Meeting Held  
December 3, 2014 at 6:00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Michael Tompkins, Deputy Mayor Pat Power, Councillor Sherman Hudson, Councillor Byron Mersereau, Councillor Paul Paquette, CAO Carol St-Amour, Recording Secretary Bourke, and Andrea Boulding (resident).

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Tompkins called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.
2. **APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES: November 3, 2014**  
**MOTION #CoW-2014-12-03-01**  
Moved by Deputy Mayor Power, seconded by Councillor Paquette the minutes of the November 3, 2014 Committee of the Whole meeting were approved as presented. **CARRIED**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**  
**MOTION #CoW-2014-12-03-02**  
Moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Mersereau, it was agreed to approve the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**
4. **PUBLIC HEARING:** None

5. **PUBLIC INPUT:**

a) **Municipal Electoral Boundary Review**

Andrea Boulding asked the Town Council what they are in favour of doing regarding the size of Council and the number of polling districts. Mayor Tompkins advised the Town Council is in favour of the status quo, the Council remaining at one Mayor and four Councillors and one polling district. Andrea Boulding advised that she was relieved that the Town Council is in favour of the status quo.

Andrea Boulding departed the meeting at 6:09 pm

6. **PRESENTATIONS:**

7. **ROUND TABLE:**

Councillor Paquette mentioned the salt issue noting it has been addressed by email with the Chief Administrative Officer.

Councillor Hudson also mentioned the salt issue. Councillor Hudson advised that the Planning Heritage Advisory Committee may be considering an update to the Land Use By-law regarding corner vision requirements.

Councillor Mersereau provided an update on the draft Financial Condition Index for the year ending March 31, 2013 to March 31, 2014 for the Town of Annapolis Royal and noted that everything is going in the right direction according to the report and in relation to the prior year.

Councillor Mersereau advised that the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director of Finance and himself had a meeting with a representative from the Province today. Councillor Mersereau advised that the purpose of the meeting was to review the calculations and the draft; had a couple of relatively small changes and one issue that is not going to get changed is the reliance of government grants; is not a level playing field in terms of comparing the thresholds;

the Town's per capita equalization is less than other towns. The next step in the process is the Province is looking for Council and staff feedback and the Town should be receiving an amended variation of the updated draft.

Deputy Mayor Power inquired about a Council/staff Christmas dinner. It was agreed to ask administration to check with staff to see if they would like to have a staff/Council Christmas dinner.

Mayor Tompkins discussed Christmas cards and would like Christmas cards for the Town of Annapolis Royal, not e-Christmas cards.

**8. BUSINESS ARISING:**

**a) Draft Policy on Water Utility Receivables Collections**

It was agreed to bring this item forward to the next regular Council meeting.

**b) Draft Policy on Tax Account Receivables Collections**

It was agreed to bring this item forward to the next regular Council meeting.

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) ARTfelt Christmas** – For information purposes

**b) Promotions ARTfelt** – For Information purposes

**c) West Nova Scotia Regiment – re: Fundraising Campaign**

Councillor Mersereau advised that most of the older veterans in Annapolis Royal served with West Nova, and suggested that if the Town is going to support the general effort and the Legion, it would be better to direct it through the local Legion Branch.

**d) TD Green Streets – Application 2015- Draft**

Councillor Paquette stated that Angelica Waldow's work on the grant is phenomenal. CAO St-Amour advised she received a call directly from TD Green Streets asking if the Town is going to put in an application this year. Mayor Tompkins asked if Council had a vision of the tree planting; noting that it would be appropriate to have a long term vision and planning for tree planting and enhancements. Councillor Mersereau noted that he supports the CAO's recommendation that she be authorized to work with Angelica Waldow and submit the application; trees are needed at the school and the gardens; if it makes the grant application work and it is referred to as partnering they could be involved in the 50 percent contribution, with the primary focus on town street beautification.

**MOTION #CoW-2014-12-03-03**

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Hudson, it was agreed to recommend to Council that the Committee of the Whole supports the Chief Administrative Officer submitting an application for potential funding through the TD Green Streets program for the purpose of obtaining funds in 2015, that the application be submitted prior to the December 12, 2014 deadline, and that the final application as submitted, be provided to Council for formal approval at its Regular Council meeting December 15, 2014. **CARRIED**

**e) 231 St. George Street – Request for Permission to Use Property for Snow**

Considerable discussion was held regarding the request for permission to use the property at 213 St. George Street for the Town of Annapolis Royal snow removal as in previous years. Mayor Tompkins suggested sending an email from the Town Council to Arthur Irving regarding the use of the property for snow removal; the sale of the property to the Town, as the Town would then be able to access brownfield cleanup funding.

**f) Town of Annapolis Royal Feedback on Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Review 2014**

Considerable discussion was held regarding the Town of Annapolis Royal's feedback on the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Review 2014. Discussion was held regarding the road section; clarification about roads going through Towns that are highway sections; there was a comment about the 13,000 kilometres that the Province contributes to, and is the Town able to access funds based on new formulas; there is basically two types of roads, local and provincial; in the towns it is clear that there are 251 kilometres collectively of provincial roads, and of those the proposals calls for the Province to give the towns \$9,000 per kilometre for maintenance as a portion of the total cost of maintaining the part within town; for the other 827 kilometer of roads in town which are not provincial roads, the towns remain 100% responsible; in the counties and rural municipalities the report is silent; the province is responsible for all provincial roads in the counties; in relation to the county the Town gets a bit of funding for the provincial roads that are in town and the Town still remains fully responsible for local roads in Town. Mayor Tompkins inquired if maintenance means plowing, and it was noted that was not discussed in the report. Councillor Mersereau advised that the calculation reflects that the Town would receive approximately \$27,000.

Councillor Mersereau advised of a conversion of the Town's current contributions to the schools for education, corrections and senior housing to a provincial tax. Councillor Mersereau noted the proposal is so many cents per dollars of assessment. Councillor Mersereau suggested supporting the proviso if the present formula factors in the schools population. If the Province proceeds with the provincial tax system, the Town's portion goes up by \$10,000. Councillor Mersereau suggested it should be more significantly user based. Mayor Tompkins noted that he would like to have it standardized within the area, which would mean the Town and the County are the same.

Councillor Mersereau suggested it should be more heavily influenced by user pay principle.

**g) Proposal for Memorial for Michael Charlton – Request from Student Council Annapolis Royal Regional Academy**

It was agreed that Administration will contact Emily Olsen of the Annapolis Royal Regional Academy to determine their plans for a memorial for Michael Charlton.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE: (For Information)**

**a) Regional Emergency Measures Advisory Committee**

**b) Rural At Heart, Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia**

Mayor Tompkins suggested staff investigate if there is money available for wheelchair accessibility; perhaps through the March of Dimes

**c) Annapolis Valley Regional Library Annual Report, April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 –**  
copy available from CAO's office

**11. IN-CAMERA:**

**i. Reason (g) Legal advice eligible for solicitor-client privilege**

**MOTION #CoW-2014-12-03-04**

Moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette, it was agreed to move in-camera at 7:40 pm. **CARRIED**

**MOTION #CoW-2014-12-03-05**

Moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette, it was agreed to come out of in-camera at 7:59 pm. **CARRIED**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION #CoW-2014-12-03-06**

Moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. **CARRIED**

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Mayor Michael Tompkins

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CAO Carol St-Amour