

**Committee of the Whole
Approved Minutes
February 6, 2014, 5:00 pm**

PRESENT: Mayor Michael Tompkins, Councillor Sherman Hudson, Councillor Bryon Mersereau, Councillor Paul Paquette, CAO Carol St-Amour, Jackie Longmire as Recording Secretary and members of the public.

Regrets: Deputy Mayor Pat Power

Councillor Mersereau took the Chair as Mayor Tompkins is running late due to another meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Councillor Mersereau called the meeting to order at 5:09 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES: January 8, 2014
MOTION #CoW-2014-02-6-1

It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette to approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held January 8, 2014 as presented.

Councillor Mersereau pointed out, under new Business, 2014/2015 Budget timeline, that the minutes should be changed to reflect that Council is considering \$1.60 as the residential tax rate.

MOTION 2

It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette to approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held January 8, 2014, as amended. **CARRIED.**

3. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

In-Camera iii) Reason (e) Contract Negotiations

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION 3

It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette, to approve the agenda as amended. **CARRIED.**

5. PUBLIC HEARING: None

6. PUBLIC INPUT: None

At 5:17pm, Councillor Mersereau vacated the Chair and Mayor Tompkins resumed the meeting.

7. IN-CAMERA:

i. Contract Negotiations

MOTION 4

It was moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Hudson to move in camera at 5:17pm. **CARRIED.**

MOTION 5

It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Mersereau to move out of camera at 5:45. **CARRIED.**

8. PRESENTATIONS:

i. Councillor Gregory Heming re: Municipality of the County of Annapolis Economic Development Targets

The Municipality of the County of Annapolis has formed an Economic Development Committee, consisting of 4 Councillors and the CAO, with the guidance of the Economic Development Manager. The Committee has developed targets that have been approved by Council. They are meeting with other Municipalities and Towns to introduce the targets, explain the intentions of the Committee and receive input. A series of 17 café style public meetings will take place over the next several weeks as well as meetings with different stakeholders. All of the information gathered will be taken back to the Council of the County of Annapolis and a strategy will be developed. The targets will be reviewed in 3-year increments with the completion date of 2050.

The targets are designed to deal with 5 issues, food, energy, housing, education and environment. The goals of the Committee, by 2050, are as follows:

- To have 80% of the food that is consumed in Annapolis County, produced in Annapolis County
- To have 80% of the energy used in Annapolis County, produced in Annapolis County
- To provide efficient, affordable housing at a cost of 25% of minimum wage with innovative septic and water options
- To offer life skills education, that is designed to fit this particular place
- To ensure an environment of clean, uncontaminated air and water

The desired end result is to create an affordable place for people to move to that offers clean air and water. As the program is being rolled out, the Committee is seeking community feedback and participation to meet the targets.

Mayor Tompkins asked if some of the goals are to develop new processing facilities for food. Councillor Heming responded that less travel time for food, reduces expenses. Existing agricultural land could be revamped and climate change creates opportunities for new crops to be grown. Local restaurants will be encouraged to serve local produce. The general idea is to take care of the local food needs first with the option of exporting the extra.

Mayor Tompkins asked about the life skills education and how it would affect working globally. Councillor Heming responded that the idea was to learn how to do things differently. There is the option to partner with Community Colleges. The education aspect will provide residents with the skills they need to do things like manufacture building materials locally. There are currently residents who have moved here because they have the ability to work from any location. Annapolis County becomes a choice because of a wonderful lifestyle, cultural events, clean air and water and good schools.

Councillor Mersereau asked if all of the pieces are in place to achieve the tactical targets as a result of consultations. Councillor Heming responded yes, but all of the matrixes are not in place yet. The Committee has received 3 volumes of Data from the Economic Development Manager and wants to hear from the Community.

Mayor Tompkins asked if the data was available for review. Councillor Heming said all of the data is for public review and he welcomes the opportunity to share it. All of the data is assembled from various statistics.

Mayor Tompkins noted that infrastructure is not mentioned in any of the targets. A certain level of IT infrastructure is needed for residents to work from home. It was suggested that new and updated systems may be required to support the need.

Mayor Tompkins asked if partnerships with neighbouring towns and municipalities were addressed in the plan. Councillor Heming said the Committee is willing to go anywhere to look at economic development. They want to become grounded in Annapolis County and utilize the current good working relationship with Digby. He said they will explore all partnering options in order to meet or develop the targets.

There was some discussion regarding the points of entry and how traffic could be directed towards Annapolis County rather than the South Shore for those who are arriving on the new Ferry in Yarmouth. Visitors make that decision before they arrive and we need to ensure that there is satisfactory highways for travel and reasons for them to come in this direction.

A household survey has been developed and will be distributed to all homes in Annapolis County, including the Town's within. The survey will be completed again in 5 years for comparison. CAO St-Amour requested a copy of the survey so that the residents of the Town of Annapolis Royal could be advised that it will be arriving and what its purpose is.

The first of the 3-year plans will be developed after the public meetings are complete and the survey information has been processed. Councillor Heming said that any support from the Town would be appreciated. Mayor Tompkins commended the Committee for tackling the project and is keen to see how it moves along.

9. BUSINESS ARISING:

i. Proposed Stop Sign on St George Street and St Anthony Street – Reconsideration of Motion

CAO St-Amour and Mayor Tompkins recently discussed the proposed stop sign and suggest having the Provincial and Local Traffic Authorities assess the area and offer advice on the issue. The issues of trucks gearing down to stop, pollutants and stop delays have been raised. Councillor Paquette thought that the same arguments could apply to the existing traffic lights located in Town. It was noted that Council had previously passed a motion to install the stop sign and a new motion would now have to be made if this decision is being reconsidered.

MOTION 6

It was moved by Councillor Mersereau, seconded by Councillor Hudson to recommend that Council request that the Provincial and Local Traffic Authorities be requested to further investigate the positives and negatives of installing a stop sign at the St. George Street and St. Anthony Street location as per a previous motion. **CARRIED**

ii. Events Protocol

Councillor Paquette advised that February is Black History Month and the County of Annapolis holds their regular Council Meeting in Inglewood. Deputy Mayor Power will be attending on the Mayor's behalf. Annual General Meetings are held during the month of March for the Annapolis Region Community Arts Council, the Annapolis District Board of Trade, the Historic Gardens, the Historical Society and King's Theatre. Councillor Paquette will advise on the date for each meeting when they are known. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held in April, a police presence is required. The Mayor will attend in casual wear.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

i. Betty MacDonald, Executive Director, Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities re: Municipal Tax Study

A focus group will be held with all of the CAO's on February 26, 2014 but CAO St-Amour is unable to attend due to other Town business. Arrangements will be made to obtain the information that results from the focus group.

ii. Annapolis County Volunteer Week re: Call for Nominations

All members of Council have been asked to consider community nominations for the upcoming volunteer awards. Final decisions will be made at the February meeting of Council. The following people were mentioned as possible nominees:

- Gail Robertson for her work with Christmas and Halloween
- Adele MacDonald for her work with the Town website and Kings Theatre
- Grace Butland for her work with ARCAC and week long festival
- Christine Igot for her work with the Annapolis Royal Community Pool and music groups
- Heather McCormick for her work with ARCAC
- Rion Microys for her work with numerous events and initiatives over several years

iii. Borrowing Resolution re: Annual Request

This is bridge financing that has never actually been used but the resolution is made annually as a precaution. Councillor Mersereau said that there are some wording issues within the resolution that should be changed before the document is signed. CAO St-Amour recorded the requested changes and will amend the resolution accordingly.

MOTION 7

It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette that Committee of the Whole recommends that Council approve the Borrowing Resolution for Municipalities and School Boards, as amended. **CARRIED.**

iv. 2013/2014 Federal Gas Tax Fund Survey re: Motion Survey Be Approved

Each year, Council is requested to consider and approve the Federal Gas Tax Survey before it is submitted to the Province.

MOTION 8

It was moved by Councillor Mersereau, seconded by Councillor Hudson that Committee of the Whole recommends that Council approve the 2013/2014 Federal Gas Tax Year-End Forecast Cash Flow Survey. **CARRIED.**

11. CORRESPONDENCE: (For Information)

- i. **Henry Hicks, Campaign Director, Valley Health Revitalization Campaign re: Progress of the “Our Community, Our Health” Campaign**
This item pertains to the hospice/palliative care addition.
- ii. **Alphonse MacNeil, Assistant Commissioner, Commanding Officer, RCMP re: Nova Scotia Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) 2012/13 ‘Year in Review’**
The complete report is available at the office of the CAO.
- iii. **Bruce W. Belliveau, CD, Chief Executive Officer, Commissionaires Nova Scotia re: Corp Rapport.** This publication is available at the office of the CAO.

MOTION 9

It was moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Mersereau to accept the above listed items for information purposes. **CARRIED.**

MOTION 10

It was moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Mersereau to move in-camera at 6:36pm. **CARRIED**

12. IN-CAMERA:

- i. **Reason (a) Acquisition, sale, lease and security of municipal property**
- ii. **Reason (h) Public Security**
- iii. **Reason (e) Contract Negotiations**

MOTION 11

It was moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Mersereau to move out of camera at 7:08pm. **CARRIED**

13. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION 12

It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Paquette to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm. **CARRIED.**

NEXT MEETING: March 5, 2014

Mayor Michael Tompkins

CAO Carol St-Amour