

MINUTES
TOWN OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
January 7, 2009
9:00 a.m.

The regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, January 7, 2009 in Council Chambers at Town Hall. In attendance were Chair Deputy Mayor Jane DeWolfe, Mayor Phil Roberts, Councillors Sherman Hudson, Kathie Fearon, Pat Power and Doug Shaffner, CAO Amery Boyer, Director of Finance Melony Robinson and Administrative Assistant Jackie Longmire as recording secretary. The following people were also in attendance for portions of the meeting: ADEDA Executive Director Mike Gushue, Shela Breau, Rob Lawrie, Paul Stackhouse and Jeff Agombar from the Spectator.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

December 3, 2008 and December 15, 2008

Motion # 1

It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Councillor Hudson, that the Committee of the Whole minutes dated December 3, 2008 be approved, as amended. Motion carried.

Motion #2

It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Councillor Power, that the Committee of the Whole Special Meeting minutes dated December 15, 2008 be approved, as amended.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Under New Business add:

8. Burning Permits

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

January 7, 2009

Motion # 3

It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Councillor Hudson, that the agenda dated January 7, 2008 be approved, as amended. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Theresa Bunbury - Fort Anne MOU** - Ms. Bunbury was not in attendance, no information was offered

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
{a} Update on the Town's financial situation	<p>Deputy Mayor DeWolfe said that a good, positive meeting took place on January 6 with 200-300 people in attendance. A list of several options was reviewed and a twelfth option was added to the list. CAO Boyer said option 12 was to investigate Parks Canada areas and the possibility of enhancing the Town's Heritage District. This move has the potential to attract significant funding dollars.</p> <p>CAO Boyer explained that staff are costing services and preparing a chart that will provide the cost of each service, comments, who else could provide the service and its priority. This list will also prove useful in the future.</p> <p>On January 15, 2009 Annapolis Royal will participate in a conference call with Trenton and the Municipality of Queens to discuss the NSPI issue. The three municipal units have been negatively affected by the re-assessment. On January 16, 2009 the above listed municipal units will meet with the UNSM in Halifax. CAO Boyer said that there has been no information received in writing and the figures are up in the air.</p> <p>Councillor Fearon asked how Annapolis Royal Town Council could get a voice on the Board of the UNSM. It was noted that Former Mayor Kinsella attended UNSM meetings. CAO Boyer said that she served on the Board of the PVSC for three years and there was no reference made to the NSPI project during that time.</p>		
{a} Update on the Town's financial situation - continued	<p>CAO Boyer said that with no response from the Minister regarding financial assistance, the Town will have to pay for its own consultant. CAO Boyer also said that the references of four consultants are currently</p>		

	<p>being reviewed.</p> <p>The deadline for appeal is twenty-one days after the assessment roll has been released on January 26, 2009. This deadline is only for the Town to register the appeal with a letter of intent. The entire appeal process is unknown at this point.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Mayor and the CAO will continue to speak for the Town and a constant, positive message will continue to be sent.</p>		
{b} Draft Report on Schools	<p>Deputy Mayor DeWolfe said that a meeting was recently held at ARRA with a good turn-out and discussion. Annapolis Royal is home to two of the largest school in the Annapolis Valley Region but both schools are suffering from declining enrollment. It is possible that one of the schools may close and the Town has drafted a report to be submitted to the School Board in an attempt to retain both schools. It was agreed that the report should be completed and submitted to the School Board.</p> <p>A meeting has been scheduled for January 27, 2009 by the Town schools to discuss the issue further. All of the surrounding schools will be invited to attend.</p>		

<p>{c} Request for consideration - Wharf Project</p>	<p>CAO Boyer said that the Wharf Association has taken the project as far as it can and a decision needs to be made on what the Town's role will be from this point on. She said that no monetary commitment is required at this time but if the Town were to take the lead it would keep the project alive. CAO Boyer asked Council to review the information provided as a decision from Council will be required.</p> <p>Mike Gushue said that the project is very important to the Town, the business community and surrounding areas. He referred to a study that indicates that Digby and the Annapolis Basin are ports of comparable size, with strategic location and safe harbours. Ancillary services have been identified in the study but not in terms of possible revenue. The cruise industry is being actively targeted by the Province of Nova Scotia. Digby and Annapolis Royal could be a destination for small cruise ships and mega yachts. Mr. Gushue said that ADEDA will become more aggressively involved in the wharf project and funding initiatives.</p> <p>Mayor Roberts said that the Boat Haul Up that may be used less and less by local fisherman, could be a facility that is used for pleasure boats in the future. He said that from a business perspective, the wharf project could generate new economic development within the Town.</p> <p>Paul Stackhouse commented on the benefits from the tourism perspective and said that access to the water can generate new business opportunities. He also referred to the regatta circuit which has the potential to generate excitement and vibrance. He said that the opportunities that could emerge are significant. Rob Lawrie said that the Annapolis District Board of Trade fully supports the project.</p>	<p>CAO Boyer</p>	
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Request for consideration - wharf Project - continued	<p>Mayor Roberts said that the Wharf Association submitted an application for funding but it was unsuccessful; future applications must be submitted by the Town. He said that any decision made today would not constitute a financial commitment.</p> <p><i>Motion #4</i> <i>It was moved by Mayor Roberts, seconded by Councillor Power, to recommend to Council that the Town take on the next phase of the Wharf Project which would involve identification of sources of funds and the commitment to entertain a municipal contribution in future years but would not include a commitment to go ahead with the project. Motion carried.</i></p>		
{d} Annapolis Society for Youth Friendly Public Spaces	It has been determined that the Town has no funds to commit to the Skatepark at this time. The Town will have the land surveyed and appraised and will quantify all in-kind contributions. It was suggested that the group consider a more modest park of lesser expense.		

NEW BUSINESS

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
{a} Water Tests	Water tests have been reviewed and found to be satisfactory.	CAO	
{b} Results of Public Meeting 2: Climate Change and Renewable Energy, November 20, 2008	For information only.	CAO	
{c} Project status - ADPC report	The only updated project status was that of the proposed office building on St. Anthony Street; a public hearing is scheduled for January 19, 2009.		
{d} Traffic Authority	Acting Police Chief Keith McCuaig has agreed to assume the role of Traffic Authority for the Town. A letter will be sent to Laurie Emms thanking him for his time and service.	Letter to Laurie Emms - CAO	

	<p><i>Motion #6</i> <i>It was moved by Councillor Fearon, seconded by Councillor Shaffner, to recommend to Council the appointment of Acting Police Chief Keith McCuaig as Traffic Authority for the Town of Annapolis Royal. Motion carried.</i></p>	Letter to Traffic Engineering Services - Exec. Assist	
{e} Bike lanes	<p>Mayor Roberts said that when the road between Annapolis Royal and Digby was re-paved it was widened to accommodate bicycles but the white lines were not painted in a way to indicate a bike lane. The Mayors and Warden's Group is asking the Town to support the request to have the lines re-painted to indicate a bike lane.</p> <p><i>Motion #7</i> <i>It was moved by Councillor Power, seconded by Councillor Fearon, to recommend to Council, approval of the request to support re-painting the white lines on the widened, re-paved area of road between Annapolis Royal and Bridgetown to indicate a bicycle lane. Motion carried.</i></p> <p>Councillor Shaffner voted nay on the above motion. He said that the area should be measured to ensure that there is enough room to create a bike lane.</p>	Mayor Roberts	
{g} Orientation	CAO Boyer provided copies of the Town's strategic plan which will be reviewed and discussed as part of Council's orientation.		
{h} Policy on Council Expense Allowance	This policy is renewed each calendar year; it addresses taxing of Council remuneration.		
{h} Burning Permits	Councillor Shaffner said that he and the CAO recently received calls from a citizen who complained about a neighbour burning brush. A burning	CAO	
{i} Borrowing Resolution	A motion is required for the 2008/2009 Borrowing Resolution. The Director of Finance said it is simply a formality and is for the option of	Director of Finance	

In attendance: Grant Slinn, Peter Davies and Ian Lawrence

BUSINESS ARISING

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
{a} Application for Proposed Development Agreement - St. Anthony Street	All members of Council and PHAC were pleased with the updated application. The application has been compared to the motion from a previous meeting which identified inadequacies in the application; responses have been received and all issues have been addressed. There is some concern over future development on the property and it was noted that this issue will be covered in the development agreement document. A Public Hearing is scheduled for January 19, 2009 at 9:00 am.		
{b} Sculpture Park	There are zoning issues and the process with ADPC will be similar to any other re-zoning and development agreement process with public meetings and hearings. Joy Elliot is forwarding all the information to ARCAC for further review. ADPC will notify the Town if and when any action is		

NEW BUSINESS

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date

{a} Application for Changes to Heritage Property - 237 St. George Street	<p>Tradewinds Reality has moved into 237 St. George Street the application for changes is to paint the brick yellow on its half of the building. While PHAC normally has no control over colour there is an issue with only painting a quarter of the facade. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to the business stating that PHAC would prefer that the brick not be painted.</p> <p>The building next to 237 St. George Street was also discussed because of brick parging on the side of the building. A letter will be sent to the owner of the property requesting that the issue be addressed.</p>	Executive Assistant	
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CORRESPONDENCE

Item	Decision / Action	Responsibility	Target Date
{a} Development/Building Permit Report	The report for the month of December was reviewed and there were questions about the YTD building value for 2008. The building values will be researched and an answer will be provided to Council.	Executive Assistant	
{b} Fire Inspection Report	For information only.		
{c} The Criminalization of Hunting in Nova Scotia - Letter from Jim Power of Truro, NS	For information only.		

IN CAMERA

It was moved by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Shaffner, to move in camera to discuss staffing issues and litigation against the Town.

It was moved by Councillor Shaffner, seconded by Councillor Hudson, to move out of camera.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councillor Hudson to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT MEETING February 4, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

<i>Action:</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Signature</i>
Reviewed by Deputy Mayor Jane DeWolfe		
Changes made by Administrative Assistant Jackie Longmire		
Approved for website by CAO		
Forwarded to the Website		

