

Committee of the Whole
APPROVED MINUTES
November 7, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

“I/We would like to acknowledge that we are in Mi’kma’ki (MEEG-MA-GEE), the traditional (or ancestral) territory of the Mi’kmaq People”

1. Call to Order	Mayor Boyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and gave the land acknowledgement
2. Present	Mayor Boyer (Chair), Deputy Mayor Power, Councillor Sanford, Councillor Tompkins, Councillor Hafting, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Sandi Millett-Campbell, Chief Mark Kane (exited the meeting at 8:23 pm), DoF Melony Robinson (joined via Zoom and exited the meeting at 6:26 pm), Recording Secretary Krista Grear
3. Regrets	
4. Additions to the Agenda	New Business 9.x. National Acadian Day Grant New Business 9.xi. Bill 225
5. Approval of the Agenda	MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-01 It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the agenda with additions. Motion carried.
Edits to the Minutes	Switch Hafting and Sanford comments/reports round table
6. Approval of the Minutes	MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-02 It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the minutes of October 05, 2022, with edits. Motion carried.

7. PRESENTATIONS: none

8. PUBLIC INPUT: none

9. NEW / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- i. Quarterly Reports
 - a. Operating

DoF Robinson gave an overview of the second quarterly operating budget and answered questions. Items of note included that the HST offset came in lower than expected, services provided to other is Triton criminal records checks and will likely remain lower than anticipated this year, rentals include clock donations and the \$25,000 wharf money, deed transfers projecting to be well over budget and marketing is over due to grants received. In addition, under expenditures, ARPD renovations are over budget, but the ACOA grant covered part of these, in October a new full-time member joined the Police Force, and the grant still has not been made to the Fire Society.

b. Capital

DoF Robinson shared an overview of the capital budget and answered questions. Of note was that the water saddles are being done on upper St. George St up to the corner of the Hub lot, there may be three or four more to do this year, and the Town is still waiting for additional invoices for the saddles.

c. Water

DoF Robinson gave an overview of the water budget noting that everything is coming in pretty much on par.

ii. Town Owned Property Tax Write Offs

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-03

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend to Council the write-off of roll #00092398 and roll #04997409 interim taxes in the amounts \$680.85 and \$2443.20 final tax bills respectively for the Town of Annapolis Royal for Town owned properties.

Motion carried.

iii. Request for Decision: Water Service Contract

DoF Robinson shared the sample contract and rationale for the water service contract and answered questions. Currently, tenants can pay \$100 to have the bill mailed directly to them rather than to the property owners. It is proposed to eliminate the \$100 and enact the service contract, which would allow the Town to collect needed contact information for property owners. The software used will allow for additional fields of phone numbers and tenants' names. Property owners are ultimately responsible for the water bill. The bill would be sent to the tenant and a complementary copy to property owner which would also allow property owners to be notified if a water bill has not been paid. This would apply to new tenants as of Jan 2023. Town to cover cost of complementary bill to owners.

Councillor Tompkins declares conflict of interest and exits the meeting at 6:24 pm

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-04

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend to Council the implementation of the Water Service Application and Contract effective January 1, 2023. **Motion carried.**

Councillor Tompkins re-enters the meeting at 6:26 pm.

iv. Request for Decision: Orderly and Peaceful Conduct By-law

Upon the request of Council to provide further review and revision to the proposed by-law, Chief Kane, Ken Knox, and CAO Millett-Campbell met and prepared three proposals.

A lengthy discussion ensued, and Chief Kane fielded numerous questions. The resulting decision was to table this topic for further discussion at a special meeting to be held on November 30 at 5:00 pm. Meeting will be held in Council Chambers unless sufficient evidence suggests a larger facility is warranted. In that case, notice will be given regarding change of venue.

Action: forward research regarding noise pollution and other related occupational health and safety for compilation

Responsibility: Council and Staff

Date: ASAP

v. Request for Decision: Deputy Mayor

The Deputy Mayor term is two years. Currently Deputy Mayor Power's term ends next month. Next term will end October 2024. Councillors Tompkins and Power expressed an interest in the position. A secret ballot was cast by Council and counted by CAO Millett-Campbell and Chief Kane. Result of the vote was that Councillor Power was the successful candidate and will resume the position of Deputy Mayor.

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-05

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend to Council that Councillor Pat Power be appointed to be Deputy Mayor from January 2023 to October 2024. **Motion carried.**

vi. Request for Decision: Snow Removal

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-06

It was regularly moved and seconded that Councillor Sanford chair this topic of the meeting due to a conflict of interest declared by Mayor and Deputy Mayor. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Boyer and Deputy Mayor Power declare conflict of interest at exit the meeting at 7:16 pm. Chief Kane also exited the meeting at this time.

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-07

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend to Council that staff give notice to the First United Baptist Church that the Town Public Works department will no longer be plowing the parking lot. **Motion carried.** One nay from Councillor Hafting

Discussion held noting that there was an historic motion, 2019, to resume the plowing of this parking lot that had been passed as the plowing had previously ceased. It was noted that this request comes forward due to changes to Public Works staffing and the risk of potential Town liability. Public Works has also estimated that it costs approximately \$150 per event to plow this lot. It was further noted that this is the only private parking lot that the Town was plowing.

Mayor Boyer, Deputy Mayor Power, and Chief Kane return to the meeting at 7:39 pm.

vii. Request for Decision: Holiday Closure

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-08

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend to Council that Town Hall be closed from December 23, 2022, to January 2, 2023 (inclusive) and further, that Town Hall staff use vacation time, unpaid leave, or time in lieu in the equivalent amount of three days.

Motion carried.

viii. Grant Applications: Community Hub and Generator

CAO Millett-Campbell noted that since hurricane Fiona, a grant has become available for comfort centres to purchase a generator. The grant would pay 80% to a maximum of \$50,000. She has also received an initial quote for one generator and installation for approximately \$34,000 and noted that the application deadline is next week.

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-09

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council designate the Community Hub Gymnasium, located at 578 St. George St. as a Comfort Centre. **Motion carried.**

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-10

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the cost-share of 20% as per funding guidelines, to a maximum of \$10,000 plus HST, for a generator for the Community Hub Gymnasium. **Motion carried.**

ix. Draft Climate Change Plan

Discussion held noting that Climate Change Intern, Kayla Winsor, has done a wonderful job and has put a lot of time into this document. It was noted that many appreciate the additional information and the informative and educational format that has been included in the plan. Mayor Boyer noted that she suspects things will begin to change quickly, e.g. the tidal power project. The document will be added to the website for the public's information. It was noted that the most important piece to review now is the 'moving forward' section (pages 31-32), Council is asked to review and provide comments to Kayla Winsor.

x. Bill 225

Concerns surrounding Bill 225 were brought to the attention of Mayor Boyer and were also raised at the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities conference last week. The primary concern being that the government seems to be making quick decisions rather than thinking things through and this Bill would provide option for the Province to override municipal by-laws and/or bypass municipal consultations. It was noted that there is to be a conversation with Minister Lohr in Halifax tomorrow, after which Council will determine next steps.

xi. National Acadian Day Grant

There is a \$250,000 grant opportunity for one organization/community to host a large-scale Acadian Day event. Community partners approached Mayor Boyer indicating that

they would like to have the event in Annapolis Royal. The group of partners would be responsible for applying for and managing the funding. This would be a large-scale, high-profile event. On behalf of Council, Mayor Boyer agreed to inform the organizing group that yes, the event could be held in Town and a letter of support for the grant application can be provided if needed.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

i. NS Utility Review Board (NSURB), Boundary Review Decision

It was noted that NSURB has accepted and approved the Town's application to remain with one polling district and a council of four councillors and one mayor.

11. ROUND TABLE:

i. Mayor Boyer

Mayor Boyer noted that the Town's nominee for the Provincial Volunteer awards, Anna Kate Newman, was unable to attend the provincial event, and that she and Noah Scanlon will be taking her and her husband out for a celebratory dinner. She also attended the brief First Poppy event at the Legion where she was presented with the first poppy. She will be reviewing the historic Twinning Committee agreements. She further noted that she will be out of town from November 13 to 16 and that Deputy Mayor Power will be attending the next IMSA meeting in her stead and chairing the next Council meeting. As well, she would like to remind folks that there will be a Remembrance Day service on Friday.

ii. Deputy Mayor Power

Deputy Mayor Power noted that the striking school support workers at the lights appeared to have a good turn out and is not aware of any problems. CAO Millett-Campbell mentioned that there were a couple of noise complaints received, but that the strikers were cooperative.

iii. Councillor Hafting

Councillor Hafting noted that she attended the URB hearing and was interested to learn that the Town's population is 530 with 491 electors. She extended thanks to Town staff for hosting Spooktacular Saturday and is looking forward to Volunteer Fest on Nov 12. She also extended congratulations to Chief Kane for being awarded the Queen's Platinum Jubilee medal, to Rob and Joanne Lawrie of Home Hardware for 40 successful years, and to the Annapolis Brewing Company for receiving a gold medal for best stout in the National Canadian Beer Cup.

iv. Councillor Sanford

Councillor Sanford noted that she attended the NSFM conference last week and was pleased to meet the new CAO of Middleton. The conference went well, and it was nice to reconnect and meet in person; in particular the conversation series was well done. The Premier spoke, but didn't stay for questions, other party leaders (or provincial ministers) were available for Q&A.

v. Councillor Tompkins

Councillor Tompkins commended Public Works on the work being done on St. George St., they are doing a fabulous job. He noted that for Halloween, he had 300 trick or treaters, ran out of candy, and had to send his oldest to go buy more. He offered congratulations to the senior boys' soccer team for making Provincials, and the senior boy's volleyball teams will be going to Regionals.

12. IN-CAMERA:

Under Section 22(2) of the *Municipal Government Act*:

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-11

It was regularly moved and seconded to move in camera to discuss one contract negotiation and one personnel matter at 8:07 pm. **Motion carried.**

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-13

It was regularly moved and seconded to move out of camera at 8:30 pm. **Motion carried.**

MOTION #CoW2022-11-07-14

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend approval of the IMSA contract with Middleton and direct staff to sign the IMSA contract. **Motion carried.**

13. ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm.

Amery Boyer, Mayor

Krista Gear, Recording Secretary