



QUISPAMIS TOWN COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**July 15, 2020, 3:00 pm
Electronic Meeting
(Video Streamed by Rogers TV)**

Members Present: Mayor Gary Clark
Deputy Mayor Libby O'Hara
Councillor Sean Luck
Councillor Lisa Loughery (3:25 pm)
Councillor Kirk Miller
Councillor Emil T. Olsen
Councillor Pierre Rioux
Councillor Beth Thompson

Staff Present Deuille, Susan; CAO
Brandon; Krista; Town Treasurer
Losier, Gary; Director of Engineering & Works
Snow, Catherine; Town Clerk

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved By Councillor Miller

Seconded By Deputy Mayor O'Hara

The agenda be approved as prepared.

Motion Carried

2. Economic Development Model for the Greater Saint John Region -Presentation by Facilitators of the Economic Development Advisory Council - Cathy Simpson, CASM Group & David Campbell, Jupia Consultants, & Advisory Member, Paulette Hicks, Delta Saint John

Ms. Simpson, Ms. Hicks and Mr. Campbell made presentation on the proposed new Economic Development Model for the Greater Saint John Region on behalf of the Greater Saint John Economic Development Advisory Council. They noted the consensus view of stakeholders is that the Saint John region requires a different model - a regional model that aligns and combines economic development, people attraction, infrastructure development, tourism development and related activities into a single

organization with one board, one mandate, one leader and one budget. They proposed the new innovative approach to regional economic development will be equitably funded by all municipalities, aligns with the key players and will have a budget and scale to compete with other larger urban centres across Atlantic Canada and beyond.

Funding from all the region's municipalities, including Hampton and hopefully the LSDs, is based on per capita, and over the next five years, core municipal government funding will be increased by an estimated \$7.6 million from the accommodation levy and \$10.3 million from Provincial and Federal government funding as well as the private sector. Quispamsis' portion is proposed at \$168,000 for 2021 and will rise to \$454,000 by 2025.

The Board of directors will consist of inside Municipal/Government Directors and outside Private Sector Directors, with the inside directors being appointed by the municipalities from senior staff members, primarily the City and Town managers, with no elected representations on the Board. The Board will consist of 14-15 directors; to include 7-8 outside private sector directors, 6 inside municipal directors and possibly 1 provincial government nominated director. Preferred shareholder representation will include 2 from the City of Saint John; and one each from the four other municipalities, each with one vote.

The time schedule will see the new model -

- Voted on by the municipal councils in July 2020;
- July 2020 -the Transition Committee of six community leaders to recruit the new board Chair and initial board of directors.
- August 2020 - facilitate the process of Chief Economic Development Officer recruitment;
- Fall 2020 establish the funding formula for LSDs,
- October 2020 - Municipal government priorities established and
- December 2020 KPIs developed and approved by Councils.
- Saint John will have 2 directors and will have 4 votes to make up a good balance and force some level of consensus when making big decisions. The City Manager will attend meetings in an ex-officio non-voting capacity as the City will be providing 65-70% of the overall funding.
- Opt out clause after three years if municipalities are not pleased with progress, however it is hoped that the five year commitment will prevail to provide the new team the stability it needs to produce the anticipated results and KPIs.

- The municipalities will have strategic oversight control, with the Town's CAO or another Senior Staff member serving on the Board. CAO Deuville's contributions to the Advisory Council over the past year were noted as valuable and appreciated.

A Question and Answer period followed between Council Members and the Advisory Council Members.

Cathy Simpson left the meeting.(4:10 pm)

Moved By Deputy Mayor O'Hara
Seconded By Councillor Olsen

The Quispamsis Town Council accept and adopt the new regional economic development framework as stated in the *Collaborating to Ensure the Municipalities in Greater Saint John will Prosper in the 2020s – A New Economic Development Model Prospectus* dated July 13th, 2020; and presented by Ms. Simpson, Ms. Hicks and Mr. Campbell at a Special Meeting of Council held July 15, 2020; and further, the Town of Quispamsis agrees to sign a letter of commitment to the Greater Saint John Economic Advisory Council to that effect.

Motion Carried

3. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Rioux
Seconded By Councillor Luck

Special Meeting adjourn. (Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.)

Motion Carried

X

Gary Clark
Mayor

X

Catherine P. Snow
Clerk