



QUISPAMISIS TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

September 21, 2021, 7:00 pm

Council Chambers

Quispamsis Town Hall

Present:

Mayor Libby O'Hara
Deputy Mayor Mary Schryer
Councillor Mike Biggar
Councillor Noah Donovan
Councillor Kerrie Luck
Councillor Kirk Miller (Electronic Attendance)
Councillor Emil T. Olsen
Councillor Beth Thompson
Brandon, Krista; Town Treasurer
Kennedy, Aaron; Acting CAO
Losier, Gary; Director of Engineering & Works
MacInnis, Lisa; Assistant. Clerk
McGraw, Joanie, Human Resources Manager
Purton Dickson, Dana; Director of Community Services
Snow, Catherine; Town Clerk

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved By Deputy Mayor Schryer

Seconded By Councillor Biggar

The Agenda be approved as prepared.

Motion Carried

2. Mayor's Comments

Mayor O'Hara announced, due to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases in the province, the Town will be modifying its September 30, 2021 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

plan. Instead of having a large gathering of staff in one location, Mayor O'Hara noted, she will be recording messages on You Tube and the Town's social media channels for the residents. Staff will be encouraged to take a few moments to watch the videos, pause and reflect and will be wearing orange to honour the day. She noted Call to Action No. 57 in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report calls upon all levels of government to provide education to public servants, noting the Town will be moving forward with further educational opportunities for Staff in the coming months.

Mayor O'Hara encouraged all eligible people to get vaccinated to protect themselves and the vulnerable, noting masks and showing proof of vaccinations will become mandatory at midnight tonight.

3. Treaty Acknowledgement - Moment of Reflection

Councillor Luck read the Treaty Acknowledgement and Moment of Reflection.

4. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures were declared.

5. Presentations

5.1 QMS ArtsSmarts Project - Request for One Day Use of qplex Arena Floor as Venue for 75' x 60' Art Installation Focused on the "Every Child Matters" Movement and Environmental Waste of Cardboard

Presenters: Heidi Stoddart, Visual Arts Teacher, & Janelle Leblanc, First Nations Education - Also In Attendance, Bonny Hill, Artist and Bridget Miller, Teacher - Quispamsis Middle School

Ms. Stoddard made presentation to Council noting QMS is in the process of applying for an ArtsSmarts grant. They are requesting the use of the qplex floor to be donated for one day to display the final phase of their project - a massive temporary art installation requiring a large floor surface that can be viewed from above at a distance. The ArtsSmarts project targets two areas for effecting change - First Nations Education -the *Every Child Matters Movement*; and secondly, to bring attention to the environmental impacts resulting from so much cardboard waste in today's society. They feel by displaying their project at the qplex, their message will reach more members of the community. Bonny Hill, a contemporary NB artist, is partnering with the school and having led large scale community art projects in the past, is expecting media interest and coverage.

Ms. LeBlanc spoke about the First Nations children who were taken from their families, their communities and their culture in the 1960s by child welfare authorities. They were placed in foster homes and many were adopted by Euro-

Canadian families. The planned Artwork will feature one of these children, Minda Burley, who will be present during the showing of the ArtsSmarts display.

Ms. Stoddard noted, with respect to the 4th wave of Covid and increasing numbers of Covid, QMS will follow whatever Public Health protocols are in place at the time of the showing.

Council Members thanked the QMS representatives for their well thought out and educational initiative.

A Staff Report from the Director of Community Services stated if Council approves the donation, Staff would prefer to coordinate the event for November 10, 2021 to align with Remembrance Day Ceremonies on November 11th as this event also requires the ice covering to be installed. She noted there will be five ice rental groups impacted by the loss of ice time on November 10, and the dry floor rental fee that would be waived would be \$3,134, plus the loss of ice rental that totals \$1,205.

Moved By Councillor Thompson

Seconded By Councillor Donovan

Council approve QMS's request for the use of the qplex dry floor for QMS's Smart Arts Project on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, as recommended by Staff.

Motion Carried

6. Public Hearings (none)

7. Minutes of Previous Meetings

7.1 September 7, 2021 - Regular Meeting

Moved By Councillor Biggar

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Schryer

Minutes be approved as prepared.

Motion Carried

8. Unfinished Business

8.1 (Apr.6/21) Safe Restart Agreement Funds - Staff Report from Town Treasurer

A Staff Report from the Town Treasurer informed Council the Town received \$990,447.16 in 2021 for Safe Restart Funds, and a grant of \$240,769 resulting from the elimination of the P-Gap for a total of \$1,231,216.16 in unbudgeted

additional funding., She noted at the April 6, 2021 Regular Meeting, Council passed a motion to add \$500,000 of these funds to the 2021 Street Capital Budget for additional road upgrades, and asked Staff to provide recommendations on priority projects for the additional \$731,216 .

Moved By Councillor Olsen

Seconded By Councillor Biggar

Council accept Staff's recommendations to allocate the additional funds to the following projects:

1. qplex – Roof reflective coating reinstatement - \$150,000;
2. Utility Building - \$200,000;
3. Wildwood Treatment Remediation (emergency repairs) - \$115,000;
4. Water tower interior and exterior rehabilitation - \$150,000

And that any remaining amounts first offset any direct Covid-19 expenses, and then 75% of the remaining available funds be transferred to the General Capital Reserve and 25% be transferred to the Utility Capital reserve for future capital projects.

Motion Carried

9. Correspondence

9.1 Chief Wayne Gallant - Kennebecasis Regional Joint Board of Police Commissioners - Proposed 2022 Budget

The Kennebecasis Regional Police Budget reflected a 9.972% increase over the 2021 budget, for a total budget amount of \$7,689,223. The % of total budget includes

- Salaries & Benefits; 79.46%;
- Property; 5.34%; and
- Vehicles; 3.78%.

Moved By Deputy Mayor Schryer

Seconded By Councillor Thompson

Council refer the Kennebecasis Regional Joint Board of Police Commissioners' Proposed 2022 Budget to the Finance Committee as part of the 2022 budget process.

Motion Carried

9.2 Treasurer Peter Lewis, Kennebecasis Regional Fire Department Inc. - Proposed 2022 Budget

Correspondence from Treasurer Lewis stated the Kennebecasis Valley Fire Department Inc.'s Proposed 2022 Budget, maintains their level of service while also addressing the changing risk profile of the community, (multi-storey, multi-residential buildings). The Operating Budget includes the addition of one full-time staff position who will be dedicated to public education and fire code enforcement; and totals \$5,940,862; a 5.63% increase over 2021.

The Capital Budget focuses on the planned expansion and renovation of Station 2 in Quispamsis and totals \$2,900,000.

Moved By Deputy Mayor Schryer

Seconded By Councillor Thompson

Council refer the Kennebecasis Valley Fire Department Inc.'s Proposed 2022 Budget to the Finance Committee as part of the 2022 budget process.

Motion Carried

9.3 Mr. Marc MacLeod - Fundy Regional Service Commission - Proposed 2022 Budget

Correspondence from Marc MacLeod, Executive Director, Fundy Regional Service Commission, informed Council the landfill tipping fees will increase \$5 per metric tonne for municipal solid waste from \$108 to \$113. The construction and demolition waste will increase \$2 per metric tonne, from \$28 to \$30. The total 2022 Operating Fund Budget for Solid Waste Services totals \$8,905,133. This, he noted, is the first increase to the tipping fees since 2003. The Regional and Cooperative Service billing for Quispamsis in 2022 will be \$7,602.

Moved By Councillor Donovan

Seconded By Councillor Olsen

Any comments of Council concerning the Fundy Regional Service Commission's proposed 2022 Budget be referred to Mayor O'Hara, the Town's representative on the FRSC, to pass along to the Commission at their upcoming October 25, 2021 Meeting at which time the Commission Members will be voting on the final FRSC 2022 budget.

Motion Carried

9.4 Arlene Mortensen - Request to Light Up Town Hall "Red" Week of October 20, 2021 to Support "Mark It Red for Dyslexia" Awareness Campaign

Correspondence from Arlene Mortensen requested Quispamsis to join Dyslexia Canada by lighting up its Town Hall red for at least one day during the week of October 20, 2021 to bring awareness and shine a light on the kids in classrooms suffering from dyslexia. The teacher's red pen, she stated, is a constant reminder of the lack of awareness and support needed for them to learn to read, write and spell with their peers and to be successful in school and in life. October is recognized as Dyslexia Awareness Month to support the 15 - 20% of the population living with dyslexia.

Moved By Councillor Donovan

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Schryer

The Town of Quispamsis join Dyslexia Canada in bringing awareness to the learning differences associated with dyslexia by lighting up the Town Hall entrance area red the week of October 20, 2021 to support those living with dyslexia.

Motion Carried

9.5 Letter from Pat Downey - Request for Traffic Lights - Palmer Brook Road & Hampton Road Intersection and Request for Street Light - Elliot Road & Palmer Brook Road Intersection

Ms. Downey requested the installation of traffic lights at the Palmer Brook Road - Hampton Road intersection. She noted she was side swept on the passenger side of her vehicle last year when a motorists travelling towards Hampton on the Palmer Brook Road did not stop behind her vehicle that was turning left onto the Hampton Road, and instead attempted to pass them on the road shoulder. This she noted is a common occurrence and she was nearly hit again a few days ago. She also noted it is very dark at the Palmer Brook/Elliot Road intersection and asked if a street light can be installed in this area to improve visibility at night.

Moved By Councillor Thompson

Seconded By Councillor Donovan

Recognizing that the Palmer Brook Road and the Hampton Road are both Provincially Designated Highways and fall under the Province's jurisdiction; Ms. Pat Downey's letter be issued to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure with a cover letter from the Town requesting what actions can be implemented to address Ms. Downey's concerns, and Ms. Downey be copied on same.

Motion Carried

10. By-laws

10.1 Proposed Amendment No. 050-01; A By-law of the Municipality of Quispamsis Respecting the Collection and Disposal of Solid Waste

Moved By Councillor Biggar

Seconded By Councillor Olsen

WHEREAS a notice has been published on the Town of Quispamsis' website pursuant to Section 15(3) and 15(4) of the Local Governance Act; the proposed By-law Amendment No. 050-01 that received first and second reading at the September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting, is hereby summarized as follows: to revise sections in the By-law to remove single use plastic bags as acceptable recyclable waste as a result of the enactment of the Town's Reduction of Single Use Plastic Bags By-law No. 061, along with further changes to Schedule "A" and "C" as defined by the Fundy Regional Services Commission as acceptable or non-acceptable collection items;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT third and final reading be given to Proposed Amendment No. 050-01; An Amendment to the Municipality of Quispamsis' Solid Waste Collection and Disposal By-law incorporating the changes as aforementioned.

Motion Carried

11. New Business

11.1 Award of Tender No.2021TQ07-27 - Wheeled Excavator - Staff Report from Director of Engineering & Works

A Staff Report from the Director of Engineering & Works stated Council had approved \$205,000 in the 2021 budget for a wheeled excavator to improve the Works Department's overall work order capacity and efficiency. At the June 15, 2021 meeting, Council had approved a request to adjust the proposed 2021 fleet schedule to issue a tender for the wheeled excavator with the understanding the final tendered price may exceed the allocated budget for 2021. The three tenders all came in over budget, with the low tender, Paul Equipment & Sons, at \$287,228. With non-recoverable HST, this translates to \$94,538 overbudget, and the approval of the tender will pre-commit Council to an allocation of this amount, (\$94,538) in the proposed 2022 fleet capital budget.

Moved By Deputy Mayor Schryer

Seconded By Councillor Olsen

To award the Hydraulic Wheeled Excavator RFP 2021TQ07-27 to Paul Equipment & Sons without the additional hammer from the overall proposed equipment package for a price of \$287,228, (excluding HST).

Motion Carried

11.2 Town of Quispamsis Proposed Vaccination and Testing Protocol

Staff Report from Human Resources Manager, Joanie McGraw, and Letter Received from Councillor Noah Donovan

Ms. McGraw spoke further to her Staff Report noting a recent survey indicates a high percentage of Town employees are vaccinated. However, with the return of school and the seasonal shift to more indoor workspaces, the Town does have a risk of exposure to COVID-19 within the workplaces. With the recent surge of cases in the province, it is recommended that the Town authorize the CAO to implement a "Vaccination and Testing Protocol".

Correspondence from Councillor Donovan indicated his support of implementing vaccination policies designed to keep employees and residents safe.

It was noted the initially recommended October 12, 2021 deadline for employees to show proof of vaccination, will be moved up sooner due to the high number of current cases. Those not vaccinated will need to follow the testing protocols as recommended. It was further noted that under Provincial regulation as of midnight this evening, masks will again be mandatory in indoor places as well as proof of vaccinations to frequent many public places.

Moved By Councillor Olsen

Seconded By Councillor Donovan

Council authorizes and directs the Acting CAO to implement the "Vaccination and Testing Protocol" as presented, and further authorizes the CAO/Acting CAO to make amendments to the COVID-19 Safety Strategy as required.

Motion Carried

12. Reports

- 12.1 Local Governance Reform in New Brunswick - "What We Heard" Report
- 12.2 Kennebecasis Valley Fire Department Inc. - April, July & August Meeting Minutes and Associated Documents
- 12.3 Kennebecasis Public Library - July 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- 12.4 Tree Canada - 10th Anniversary of National Tree Day

12.5 Planning Advisory Committee - August 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Moved By Councillor Donovan

Seconded By Councillor Luck

Reports be received and filed.

Motion Carried

13. Business Arising from Committee of the Whole

14. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Olsen

Seconded By Councillor Thompson

Meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

X

Elizabeth O'Hara
Mayor

X

Catherine Snow
Town Clerk