



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017

30 Honour House Court - Council Chambers

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Members Present: Mayor Ann Seamans
Deputy Mayor Cecile Cassista
Councillor Lana Hansen
Councillor John Coughlan
Councillor Jeremy Thorne
Councillor Wayne Bennett
Councillor Tammy Rampersaud

Regrets: Councillor Andrew LeBlanc

Staff Present: C. Smith, CAO
A. Crummey, Town Clerk
D. Richard, Deputy Town Clerk
R. Higson, Director of Finance
M. Ouellet, Director of Engineering & Works
S. Thomson, Director of Economic Development
T. Finlay, Director of Human Resources
G. Cole, Director of Parks & Recreation
D. Pleau, Fire Chief

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seamans called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Deputy Mayor C. Cassista

Seconded by: Councillor J. Thorne

That the Committee of the Whole agenda for Tuesday, May 23, 2017 be approved.

Motion Carried

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

NIL

4. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Paul Toner - Request for partial street closure in relation to 3 on 3 basketball tournament

Moved by: Councillor T. Rampersaud

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor C. Cassista

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Town Council to approve to authorize a partial street closure on Saturday, June 24th between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Cleveland Avenue between Devere Road and Bradford Road in order to accommodate the RHS Basketball Booster Club in a 3- on-3 Basketball Tournament; said approval is pending notification of all emergency and protective services (including Ambulance NB, Codiac RCMP, Codiac Transpo, the Riverview Fire Department and the Public Works Department).

Motion Carried

5. PETITIONS, PRESENTATIONS & DELEGATIONS

a. Presentation by Samantha Ables and Anne Duchesne

Movement to save the bees - Request to ban Neonicotinoid pesticides

Students, Samantha Ables and Anne Dushesne, of Riverview High School defined neonicotinoid and their effects on bees as well as the possibility of negative effects on humans. Neonicotinoids are a relatively new class of insecticides that share a common mode of action that affect the central nervous system of insects, resulting in paralysis and death. Uncertainties have been identified since their initial use regarding the potential environmental fate and effects of neonicotinoid pesticides, particularly as they relate to pollinators. Neonicotinoids have harmful impacts on the environment as they are water soluble and can permeate the water sources. The students outlined what is being done with respect to preventative measures in Ontario and Europe. We, in Riverview, could start by educating the public on the harmful effects of neonicotinoids and find a more eco-friendly alternative.

The students confirmed with Deputy Mayor Cassista their information was collected from various scientists.

Gerry Cole noted that essentially the Town does not use herbicide or pesticides (2011) unless there is a need they cannot combat themselves. The Town has undertaken a number of initiatives to encourage the bees such as planting red clover amongst the sun flowers which attracts the bees. The department has also been using more perennial flowers which also attracts bees, butterflies, etc. and if for some reason we remove a tree then another tree is planted. The Town had also attempted to use beet juice to combat the weeds but it did not have satisfactory results.

G. Cole noted that the Town adheres to the Integrated Pest Management plan. It must be followed according to the strict legislative guidelines.

b. Presentation by David Shea, Recreation Coordinator (Aquatics)

Aquatics Program Review Update

C. Smith provided the context for the presentation. Last year during the budget process funds were set aside for an aquatics review and these are the results of the progress that has been made to date.

D. Shea noted that there has been an adjustment to the staffing model and employee schedules. Two new positions have been created-

Clerk/Receptionist and an Aquatics Recreation Coordinator. He remarked that a number of adjustments to the operational practices were made to increase internal efficiencies and cost saving measures including the purchase of scheduling software. The Town also made a change to its service provider to the Life Saving Society of Canada and are offering a greater number of swimming lessons. The Town will also be introducing a graduated increase in user fees. The Department has added a number of policies and procedures to ensure resident and employee safety, redefining admission standards and public swim rules. Still in progress is the creation of a new swim schedule. When hiring new employees the Town will increase the focus on future hiring needs to avoid staff shortages.

D. Shea noted that there were several other recommendations which resulted in the review. He highlighted some of the operational, service and safety measures which are ongoing.

D. Shea confirmed with Councillor Thorne that the Town is currently exploring pre-natal swimming programs.

D. Shea confirmed with Councillor Bennett that the swim club utilizes about 21 hours per week of pool time. He also confirmed that more and more people are registering on-line.

D. Shea confirmed that the two new positions are in place and are housed at the Aquatic Centre.

C. Smith noted that the Department has done some positive things and that Dave Shea and Gerry Cole should be commended for their efforts.

D. Shea confirmed with Councillor Bennett that the view area is really hot and in an effort to cool it down they will reduce bodies within and have also purchased a fan for this area.

c. Presentation by Wayne Brown & Jean Claude Basque

New Brunswick Health Coalition re Private for Profit Blood Plasma Clinic

Wayne Brown reminded Council of the contaminated blood scandal that resulted in 30,000 Canadians infected with hepatitis C virus and 2,000 with

HIV. It is estimated that 8,000 people will die because of it. Following this incident, the report of Justice Krever's Inquiry made many recommendations including that "blood and blood products should be collected from volunteer donors and that we only have one system for blood collection - Canadian Blood Services". In a 2017 press release the Canadian Blood Services stated "Plasma, just like blood, is a public resource that must be safeguarded for Canadians. ..." He noted that the World Health Organization recommended in July 2016 that "Collection of blood, plasma, and other blood components from low-risk, regular, voluntary unpaid donors. It goes on to say that "The donation of blood by voluntary non-remunerated blood donors is recognized as being crucial for the safety and sustainability of national blood supplies."

Mr. Brown pointed out that the Canadian Plasma Resources is a for-profit company. He noted that the Provinces of Ontario and Alberta have passed the Voluntary Blood Donation Act; and Quebec has a similar law. In light of the fact that CPR opened a clinic in Moncton, the New Brunswick Health Coalition is proposing that we keep our blood and plasma collection system public and keep donations voluntary; we increase the amount of plasma collected; we increase public awareness about our needs in blood and plasma, and that the Province adopt a law similar to the Voluntary Blood Donation Act.

Mr. Brown confirmed with Councillor Thorne that a similar presentation was made to the City of Moncton.

C. Smith confirmed with Councillor Thorne that the Zoning By-Law is broad and he would think the Town would need to spell out specifically such a restriction in order to prohibit this type of use.

Jean Claude Basque confirmed with Deputy Mayor Cassista that once the Province legislated the Blood Donor Act which prohibited the sale of plasma, the clinics in Alberta and Ontario closed.

Jean Claude Basque remarked that the real problem is opening the whole issue of are we, as a country, going to start selling other parts of our body.

Jean Claude Basque explained the incentives the private company is using to attract its clients which is appealing to the young people. Anyone over

17 years of age can donate plasma. He noted that the Canadian Blood Services is not in favour of the for profit clinics.

He confirmed that their representatives are trying to schedule a meeting with the Minister of Health and have also submitted petitions and forwarded letters with the support of 20 unions. They are working diligently to get more information to the public.

Councillor Bennett inquired whether the Canadian Blood Services Canada made a presentation to the Federal government which would legislate the voluntary blood/plasma services. Jean Claude remarked that the Federal Government is trying to increase the amount of plasma being collected.

Jean Claude Basque confirmed with Councillor Rampersaud that when the plasma clinics opened it did have an impact on the numbers contributing to the voluntary blood clinics. The danger is that instead of donating blood people are donating plasma for money.

Jean Claude Basque confirmed with Councillor Rampersaud that ideally the organization would like to see the Town take a public position. It is imperative to increase public awareness about this situation.

Mr. Brown indicated that they have met with many MLAs and MPs but unfortunately, to date, no public position has been taken by them.

6. EXTERNAL REPORTS

a. Building Permit Report for the month of April, 2017

Deputy Mayor Cassista noted that the building permit values have increased. She confirmed that the renovations to the apartments on Coverdale Road is included in the \$3.5 million to date.

C. Smith confirmed with Councillor Thorne that the report did not contain commercial or industrial development. However, the opportunity does exist within the Town for this type of development. He suggested that the commercial growth has slowed down over the last couple of years and that opportunity is driven by the market. C. Smith also confirmed that 3Plus has access to the Town's building permit reports.

Report accepted as presented.

b. Development Activity Report for the month of April, 2017

Report accepted as presented.

c. Animal Control Report for the month of April, 2017

Town Clerk confirmed with Deputy Mayor Cassista that the fines have increased in 2017 which are mainly related to animals at large throughout the Town.

Report accepted as presented.

d. Codiac RCMP Report

Report accepted as presented.

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. Administration Department

7.a.1 Administration Report for the month of May, 2017

C. Smith pointed out that the construction on the causeway will impact the bus schedule. Currently Codiac Transpo is monitoring their options which will be revisited with Council in the near future.

Councillor Thorne is happy that the service tracker software will be implemented for by-law enforcement. C. Smith remarked that once the software is in place the tracking system will commence logging the inquiries/complaints but not before the system was initiated.

C. Smith confirmed with Deputy Mayor Cassista that they are in the final stages of developing a new agreement with 3Plus. This might even be an item for discussion at a tri-community meeting.

Councillor Rampersaud welcomed the new employee update which was distributed to all staff. It was full of interesting information which was appreciated by staff.

7.a.2 Council Briefing - Signage

Moved by: Deputy Mayor C. Cassista

Seconded by: Councillor J. Coughlan

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that staff be directed to review the by-law related to small advertising signs and report back to Council specific recommendations.

Motion Carried

C. Smith remarked that Council had made inquiries regarding signage. He was not certain that the issue of signage could be separated (i.e. portable signs and signs on posts). There are challenges in regard to this issue which pertain to the freedom of expression. He outlined options in the report including having Urban Planning review the totality of the signage by-law.

Councillor Coughlan stated that he agrees with option 4 outlined in the report.

Deputy Mayor Cassista indicated that Council must be cognizant that we do have businesses that make signage. She cautioned that Moncton ran into trouble with electronic signage and noted that NB Power has a policy.

Mayor Seamans noted that a review would be good.

7.a.3 By-Law Summary Report

Report accepted as presented.

b. Finance Department

7.b.1 Finance Report for the month of May, 2017

Councillor Bennett inquired whether the cost savings relating to the Operations Centre should be publicized in some way to ensure that the residents are aware of this fact.

C. Smith noted that there are options that could be exercised in order to make the public aware of this good news such as through the Council highlights.

R. Higson confirmed with Councillor Thorne the requirement for the home owner to be charged associated costs to register a lien (and subsequently a Discharge of Levy) has been in place since he was hired and quite possibly for many years prior to that. This is a cost that is passed on to the resident when the option of financing with the Town is exercised by a home owner for local improvement charges.

R. Higson confirmed with Deputy Mayor Cassista that the Town is seeking \$15,000 for costs associated with the ice storm.

Report accepted as presented.

c. Engineering & Works

7.c.1 Engineering & Works report for the month of April -May, 2017

M. Ouellet pointed out a small correction in the monthly report. He remarked that the Government Road water main contract will commence in July.

M. Ouellet confirmed with Councillor Thorne that Schedule A is the initial letter advising residents of the proposed local improvements and outlines their opportunity to voice objections. Schedule B is the actual charged rate to each home owner.

Report accepted as presented.

d. Fire Department

7.d.1 Fire Department report for the month of April, 2017

Chief Pleau pointed out that the department is utilizing the old public works building for training exercises, and he wanted to alert Council of this fact. He also wanted to highlight that the Department is also taking part in a Safe Grad Program which will be

graphic in nature. The event will be held at the rear of the Fire & Rescue Department on Thursday, May 26th at 4:30 p.m.

Chief Pleau confirmed with Councillor Thorne that during the repair work to the trusses alternative arrangements have been made to minimize any interference with the duties of the firefighters. Chief Pleau was not certain whether during safety inspections staff checked the dryer vents.

Report accepted as presented.

e. Parks, Recreation and Community Relations

7.e.1 Parks & Recreation report for the month of May, 2017

G. Cole confirmed that the new part did arrive for the piece of equipment for Bridgedale Park; however, it had to be taken down as per instructions from the contractor. He noted that the official opening will take place after school is out.

Councillor Coughlan inquired about the progress of Ridgeway Park. G. Cole indicated that the contract will go out to tender this week and hopefully will be awarded on June 26th.

Report accepted as presented.

f. Business/Economic Development

7.f.1 Business/Economic Development report for the month of May, 2017

S. Thomson indicated that the Visitor Information Centre open on Friday, May 26th. He also remarked that worldwide attention is being placed on the Fundy Biosphere, which will draw attention to this area.

S. Thomson confirmed with Deputy Mayor Cassista that Segway Tours will store its units in one of the empty spaces, free of charge, at the Chocolate River Station. He confirmed that the company will contribute to the hydro, which will be monitored by staff. The same

is said for the food truck and that hydro is being shared by some of the tenants.

Report accepted as prepared.

g. Human Resources

7.g.1 Human Resources Report for the month of May, 2017

T. Finlay noted that the department has been really busy with the students that are coming on board!

Report accepted as presented.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Grant Report - May 2017

Moved by: Councillor T. Rampersaud

Seconded by: Councillor J. Coughlan

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Town Council to waive the rental fee in the amount of \$300 for the Metro Baseball Association for their event being held at the Coverdale Centre on June 17, 2017.

Motion Carried

Moved by: Councillor T. Rampersaud

Seconded by: Councillor J. Thorne

That a friendly amendment be made to change the word "waive" to "award a grant" (in the amount of \$300).

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Cassista remarked that she is the liaison for MAGMA. There was a miscommunication with regard to the application. The application was submitted by MAGMA but it should have been from the Mosaic Festival and will be resubmitted under the correct organization.

Metro Baseball Association

Deputy Mayor Cassista noted that this group had successfully applied last year.

Councillor Hansen indicated that normally the Town has awarded a 40% subsidy of the rental rate which G. Cole confirmed to be the past practise. He noted that to waive the fee completely would set a precedent.

A friendly amended was made by motion to recommend and carried. Council then proceeded to vote on the original motion as amended which was also carried.

9. COUNCIL STATEMENTS/INQUIRIES

Councillor Rampersaud noted that it has been one year since becoming an elected official. She wanted to express her appreciation to staff for their support and assistance with the many items she has brought forward. She appreciates their quick response and professionalism.

Councillor Coughlan concurred with the sentiments of his colleague. He also wanted to express his appreciation to the staff for removing the garbage and debris on Cleveland Avenue extension - it looks great!

Councillor Bennett commented that recently an article appeared in the Times Transcript which featured the accomplishments of Brooklyn Douthwright. He wanted to draw Council's attention to her achievements as she is the youngest female swimmer (at age 12) to swim the Northumberland Strait! He wanted to record this fact in the Town's history and to wish her continued luck in her future aspirations.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Councillor J. Thorne

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor C. Cassista

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Motion Carried