

COUNCIL

MAY 24TH, 2016

#16-08

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 24th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Lois Smith presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Lisa Ward
Councillor Norman Rafuse
Councillor Ron Shaw
J. Raymond Hickey, CAO
Kevin Yorke, Secretary

REGRETS: Councillor David Harrison

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councillor Shaw requested the addition of Parrsboro Shore Projects Report as item 7. (c).

Moved by Councillor Rafuse, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Agenda be approved with the foregoing addition.

Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC HEARING RE: MPS/LUB AMENDMENTS, AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

At this point Councillor Rafuse declared a conflict and left the Council Chambers.

For the benefit of those present in the gallery, Planner Andrew Fisher presented an outline of his report that had been submitted to Council in April to do with the following:

1. An amendment to the Generalized Future Land Use Map of the Municipal Planning Strategy to change the designation of the eastern portion of a property located at 14 Chambers Boulevard (PID 25223686) from Industrial to Residential, and an amendment to the Zoning Map of the Land Use Bylaw to change the same property from Industrial and Architectural Residential to General Residential.

2. An application for a Development Agreement for the Eastern portion of 14 Chambers Boulevard (PID 25223686) to permit the construction of a new street, and up to four, 4-unit Townhouse dwellings.

The Planner noted that there was one change to the Development Agreement as discussed at the April meeting to do with the provision to include a reserve within the public right-of-way for a sidewalk should one be necessary. After reviewing his report, Mr. Fisher responded to some generalized questions from those citizens present. He also noted that an application for a Development Agreement for 33 Pleasant Street to permit the construction and operation of an artist's studio and retail uses had been withdrawn.

Deputy Mayor Ward moved and Councillor Shaw seconded the 2nd Reading of an amendment to the Generalized Future Land Use Map of the Municipal Planning Strategy to change the designation of the eastern portion of a property located at 14 Chambers Boulevard (PID 25223686) from Industrial to Residential, and an amendment to the Zoning Map of the Land Use Bylaw to change the same property from Industrial and Architectural Residential to General Residential and an application for a Development Agreement for the Eastern portion of 14 Chambers Boulevard (PID 25223686) to permit the construction of a new street, and up to four, 4-unit Townhouse dwellings.

Motion carried.

At this point Councillor Rafuse returned to the Council Chambers.

4. PUBLIC HEARING RE: TAX EXEMPTION BYLAW AMENDMENT

The CAO advised that the purpose of the amendment to the Tax Exemption Bylaw was to grant to the Parrsboro Band Association an exemption for property tax purposes extending to 100% of the Band Hall building and total land.

Deputy Mayor Ward moved and Councillor Rafuse seconded the 2nd Reading of the Tax Exemption Bylaw Amendment.

Motion carried.

5. 1ST READING OF REZONING OF 451 MAIN STREET FROM RESIDENTIAL TO INSTITUTIONAL

Deputy Mayor Ward moved, and Councillor Shaw seconded the 1st Reading of Rezoning of 451 Main Street from Residential to Institutional.

Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARING RE: AMENDMENT TO THE LAND USE BYLAW TO EXPAND DEFINITION OF HOME OCCUPATION

The Planner reviewed the background to an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw to expand the definition of Home Occupation to include artist studios and retail uses.

Deputy Mayor Ward moved, and Councillor Shaw seconded the 2nd Reading of An Amendment to the Land Use Bylaw to expand the definition of Home Occupation to include artist studios and retail uses.

Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Smith asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the Council minutes of April 26th, 2016 (#16-07). Hearing none the minutes were declared approved as presented.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 2016

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

1. Presentations –

Nova Scotia Housing – Dan MacDonald from Nova Scotia Housing met with the Committee and representatives from County Council, Board of Trade and Economic Development to review programs available to help homeowners stay in their homes as well as options available to assist developers to create affordable housing. Anyone interested in finding out more about these programs is encouraged to contact Nova Scotia Housing at 902-755-7163.

Ship's Company Theatre – Natasha MacLellan, accompanied by Board members, Diane Powell, Chair and Michael Levy met with the Committee to review the upcoming season and to thank Council for their continued support. The Committee was also updated regarding recent repairs and upgrades to the theatre that will enhance the quality of the shows as well as a new marketing initiative through Theatre Nova Scotia that will promote the theatre and the community as a whole.

Open Arms Ministry – Doug Lake advised that Open Arms Ministry is looking to expand and proposed a couple of potential locations for a new church, one of which would require purchasing property from the Town in the area of the former Scott mill and the other a rezoning of a piece of property on Upper Main Street from Residential to Institutional.

After a discussion the Committee agreed that it would not be in the best interest of the Town to sell property at this point in time, and that the preferred option would be a rezoning of the Upper Main Street property. It was therefore, agreed to proceed with 1st Reading of the rezoning at the next Council meeting.

Fundy Geological Museum – Tim Fedak and Leisa Babineau of the Fundy Geological Museum met with the Committee, Municipal Advisor Chris MacNeil and TIR Operations Supervisor, Greg Frail to voice concerns regarding the potential impact the placement of a sewage treatment plant on adjoining property could have on the museum.

After a discussion Mr. Fedak thanked the Committee for their time and consideration and expressed the hope that the dialogue will continue as the project moves forward.

2. **CJSMA Budget** – The Committee reviewed the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority's Solid Waste Services Budget for fiscal 2016/17 and recommended that it be approved by Council.

3. **Energy Authority Corporate Status** – The CAO advised that there is a recommendation from the Cumberland Energy Authority and its legal counsel that its corporate status be maintained going forward beyond any merger and that the Cumberland County Council has already voted to continue with that format.

After a discussion the Committee recommended that the Town Council also approve the recommendation that the Energy Authority's corporate status be maintained.

4. **Unsightly Premises** – An active list of unsightly premises was circulated and reviewed.

As it was noted that some of the properties on the list have already been dealt with, it was recommended that the Committee review the town between now and the next Council meeting to eliminate those properties that have been cleaned-up and then give the CAO direction on those that are remaining.

5. **Tax Exemptions** – The Committee reviewed the applications submitted for the municipal tax exemption and recommended that they be approved pending confirmation from staff that all taxes from 2015/16 have been paid in full.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Rafuse that the Finance Committee report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.

Motion carried.

(b) PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 2016

Report given by Deputy Mayor Ward

-
- A gated opening will be installed at the Pier Road playground to improve access to the museum.

- The two new gates for the Aboiteau bridge have been completed. The gates and the berm are both scheduled to be installed around the second week of June. The CAO will follow up on Department of Environment approval for this project.
- The box from the old ¾ ton truck that has been taken out of service has been sold with the proceeds going toward the purchase of a utility trailer.
- Clean-up Week took place on the 18th, 19th and 24th of May and will wind up with the Swan Creek Road landfill being open on the 27th and 28th for leaf and yard waste.
- Recent high tides resulted in damage to the Boardwalk which has since been repaired. Gravel was also placed in areas where the pavement had washed away.
- The works crew will be hosing down the streets after the clean-up in preparation for painting the crosswalks and parking stalls.
- The department is asking for some money to be included in the budget for chains for the loader.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ward, seconded by Councillor Rafuse that the Public Works Committee report be accepted.

Motion carried.

(c) PARRSBORO SHORE PROJECTS REPORT

Councillor Shaw presented the following report submitted by Special Projects Facilitator, Taylor Redmond:

Projects complete and in progress:

- **Lighthouse Redeemable Bins** – Parrsboro Town Council approved two more lighthouses. Both lighthouses have been constructed and delivered to artists. One sponsor has come forward to be part of the project. One more sponsor will still have to be found. Lighthouses will be launched on June 4th at Parrsboro’s Art Installation Day.
- **Saltscape Trade Show** – The show was a great success and was very well attended. A local calendar of events, using a Joy Laking image, was well received, with over 2000 handed out at Saltscape. The remainder of the calendars have been distributed in the Parrsboro area, along the shore, in Truro, Halifax and in Amherst. The banner that was sponsored by the municipality had a very positive impact with the map image of the Shore drawing people and potential tourists into the booth. Three Parrsboro Shore area businesses were present in the booth, promoting their establishment with

the introduction of a Dulse food product. The introduction of food in the booth was very positive and should be considered for 2017.

- **Band Stand** – Is now being constructed on site. The foundation and base platform have been completed. Mid June is the estimated completion date.
- **Partridge Island Hiking Trail Repairs** – The site and trails are being worked on by Randy Corcoran who is being assisted by a student from Parrsboro Regional High's student Co-op program 2 days a week. A group of 5 women has come together who have volunteered their time, to help paint the look-off when all the repairs are completed.
- **Parrsboro Shore Hospitality Trade Show** – The May 7th event had 40 operators from Masstown to Joggins in attendance. It was received very positively by the community. Coverage was obtained on CBC, in the Shoreline Journal, the Amherst papers and on social media. Good attendance from outside our area with additional attendance from the operators of the VIC's in Halifax, Truro and Amherst. It has already been requested that we repeat the event next year. An evaluation questionnaire has been sent out to the vendors for feedback. Plans are underway to make it bigger and better and focus on a Cumberland County initiative for 2017.
- **Ambassador Training Program** – 6 weekly informative lunch sessions were attended by a group of 14 people, varying slightly in numbers from week to week. Positive feedback on all sessions. The speakers have been very informative and expanded awareness for the group. There will be a wrap up session and a discussion to future sessions at the end of May.
- **Ambassador Main Street** – Parrsboro did not receive funding for financial assistance for two summer students as Ambassadors, though the Parrsboro Recreation Department did obtain funding for 2 students. The Ambassadors will be presented to Parrsboro Town Council in order to obtain funding for one or both of these positions.
- **Town Entrance** – A compass for the traffic island at the entrance to Parrsboro is almost complete. The base is being constructed by Lyman Willigar and I am preparing the compass face. This will be installed on our Art Installation Day on June 4th.
- **Main Street** – I have started to re-install the Main Street displays: birdhouses, storyboards, large Adirondack beach chairs which will need repainting. New anchors will also have to be installed on the beach.
- **Main Street Business Signage** – I am working with one business operator to design new store front signage. Painting the front of his building is also in discussion. I am presently seeking out a volunteer team to help paint some of the businesses on Main Street.
- **Spencer's Island Signage** – Met with the Spencer's Island Community Association to develop and create signage for businesses and attractions in the community. It was decided that I connect with businesses individually before we proceed. I will report back to SICA at the June meeting.
- **June 4th Art Installation Day** – Invitations are going out this week for the event. 12 artists will be in attendance. Lighthouses will be placed on Main Street. In addition, two sculptural pieces are to be installed for the completion

of the “Widows Walk”. I met with artist John Little and Heather Lawson on May 17th to confirm their sculptures will be ready for the June 4th event. Things seem to be on schedule but confirmation could not be obtained.

- **STEP** – The working group is in the process of developing a final workshop for interested community members and operators in the area. Workshop topic will be the development and marketing of walking/interactive tours. Proposed workshop date will be decided May 27.

Moved by Councillor Shaw, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ward that the Parrsboro Shore Projects Report be accepted.

Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Ward asked why the completion date for the Band Stand had been pushed ahead to mid-June. Councillor Rafuse indicated that it had taken a month to get a building permit. The Deputy Mayor recommended advising the Band Association of the delay and the reason for it as to her understanding they were planning to hold their first summer concert on the new structure on June 3rd.

The Deputy Mayor also noted that she had been sharing pictures of the lighthouses with her colleagues at the UNSM, CJSMA, Waste Management Symposium and Town Caucus and that they are thrilled with them. She noted that hopefully the media will be here for their unveiling at the Art Installation Day on June 4th.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **Kylee Smith** – Deputy Mayor Ward noted that Parrsboro recently hosted the districts soft ball championship and will be hosting the regionals and that according to Doreen Smith, her granddaughter Kylee Smith, distinguished herself as the first female to hit a ball over the fence. The Deputy Mayor recommended that a letter of congratulations be sent to Kylee in recognition of her achievement. She also noted that coaches Matt Smith, Charlene Smith, Sam McCrindle and Bliss Walton should be commended for all of the time and effort they devote to the softball program. The Deputy Mayor also noted that the boy’s slo-pitch team recently won their division.

(b) **Purina Walk for Dog Guides** – Deputy Mayor Ward presented a news release regarding the Purina Walk for Dog Guides taking place across the country in May. She noted that the walk in Parrsboro hosted by the Leo Club would be taking place on May 29th and will be raising funds for Lions Foundations of Canada Dog Guides, a national charity which breeds, trains and matches service dogs with qualifying applicants.

(c) **Feed Nova Scotia** – Mayor Smith presented correspondence from Feed Nova Scotia reminding everyone about the 147 food banks across the province that provide support to those in need and the importance of donations from the public, service

organizations and government to sustaining food banks at both the provincial and local level.

(d) **Bernie Burke Golf Tournament** – Mayor Smith noted correspondence from the organizers of the Bernie Burke Golf Tournament taking place on August 19th which raises funds to assist with the restoration of the Hall and supports local charities. The organizers thanked Town Council for past support and requested it again this year in the form of donated prizes or gift certificates for the tournament.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Ward the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor

CAO