



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

Place: Conducted in Council Chambers through Zoom and live to Facebook
Date: Monday, 15 March 2021
Presiding Officer: Mayor Gregory Henley
Councilors present: Deputy Mayor Wade Adshade, Carla Black, Brenton Colborne, Paul Jones, Arnold MacDonald, and Chrystal McNutt
Regrets: Nil

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Acting Town Clerk – Linda Cloney (recording secretary)
Media in attendance: Amherst News – Darrell Cole and Six Rivers News, Radio and TV – Bill Martin and Mark Rushton

1. Call to order

Mayor Henley called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and made notice to the public that the Council Members, that are in the Council Chambers, are six feet apart and following COVID-19 Protocols.

2. Approval of Agenda

4.1 to be amended to Budget Discussion.

It was moved and seconded that the agenda of the Regular Town Council Meeting for March 14, 2021 be approved, as amended.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting for 16 February 2021, Special Town Council Minutes for 24 February 2021 and Special Town Council Minutes for 01 March 2021 be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

4. New Business

4.1 Budget Discussion

Staff verbally reported to Council that the administration has met with Mr. Ken Smith and is working with him again this week on the draft budgets. Mr. Smith has also met with the Audit Committee. A tentative target date set for the draft budgets to be presented to the Audit Committee is the end of April with the intent to present to Council in May.

4.2 Staff Member Resignation Notice – information

Ruthie Patriquin, the Community Economic Development Officer for the Town of Oxford, has submitted her notice of resignation for March 31, 2021.

Mayor Henley and Council thanked Ruthie Patriquin for her years of service for the Town of Oxford.

The Personnel Committee will meet and discuss the Community Economic Development Officer position and bring a recommendation forward to Council.

4.3 CJSMA – Draft FY 2021-2022 Budget – Councillor Adshade

The CJSMA staff presented the CJSMA Board with a draft budget to be approved. For the budget to be approved, the three municipalities (Oxford, Amherst and the County of Cumberland) need to send back to the CJSMA Board their recommendations of approval regarding the budget presented.

Deputy Mayor Adshade presented the report. This report is filed in the Council Package.

It was moved and seconded that the Council accepts the CJSMA Draft FY 2021-2022 Budget, as presented and send it back to CJSMA for approval.

Motion Carried

4.4 RFD #001-2021 – lamResponding.com Subscription

It was recommended by the Committee of the Whole, February 1, 2021, to approve the lamResponding.com subscription for the Oxford Volunteer Fire Department.

It was moved and seconded that the Town Council approve the Oxford Volunteer Fire Department's request to purchase the lamResponding.com as a tool for their communications. The Committee of the Whole also recommends to Town Council to enter a One-year subscription agreement of \$305.00 with lamResponding.com

Motion Carried

5. Reports

Council was content to learn that the budget for salt is under budget.

Council had a discussion regarding the arena automation interest that was presented in the Financial Report. Staff advised Council that they understood that a debenture was taking out for the arena automation and would investigate that further for a better understanding and then follow up with Council.

Council had a discussion regarding the tape for the ceiling in the arena. The service provider was paid for the materials but have not been able to do the work involved. Staff will contact the service provider to complete the job.

Council had a discussion regarding the promotion of the new location of the Library. The library will be located on 111 Rideau Street (old Oxford Journal Office) by the end of April 2021. Council directed staff to promote more about the library on the website and social media regarding its location.

It was moved and seconded to accept the reports as submitted.

Motion Carried

6. Correspondence

6.1 Oxford Pioneer Heritage Club – request for letter of support

Council directed staff to write a letter of support to the Oxford Pioneer Heritage Club.

6.2 Government House – Community Spirit Plaque to the Town of Oxford

Mayor Henley presented the plaque to the Council and agreed that the new Library would be where the plaque will be displayed.

6.3 YMCA of Cumberland & Nova Scotia Health Authority – Community Approach to Understanding Homelessness in Cumberland County

Staff are participating in this approach by conducting surveys regarding homelessness in Cumberland County.

6.4 Oxford & Area Trails Association – request for letter of support

Council directed staff to write a letter of support for “The Rocks Trail” as per the Oxford & Area Trails Association request.

6.5 Department of Justice – Policing Review

Staff presented to Council the Motion that the Municipality of the County of Cumberland passed to partner with the County of Colchester in the Police Service Review.

Therefore, the new Council for Cumberland has not voted on the further reduction of two regular members in Cumberland RCMP, as was the original agreement. Department of Justice can not implement the recommendation until both funding partners (Town of Oxford and Municipality of the County of Cumberland) agree.

Council expressed their concern in the delay of this approval as it will delay in the anticipated cost savings to the Town of Oxford due to the agreed reduction of the two regular members.

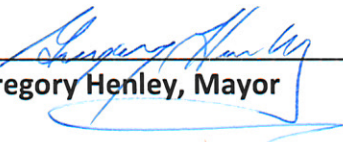
6.6 Census 2021 – promotion of possible local job opportunities

Staff will be posting possible job opportunities with the Census 2021 on the FaceBook and website.

9. Adjournment

At 6:45 pm, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried



Gregory Henley, Mayor



Linda Cloney, Recording Secretary