Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Place:	Council Chambers, conducted through Zoom and streamed live to FaceBook
Date:	Tuesday, September 7, 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: Town Clerk - Linda Cloney (recording secretary)

1. Call to Order

Mayor Henley called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Add 5.6 Immunization Clinic
Add 5.7 Oxford Minor Ball
Add 5.8 Black River update

It was moved and seconded that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for September 7, 2021, be approved, as amended.
Motion Carried

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for June 7, 2021, be approved, as presented.
Motion Carried

4. New Business

4.1 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation – September 30, 2021

September 30 is recognized Federally and Provincially as National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. The Town of Oxford Union Members automatically get this day as a holiday, as per their CUPE contract, but the Town of Oxford Non-union members do not. Non-union

staff are asking Council to consider amending the Town of Oxford's Personnel Policy to include September 30th, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation as a public holiday in the listing of recognized holidays.

More discussion on this at the next Council Meeting.

4.2 Reduction of Speed Limits - update

A verbal update given by staff. Council had asked staff to research other communities that have reduced their speed limits as to the effectiveness from that process. There were two other municipalities that have this done and they have their own Police Force in which is not comparable, as we have a RCMP policing model.

The reduction of Speed limits will be discussed during budget time.

4.3 Municipal Fire Inspector Appointments

The Town of Oxford need to update the Nova Scotia Office of the Fire Marshal the appointment of Municipal Fire Inspectors. Therefore, the Town needs to appoint those that have the capabilities of being the Municipal Fire Inspectors. In Cumberland, those that can be appointed are David Buell, Melissa Siddall, and Thomas Trenholm. Staff have spoken with Mr. Buell, and all those mentioned above are aware and accept the appointments, if given.

This will be discussed at the next Council Meeting.

4.4 Request from Ms. Robinson

Ms. Robinson is requesting an extension to the deadline for opening a business. Council's response is to learn from Ms. Robinson when does she expect to open her business.

This will be discussed further at the next Council Meeting.

4.5 Request from Mr. Brookins

Staff presented to Council the Customer Service Request from Mr. Brookins. He is a resident that lives just past the highway. His complaint is the noise from Engine Braking. Mr. Brookins request is for Council to put in place a By-law addressing this issue.

Council had advised staff that there is already a bylaw in place addressing this matter. Staff will research further in the Bylaw records.

4.6 Oxford Council Meetings and Proceedings Policy

Deputy Mayor Adshade has notified Council that in the New Year he may not be able to attend many of the Council Meeting due to work. He is asking Council to consider changing the dates of the meetings in this policy to correspond with his work schedule.

This matter will be discussed at the December Council Meeting.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Department of Justice Minister Appointee – Police Advisory Board

The Town of Oxford received correspondence that a Minister appointment has recently been made to the Police Advisory Board. The person appointed is Mr. Thomas Shears of Oxford. Congratulations was sent out to Mr. Shears from the Town Council.

5.2 NSCC Cumberland Campus – thank you note

NSCC sent a thank you note regarding the recent donation to the NSCC Cumberland Campus. This support assists students that attend the NSCC Cumberland.

5.3 Cumberland RCMP Policing Review – update

Effective August 18, 2021, the new billing structure for 30 Regular Members in Cumberland will be as follows: The Municipality of Cumberland will be billed for 27.3 regular members and the Town of Oxford will be billed for 2.7 regular members.

There is still the remaining portion of the Policing Review that includes further reduction of two regular members that will be voted on at an upcoming Cumberland Council meeting and the RCMP Liaison, Donna Jewers, will update the outcome to the Oxford Town Council.

Staff are currently reviewing the revised billing adjustment and will report to Council at the next Council meeting the savings that is expected.

5.4 Cumberland Public Libraries – Annual Report

This report reflects all the programming and outreaching the Cumberland Public Libraries had done over this past year.

5.5 Property Valuation Services – Annual Report

This report focuses on their team's resilience and gratitude throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and PVSC's continues commitment to providing quality service for their clients.

5.6 Immunization Clinic – Oxford Fire Hall - September 10

There is an Immunization Clinic organized at the Oxford Fire Hall for September 10 beginning at 10 am and close at 3 pm. Walk-ins are encouraged to come in.

5.7 Oxford Minor Baseball

Oxford Minor Baseball has had a successful year.

Mayor and Council extends congratulations to the U14 female division for their win of a provincial championship and the U13 A team that won the first title in over 20 years. Congratulations to both of those teams and to all the coaches and players. Well done everyone, you made us proud.

5.8 Black River Update

Mayor Henley received correspondence from MLA Tory Rushton an update regarding the Black River smell. MLA Tory Rushton was contacted by the Department of Environment, and they are waiting for test results right now. As he gets updated, he will reach out to the Town of Oxford.

6. Adjournment

At 6:21 pm, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion Carried

Gregory Henley, Mayor

Linda Cloney, Recording Secretary