



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024
Presiding Officer: Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald
Councillors Present: Mayor Greg Henley, Carla Black, Olivia Canning, and Brenton Colborne, Chrystal McNutt, and Paul Jones
Councillor Regrets: Nil

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney - CAO, Stan McDougall - Admin Assistant (recording secretary), Ruthann Brookins - Manager of Finance, Nick Purdy – Public Works Supervisor, Bruce Rushton – Fire Chief, and Kyle Purdy – Deputy Fire Chief

Presenters in attendance: Nil

Media in attendance: Mark Rushton, Six Rivers News, Radio, and TV

1. Call to Order – Welcome

At 6:03 PM, Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance at the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda, Pages 1 – 2

Moved by Mayor Henley and seconded by Councillor Jones that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of the Minutes – March 13, 2024, Pages 3 - 8

Approved by



Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald, Chair, on April 10, 2024

4. Town Departments Reports

4.1 Public Works Department – presented by Nick Purdy, Public Works Supervisor - Page 9

4.2 Fire Department – presented by Bruce Rushton, Fire Chief and Kyle Purdy, Deputy Fire Chief, submitted separately – verbal report

4.3 Administration Report – presented by Linda Cloney, CAO - Page 10 – Admin Assistant Report

Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald thanked the Town staff for their respective reports.

5. Council Committees and Boards Reports – presented by Linda Cloney

5.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee, Verbal report

Linda Cloney, CAO reviewed with the Committee of the Whole that the Accessibility Advisory Committee met in March and Danielle Laurie was elected Chair and Jo MacDonald was elected as vice-chair. The Accessibility Audits were in for the buildings and exterior accessibility audits were near completion. Nova Scotia Access Awareness Week is May 26 to June 1.

5.2 Recreation Commission, Verbal report by Councillor McNutt

The Town of Oxford is looking to celebrate volunteers through Volunteer week, April 14 – 20, 2024. The following week is Earth Week, April 21 – 28, 2024. Residents are encouraged to clean up around their areas, send in pictures of their cleanup efforts for a contest. Bags and gloves will be available at the Town Hall office. A post will appear on the Town of Oxford Facebook pages prior to the start of Earth Week. During Earth Week, the recreation department will be holding a Spring crafts session at the Oxford Arena on April 23, 2024. The May long weekend yard sale for 2024 is also

being organized where residents can send in their address to be advertised in a town-wide yard sale. More information on this will also be posted on our Facebook pages as the event got closer.

5.3 Communities in Bloom Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO presented to the Committee of the whole that a few members attended the first meeting of the Communities in Bloom Committee. Councillor Black volunteered from the Council. Many ideas were shared. Flower Baskets were discussed as well as some funding opportunities for further discussion at future meetings.

5.4 Source Water Protection Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the first Source Water Protection Committee meeting was held on March 26, 2024. The next step is building the committee and reaching out to those that own property close by the wellfield area to invite them to be part of the committee process going forward.

5.5 Farmers Market Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the first Farmers Market Committee meeting was held, and more people are required to form the committee. Linda encouraged all residents to reach out to Linda at the Town Hall if there is interest in seeing Oxford have a Farmers Market. Vendors and people to help put the Farmers Market together are encouraged and ideas for locations were encouraged.

5.6 Road Trails Act Review Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the first Road Trails Act Review Committee held a public information session at the Oxford Capitol Theatre on April 3, 2024, where what an ATV friendly community would look like, to seek the public's input, ideas, and concerns. Attendance was approximately 50 plus the panel of experts that were present. A meeting is to be scheduled in the next few weeks to discuss feedback from the public information session.

5.7 Oxford Capitol Theatre Update - Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the Oxford Capitol Theatre requires a new furnace and replacement heat pumps. Linda reviewed with the Committee of the Whole that there were two great groups of volunteers working the theatre led by Ruth Collins, the Drama Group and the Music Society. The two groups are working very well together and with the Town and are collaborating on ways to fundraise and looking at grants for the heat. The theatre is busy with a birthday party booked and future events planned

Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald thanked all Council Committees and Boards for their respective reports.

6. Items of discussion and correspondence – presented by Linda Cloney

6.1 Letter from Minister Lohr – Service Exchange, Pages 11-19, for information purposes available online and in the council package

6.2 Letter from Minister Lohr – New Provincial Department of Emergency Management, Pages 20-21, for information purposes available online and in the council package

6.3 News Release – Cumberland Public Libraries Services Restored, Page 22, for information purposes available online and in the council package.

7. Adjournment

Before the adjournment of the meeting, Deputy Mayor MacDonald presented that the Walk and Wheel public information session is on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Oxford Fire Hall, 115 Waverly St. All are encouraged to come out and share experiences walking and wheeling around the Town of Oxford and to discuss ways to improve Oxford Streets and trails for active travel.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.



Deputy Mayor, Arnold MacDonald, Chair



Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

05-08-2024

Date Approved

