

**Region of Queens Municipality Regular Council
Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 9:04 a.m.**

Minutes

Present: Mayor Darlene Norman, Chair
Deputy Mayor Kevin Muise
Councillor Maddie Charlton
Councillor Ralph Gidney
Councillor Vicki Amirault
Councillor Jack Fancy
Councillor David Brown
Councillor Carl Hawkes
Chris McNeill, CAO
Christine Watson, Admin. Assistant – Planning & Development

1.0 Call to Order

Mayor Norman called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

2.0 Changes / Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Councillor Gidney and seconded by Councillor Amirault that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

3.0 Tabling of Petitions

There were no petitions to come before this meeting.

4.0 Public Question / Comment Session

Leon Robertson – College Street, Liverpool – Mr. Robertson offered his opinion that the rezoning would be a good thing from the Public Hearing. He enquired if the renovations were completed in Chambers and when the clock would be installed.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

5.1 Regular Council – September 28, 2021

It was moved by Councillor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Brown:

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held September 28, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

5.2 Special Council – September 24, 2021

It was moved by Councillor Hawkes and seconded by Deputy Mayor Muise:

THAT the minutes of the Special Council meeting held September 24, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Queens Accessibility Advisory Committee Application

It was moved by Councillor Amirault and seconded by Councillor Gidney:

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality appoint Mackenzie Colp to the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- 6.2 Rezoning of PID #70275185 from Fishing & Marine (M3) to Mixed Use Coastal Residential (R6)

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Muise and seconded by Councillor Charlton:

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality give second reading to a bylaw respecting amendments to the Land Use Bylaw, which sees the rezoning of PID #70275185 from Fishing and Marine (M3) to Mixed Use Coastal Residential (R6).

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- 6.3 Audit and Internal Control Committee Terms of Reference Amendments

It was moved by Councillor Fancy and seconded by Councillor Charlton:

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the Audit and Internal Control Committee Terms of Reference as amended.

Joanne Veinotte, Director of Corporate Services, stated that at the September 28, 2021 Council meeting as there were two applications to sit on the Audit and Internal Control Committee, Councillors wished to offer both applicants the opportunity; therefore the terms of reference require an amendment to increase the number of public members to four from three.

When amending the Terms of Reference it was noted that the duration of mandate of the current committee ends on March 31, 2023 and the Terms of Reference is October 31, 2022; therefore this date was changed for consistency.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.4 Appointment to Audit and Internal Control Committee

It was moved by Councillor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Amirault:

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality appoint the following people to the Audit and Internal Control Committee immediately for a term to expire on March 31, 2023:

Patricia Purcell, Hunts Point

Melissa Thiele, Brooklyn

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.5 Solid Waste Account Deactivation

It was moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Deputy Mayor Muise:

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the deactivation of accounts 1082 and 1561 in our accounting system.

Mrs. Veniotte stated as per discussions held at the latest Audit and Internal Control meeting and Council meeting, there are two outstanding receivable accounts that are part of the Valuation Allowance, as the prospect of collection is low. The way our current account software works is that if an account is active, because of the Municipal Government Act, we are still obligated to charge interest and we continue to accrue interest on these accounts.

There are no budgetary implications and this is simply an accounting entry.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.6 Policy 84 – Flags

It was moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Amirault:

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve Policy 84 respecting Flags.

Councillor Brown stated we have another item on the agenda; application for flying a flag on the special purpose flag pole, and with the special purpose flags we have everything designated as a single flag.

It was moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Charlton:

THAT amendments be made to the Policy under special purpose flags to allow for 2 flags to be flown on the special purpose flag pole at the same time.

1st paragraph add flag/flags following the words “community groups and organizations can request that a non-standard”, and

2nd paragraph add flag/flags following the words “community groups and organizations may apply to have a designated”.

MOTION carried unanimously.

Chris McNeill, CAO, stated the current flag policy is very prescriptive with detailed dates, locations of poles, etc. Staff have determined it is impossible to follow policy, so the policy is being proposed to be changed to be more reflective of what we can do.

The policy stipulates when four flags are flown what they are, the same with when two are flown as well as one flag is flown.

It also states the special purpose flag pole is now located at the Town Hall Arts and Cultural Centre which is in the center of Liverpool which is much more visible. It is in a much safer location for any group wanting to hold a flag raising ceremony, etc. It is presently on the

waterfront and concerns about it being accessible, appropriate and visible are often voiced. In addition, the flags don't last long in this location due to high winds, etc.

We have added in the appendices additional days for which the special purpose flags are flown without any public request.

It was moved by Councillor Gidney and seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT the wording "or when authorized by the Deputy Clerk" be removed from the last paragraph under Standard Flags.

Mayor Norman stated, with this request, if there was any special purpose flag to replace the standard flag, there would have to be a council meeting in order to do that.

Councillor Charlton asked for clarification if this amendment would be the same as when a past councillor passed away the flags were flown at half mast, and not being able to honour during the appropriate time. Mr. McNeill stated that the wording is put there in case the province decided something happened and they wished to fly a particular flag. Most cases are known well in advance, but there are times when it is not.

Councillor Charlton asked for clarification if it is well known in advance, would it then be on the agenda? Mr. McNeill stated yes.

Councillor Gidney stated in the last paragraph it states except at the request of the governing body, and if they made a request it would not need Council approval.

Councillor Fancy commented that he liked Mr. McNeill's explanation and stated that Council is accountable and agreed with Councillor Gidney to be more restrictive.

AMENDMENT carried with 5 in favour and 3 against.

It was moved by Councillor Gidney and seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT the wording in the second paragraph, last sentence under Special Purpose Flags, following Appendix "B" be amended to read "will require approval by Council at a Council meeting".

Mayor Norman commented that this will require any request for a special purpose flag flying to come to council for approval, and any request from any organization that may not be aware of the policy or late applying will not be considered.

Councillor Gidney stated that in Appendix A it states that the application is to be submitted 4 weeks ahead of date they require. Councillor Fancy stated there are rules to abide by and agreed with Councillor Gidney.

Councillor Brown and Councillor Charlton stated the need to have some flexibility as was previously discussed on this issue.

AMENDMENT defeated with 3 in favour and 5 against.

AMENDED MOTION carried with 7 in favour and 1 against.

6.7 Application for Flying a Flag on the Special Purpose Flag Pole – Every Child Matters

It was moved by Councillor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Brown:

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality accept the application to fly the Every Child Matters Flag on the Special Purpose Flag Pole.

Eric Levy, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator, stated that following the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation celebration, the Diversity and Inclusion Action Team has submitted a request that the

Every Child Matters Flag be flown on the Special Purpose Flag Pole with the Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag from October 15 to 31, 2021.

MOTION carried unanimously.

7.0 Discussions

7.1 Approval of Amended Policy 66 – Appointment of Traffic Authority

Adam Grant, Director of Engineering and Public Works, stated this is to update an existing policy with the changes made to staff; adding Garrett Chetwynd, Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works as the alternate.

In response to Councillor Amirault's enquiry if any training is necessary for this position, Mr. Grant stated no, with a Professional Engineer background and following the MVA and other legislation that applies, it is not necessary.

It was moved by Councillor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Amirault:

THAT this issue be referred to the next Council meeting for a recommendation.

MOTION carried unanimously.

7.2 Agricultural Sector Review 2021-Queens County

Mayor Norman provided background on the Agricultural Sector Review for Queens County that was presented at last Council meeting. She enquired how Councillors would like to see this valuable information used going forward.

Richard Lane, Business Development Officer, stated a periodic review of all sectors is worthwhile and this document could be used as information for any enquiries.

Councillor Charlton enquired if this document could be added to the Engage Queens website and those interested could receive updates when available. She further enquired if we are promoting and advertising. Mr. Lane stated the document could be put on the website and at the present time no action has taken place but there have been discussions about creating a video series if Agriculture Day does not happen again this year due to Covid restrictions.

Councillor Brown stated he felt the information should stay with Economic Department and be kept up to date in case of enquiries. He enquired if real estate agencies have a list of properties available for use. Mr. Lane stated there is one agent in Nova Scotia and a potential list could be developed.

Deputy Mayor Muise took the Chair at 9:50 a.m.

Mayor Norman asked how we let people who are not familiar with Queens know the document is available or where to find it and suggested that maybe a link be created on our website under Economic Development; time to start the creation of sector background papers.

Jenny Rockett, Director of Economic Development, stated there is a section on our website under Business and a link could be included and suggested having the document more of a profile and include photos as well as list residents who could provide additional information.

She further stated that this could be undertaken by next quarter with no budgetary impacts.

Councillor Fancy suggested including different bullet points and snapshots rather than the complete document. Councillor Charlton agreed as highlights could be shared on different platforms to increase awareness.

Mayor Norman disagreed that this document should be on the Engage Queens website which is for people who are applying to committees, jobs, how to participate, etc. and is not a site for these kind of documents. Councillor Charlton stated if a link on the Engage

Queens Website could be created that people could be notified of updates on our website that this may help with awareness.

Mr. Lane stated engaging people or anyone who is interested is important and suggested having a mailing list created for Agriculture Day forum and perhaps with the Southwest Nova website.

A follow-up report will be brought forward to Council at a future meeting.

Mayor Norman resume the Chair at 9:57 a.m.

8.0 In-Camera Items

It was moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Hawkes that the proceedings go In-Camera at 9:58 a.m. to discuss the following:

8.1 Contract Negotiations

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Norman announced a 7 minute break at 9:58 a.m.

It was moved by Councillor Gidney and seconded by Councillor Amirault that the proceedings exit In-Camera at 10:45 a.m.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.



Mayor Darlene Norman, Chair



Chris McNeill, CAO



Christine Watson, Administrative Assistant – Planning & Development

Date Approved: 
