

**Region of Queens Municipality Regular Council
Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 9:00 a.m.**

Minutes

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

Regrets: Councillor Vicki Amirault

1.0 Call to Order

Mayor Norman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2.0 Changes / Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Councillor Gidney and seconded by Councillor Brown 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, 42 College Street, Liverpool – Mr. Robertson offered his opinion under Item 7.3 – NSFM Caucus Structure, that going to a regional caucus is a good idea.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

5.1 Regular Council – October 26, 2021

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

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held October 26, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

5.2 Hearing – October 26, 2021

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

THAT the minutes of the Hearing held October 26, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Policy 23 – Request for Area Rate

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve Policy 23 respecting Request for Area Rate.

Councillor Gidney questioned the legality of area rates and stated he read Section 75(1) of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) and tried to relate it to community groups or services. Chris McNeill, CAO, stated the MGA clearly provides authority for the Municipality to establish area rates. It allows us to establish it in certain areas for

certain purposes. It allows us to establish in certain commercial and residential rates. It provides clear authority to establish area rates and to provide grants for corporate bodies which are not for profit groups. This is nothing new and municipalities have been providing area rates across the province for the last fifty years.

MOTION CARRIED with 7 in favour and 1 against.

7.0 Discussions

7.1 Appointment to Diversity and Inclusion Action Team

Eric Levy, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator, stated an application for a vacancy to the Diversity and Inclusion Action Team (DIAT) was received from Matthew Adams. DIAT comprises of up to 10 community representatives that are community members at risk of exclusion or work with people who are at risk.

Matthew Adams will provide the group with a youth's perspective and brings experience and leadership to the team.

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

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

MOTION carried unanimously.

7.2 QPEC Canteen

Mayor Norman stated that Steve Burns, Manager of Events, Promotions & Sponsorship, has secured a proposal for a food operator. Stewart Jenkins from Greenfield has submitted a proposal for a one year lease and plans to be opened by November 22, 2021. The lease has not been signed yet.

Councillor Charlton stated she is pleased that someone has come forward.

She further stated she received a letter from Dave Schofield, Kiwanis Club, which she read to the group, proposing to set up to provide hotdogs, pop, chips, etc. and enquired if there would be anything preventing this in the interim until Mr. Jenkins was set up. Mayor Norman advised her to contact Steve Burns.

7.3 NSFM Caucus Structure

Mayor Norman stated Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) (formerly Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities UNSM) was established many years ago and a change made in the early 2000's was to move away from regional meetings of municipalities based on geography to caucus meetings of town, rural and regional municipalities. Since this change, RQM has been under the mandate of rural municipalities at the request of a former council.

The Town and County of Antigonish are talking about amalgamating along with others and would be included as a regional government and not under the town or rural caucuses.

With additional smaller regional governments moving to the regional caucus and potentially more in the new few years, it may be the time for Queens to request a move to the regional caucus now which would allow us to work with other regional governments through NSFM to advance issues. There is no cost to RQM.

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

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

MOTION carried unanimously.

8.0 In-Camera Items

It was moved by Councillor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Gidney that the proceedings go In-Camera at 9:18 a.m. to discuss the following:

- 8.1 Sale of Municipal Property
- 8.2 Lease of Municipal Property
- 8.3 Contract Negotiations
- 8.4 Personnel

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Norman announced a 5 minute break at 9:18 a.m.

It was moved by Councillor Gidney and seconded by Councillor Charlton that the proceedings exit In-Camera at 11:30 a.m.

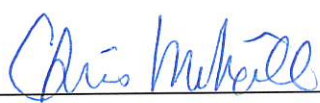
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.



Mayor Darlene Norman, Chair



Chris McNeill, CAO



Christine Watson, Administrative Assistant – Planning & Development

Date Approved: 