

**Region of Queens Municipality Regular Council
Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 9:00 a.m.**

Minutes

Present: Mayor Darlene Norman, Chair
Deputy Mayor Kevin Muise
Councillor David Brown
Councillor Vicki Amirault
Councillor Maddie Charlton
Councillor Ralph Gidney
Councillor Jack Fancy
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 9:00 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

Vina Moses, 17 Hank Snow Drive, Liverpool – Ms. Moses, along with Vernon Oickle, representing the Hank Snow Museum, stated they appreciate the recommendation for approval for their CIF grant application, but asked for consideration of the full amount.

She further stated two festivals are planned for this summer and only hiring one summer student this year. The Museum sign needed repairs as well as the installation of a security system. With the decrease of \$2,500 less in grant funding it will be a hardship to overcome.

Leon Robertson, College Street, Liverpool – Mr. Roberson commented it was good to see the discussion under 7.1 Proposed Pool. He stated under Item 7.4 Revised MPS & LUB the number of objections were for livestock and RV's.

Celeste Johnston, 120 Edgewater Drive – Ms. Johnston, representing the Queens Community Aquatic Society, stated the names for the donor of the proposed pool are Holly Murphy and Mike Murphy. She requested that a committee be struck to move ahead with the project and that the Society is prepared to begin fundraising when they receive confirmation.

Deborah Herman Spartinelli, 7438 Highway 3, Summerville – Ms. Spartinelli, representing the Queens Community Aquatic Society, suggested consideration be given to having both proposed pool and library built together.

Dirk Van Loon, 250 Sand Bay Road, East Port L'Hebert – Mr. Van Loon apologized for his outburst during the Public Hearing on March 22, 2022 and stated he agrees with the Bylaw on setbacks.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

5.1 Regular Council – March 22, 2022

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

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held March 22, 2022 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

5.2 Public Hearing – March 22, 2022

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

THAT the minutes of the Public Hearing held March 22, 2022 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

5.3 Public Hearing – March 23, 2022

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

THAT the minutes of the Public Hearing held March 23, 2022 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Creation of Thomas H. Raddall Library Steering Committee

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the creation of the Thomas H. Raddall Library Steering Committee according to the draft Terms of Reference.

Mayor Norman stated the Steering Committee will be responsible for carrying out their duties according to the approved Terms of Reference.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.2 Appointment to Thomas H. Raddall Library Steering Committee

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality appoint Jessica Joudrey, Susan DeChamp, Tom Sheppard, Councillor David Brown, Jeff Mercer and David Trueman to the Thomas H. Raddall Library Steering Committee effective immediately with a term to expire on the opening of the new library.

Mayor Norman stated the staff at the library was asked to suggest names of library users, looking for a spread of ages, demographics and a variety of users. The membership is to consist of two members of the South Shore Public Libraries Board, two members of the South Shore Public Libraries staff and two regular users of the library.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.3 Streetlight Removal – Weir Lane, Liverpool

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the removal of a streetlight in front of 24 Weir Lane in the community of Liverpool.

Mike MacLeod, Director of Planning & Development, stated a request was submitted to the department through Councillor Gidney, from a resident in his district, for the removal of an existing street light on Weir Lane in Liverpool. The resident has sensitivity to bright lights and the light is located in front and in close proximity to the house. Councillor Gidney visited the site and agree with the removal, as is the neighbor. Engineering was contacted and is in agreement with respect to maintenance.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.4. Selection of Two Representative Volunteers for Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality select Scott Christian and David Freeman as the Region of Queens Municipality's 2022 Volunteers of the Year.

Mayor Norman stated the volunteer's names were brought forward through the Ripple Effect Volunteer Recognition program; this year there were three.

Heather Cook, Communications & Engagement Coordinator, stated each year there is a provincial volunteer ceremony held in Halifax. This year the ceremony is planned to be held in September and it has not been determined if the event will be virtual or in-person.

Scott Christian, Mersey Point, has worked for quite some time towards the infant unit for the Queens Daycare Association.

David Freeman, Milton, has been a volunteer with VON for the past 10 years and has been involved with delivering frozen meals to clients.

Diane Huskins, Caledonia, has been involved with helping residents of North Queens for many years. She is the lead for the Community Food Resource Network, manages the operation of a thrift store (Muriel's Closet) and is a member of the Adopt a Highway litter cleanup program.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.5 Fire Department and Medical First Responder Annual Registration

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approves the 2022-2023 fire department and medical first responder registrations effective April 1, 2022, for Greenfield and District Fire Department, Liverpool Fire Fighters Association, Mill Village and District Fire Department, North Queens Fire Association, Port Medway Fire Department, and West Queens Medical First Responder Society, according to the service levels for each department included in their 2022-2023 Application for Registration.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.6 Community Investment Fund 2022-2023

Dana Henley, Community Development Coordinator, stated 17 requests have been received for the total funding available for the 2022-2023 budget year of \$175,000, as well as the remainder in reserve from last year's budget.

The funding applications for consideration are for Operational Investment Fund, Capital Upgrade Investment Fund and Event Investment Fund. Additional applications received require further information for completion.

She explained the criteria used when approving the applications as outlined in the report.

Organizations are eligible for Operating Investment Funds under three categories:

- a) Up to \$10,000 annually for organizations that own their own facility or have a long term lease for such, where the program or services are well established, and are open to all members of the public;
- b) Up to \$5,000 annually to assist community organizations with financial support to offer year-round programs, or services to residents of Queens County and visitors that highlight and advance the local culture, heritage, sport, recreation, community, or social development in a sustainable and inclusive manner;

- c) Up to \$1,000 annually to assist community organizations with financial support to offer new or expanded programs, or services seasonally for local residents, or to support long-standing programs or services that have been in existence for more than five years.

Organizations are eligible for Capital Investment Funds under three categories:

- a) Up to twenty-five percent (25%) funding of eligible expenses for new capital community infrastructure, to a maximum of \$250,000;
- b) Up to fifty percent (50%) funding of eligible expenses for alterations or improvements to existing community infrastructure that will prolong the life of the facility at least 10 years or significantly increase usage, to a maximum of \$50,000; or
- c) Up to twenty-five percent (25%) funding of eligible expenses for new capital community infrastructure planning or feasibility studies, to a maximum of \$10,000.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to Community Food Resource Network in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to Friends of Hank Snow Society in the amount of \$7,500.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

Councillor Fancy stated he felt the Society was in need of the full amount as they bring a lot to the community.

Councillor Charlton stated the process is fair and suggested they apply for further funding under the CIF Capital for up to \$1,000.

MOTION CARRIED with 7 in favour and 1 against.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute in the amount of \$3,450.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to North Queens Board of Trade in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to North Queens Heritage Society in the amount of \$1,200.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to Pleasant River Community Hall Society in the amount of \$3,857.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**It was moved by Deputy Mayor Muise and seconded by Councillor
Gidney:**

**THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide
grant funding to Port Joli Community Association in the amount
of \$4,334.55 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.**

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**It was moved by Councillor Charlton and seconded by Councillor
Gidney:**

**THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide
grant funding to Queens County Blades in the amount of up to
\$5,000 for 2022-2023 CanSkate Learn to Skate Program from the
2022-2023 Community Investment Fund budget; such funding
shall be available in increments of \$125 for each new skater
registered in the CanSkate program from October 2022 to
March 2023 who has not previously been subsidized by this
grant funding in previous years.**

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**It was moved by Councillor Bidney and seconded by Councillor
Brown:**

**THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide
grant funding to Queens County Museum in the amount of
\$5,000.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.**

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**It was moved by Councillor Amirault and seconded by Councillor
Hawkes:**

**THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide
grant funding to Seaside Recreation and Community Centre in
the amount of \$10,000.00 from the 2022-2023 Community
Investment Fund.**

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to Liverpool Baseball Club in the amount of \$9,054.50 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

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

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality provide grant funding to Liverpool International Theatre Festival in the amount of \$6,000.00 from the 2022-2023 Community Investment Fund.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.7 Policy 94 – Non-Union Salary and Wage Increases

Councillor Gidney called Point of Order. The Policy was emailed to Council on April 5, 2022 for review at Council for April 12, 2022. It has not met the requirements of Section 48 (1) Before a policy is passed, amended or repealed the council shall give as least seven days' notice to all council members.

In our Administrative Policy 4, it clarifies at least seven days needs to be provided and shall be calendar days and shall not include the day the notice is sent or the day of the meeting.

Furthermore, to create a Policy we need to identify the need. The Policy is written and then sent to Council.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

7.0 Discussions

7.1 Proposed Pool – Councillor Fancy

Councillor Fancy stated as per the Queens Community Aquatic Society update and following last Council meeting he has been approached by many residents who felt the consensus was Council weren't for having a pool. As per their presentation, there is a commitment of \$3 Million from a couple residents and a commitment by the Society to fundraise.

Council has had discussions on the replacement of the Milton Pool and no funding was allotted for this in this year's budget as the request for \$2.5 Million was rejected.

The Aquatic Society has requested RQM to consider a combined library and pool and are looking for a committee to be struck. The combined build would incur substantial savings.

He enquired if Council were interested in going ahead with the pool and take advantage of the donation. He further stated Council needs to decide if they want the library in town or if it would be better to have it together with the pool.

Councillor Gidney agreed with Councillor Fancy that the pool was a worthwhile project.

Councillor Brown stated he was in favour of a pool, but did not agree with combining it with the library as this would limit areas to find locations. He agreed to the need of a committee to start the process.

Councillor Amirault stated she is in favour of a pool and the need to start right away and have both the pool and library together.

Chris McNeill, CAO, enquired how to combine if one is outside and one is inside. Councillor Fancy stated the pool could be constructed so it could be turned into an inside pool in the future.

Councillor Charlton stated that there is a need for a pool committee but each of the committees would work independently. She agreed with what Councillor Fancy brought forward and clarified that when the Aquatic Society made their presentation, their preference was to put the pool on the side of Queens Place Emera Centre, which she understood where it was originally slated to go. She does not want to put provisions on something now so that if the library cannot go

there with it, I don't want to see that not be an option. Very supportive of a committee being struck and then look at what needs to be done.

Mr. McNeill stated on a staffing side, RQM has a \$34M budget this year and are involved with a \$60-\$70 Million long term care facility, approved a Terms of Reference for a library, infrastructure projects, a landfill study, and a contaminated site study. We have zero capacity this budget year to do a pool study or be on a pool committee. We do not have enough staff to carry out functions now. If Council wishes to have a pool committee to start work on this immediately, we're going to have to hire an external consultant. It may not be next budget either due to staffing issues.

Councillor Charlton stated in order to take advantage of the donation of \$3 Million to replace the pool, we need to start the process and suggested that perhaps the money to hire a consultant could be from the donation.

Mayor Norman enquired if anyone enquired of Holly or Mike Murphy if there would be an issue to start work in 2023 and if the hiring of a consultant would be the best use of the donation.

Councillor Fancy stated that he feels negatively from Mayor Norman and Chris McNeill and if we keep pushing back we'll lose out on the opportunity.

Deputy Mayor Muise and Councillor Amirault stated the need to set up a Committee and get started.

Mayor Norman enquired who on Council wants to sit on the Committee. Following roundtable discussion, the consensus is to have 2 representatives from the Queens Community Aquatic Society, 2 members of Council and 2 members of the public.

Councillor Brown indicated that he would like a report from staff explaining how we go forward and at what point would a consultant need to be hired.

Councillor Hawkes agreed there is a need for a Committee, but if the cost to hire a consultant cannot be used from the donation, where would the money come from.

Mayor Norman stated a draft Terms of Reference, similar to that for the library, along with confirmation from the Murphy's on any stipulations on the donation will be brought forward after received.

Mayor Norman announced a 5 minute break at 10:35 a.m.

7.2 Queens County Historical Society

Mayor Norman stated she was asked at the last Council meeting to contact the building owners. Ken Anthony stated he has no plans to refurbish the murals. Mike Wilson stated at this point in time the outside of his building was not a priority.

Councillor Gidney stated he spoke with the Chair of the South Queens Chamber of Commerce and they do not have any money for the restoration. He enquired if the owners are aware of the Façade Program if they wished to paint the murals. Mayor Norman stated yes they were made aware.

Mayor Norman provided background on the murals which began with the Town of Liverpool in 1994.

Consensus of Council to advise the Historical Society we are not in favour of restoration.

7.3 Council Implementation Report

There were no items to come forward from this report.

7.4 Revised Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw

Mike MacLeod, Director of Planning & Development, stated the current Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use Bylaw (LUB) was adopted by Council in 2009. Staff and the Planning Advisory Committee have been working with UPLAND Planning + Design Studio over the past 3 years in the preparation of a revised MPS and LUB.

The draft MPS and LUB had the first reading on February 22, 2022. Public Hearings were held in person on March 22, 2022 and via Zoom on March 23, 2022.

The comments received during the public hearing process resulted in a number of items which require direction of Council. Those items include:

- Restrict use of RV parking sites on basis of seasonal occupancy only. No habitation of RV's.

Highlights from discussions on this topic include:

- Many residents cannot afford to build a home and chose to live in them.
- Residents chose to live in them especially with the housing situation.
- RV's were not meant to live in on a year round basis and raised many issue with safety.

Consensus given to keep as is.

- Remove permitted use – home based businesses, small options homes, community centres, RV parking sites and recreational uses in the Lakeshore Limited Development (SL) Zone.

Ian Watson, UPLAND Planning + Design, stated the range is broader than what the community asked for.

Highlights from discussions on this topic include:

- Does not limit restrictive covenants of their Association.

Consensus given to leave as is as the Association can enforce their own covenants.

- RV's parked on a property and not located on an RV parking site for a maximum 14 days in a calendar year is too restrictive.

Highlights from discussions on this topic include:

- Visitors may want to stay longer, suggestion of 30 days raised.
- Consideration given to effects to abutting property.
- Clarification of language to allow storage of RV's on property that are not being used.
- Regulations around septic/pit privies, requirement for distance from lake.
- Minimum of 2 RV's per lot.
- Suggestion to make application for special purposes.
- Longer than 14 days requires setbacks, if not, could create problems.

Consensus given to have a maximum of 2 RV's on lots which are not located on an RV parking site for a maximum of 14 days.

- Rezoning of PID's 701 62862 and 701 62896 to Resort (Re) Zone from Coastal Rural (R6) Zone – Western Head.

Highlights from discussions on this topic include:

- The one unit already established would be grandfathered.

- Tourist accommodation not permitted in proposed bylaw, but rezoning would be considered.

Consensus given to change the proposed zoning to Resort (Re).

- Rezoning of PID's 70133475 and 70126552 to Inland Rural (R5) Zone from Lakeshore Residential (SR) Zone – Labelle.

Highlights from discussions on this topic include:

- Parcels located on Sun Haven Drive in Labelle.
- Proposed use doesn't conform to the SR zone, which is fairly restrictive.
- R5 zone will enable him to run his sawmill operation.

Consensus given to change the proposed zoning to Inland Rural (R5).

- Livestock Operations:

- Fowl and Rabbits – roosters requiring minimum of 1 acre and development permit.

Highlights from discussions on this topic include:

- Concerns raised over food security.
- Other municipalities are allowing 10 fowl per lot.
- Consider raising the amount to 10 fowl per lot in RQM.
- Roosters considered under Household Livestock and not included in the number of chickens.
- Household Livestock requires permit and a minimum of 1 acre.

Consensus given to allow up the amount of fowl permitted per lot to 10. Roosters remain considered a household livestock use in Section 7.8.

- Free range animals.

Highlights from discussions on this topic include:

- Free range animals need to be contained to property.

Consensus to clarify meaning of containment.

- No household livestock in the General Residential (RG) Zone (current R2 Zone).

Deputy Mayor Muise stated that 50' back from the top of the bank would be acceptable.

Mayor Norman enquired about it not being permitted to have accessory dwellings in front yards with the exception of garages. Mr. Watson indicated this was a specific discussion through the Planning Advisory Committee.

Mayor Norman enquired if dog grooming is permitted in the R5 / R6 zones, as kennels are. Mr. Watson stated home based businesses, which would include dog grooming, are permitted in these zones.

Councillor Amirault enquired to fence heights. Mr. Watson confirmed the wording will be amended to read 6 feet.

Councillor Charlton enquired to Chastity Allison's comments about fonts used in signage. Mr. Watson stated the 2009 Bylaw limits typefaces on signs to 2 in the downtown core. Councillor Charlton asked for this to be clarified.

Mr. MacLeod stated the recommendation will be brought forward at the next Council meeting. Following that a Public Hearing will be scheduled.

7.5 Policy 23 – Regular Council Meetings

Mayor Norman stated that under Policy 23 – Regular Council Meetings, four meeting per year are held in various parts of Queens County which was done prior to Covid. The next Council meeting is scheduled to be held in West Queens.

Consensus given by Council to hold the meetings in the communities beginning with the next Council meeting being held in West Queens. Arrangements will be made.

8.0 In-Camera Items

It was moved by Councillor Fancy and seconded by Councillor Amirault that the proceedings go In-Camera at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the following:

- 8.1 Sale of Municipal Property
- 8.2 Sale of Municipal Property
- 8.3 Personnel
- 8.4 Personnel

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Norman announced a 2 minute break at 3:02 p.m.

Councillor Fancy left Council Chambers at 3:30 p.m.

It was moved by Councillor Gidney and seconded by Councillor Brown that the proceedings exit In-Camera at 4:18 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

8.2 Sale of Municipal Property

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality enter into the proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement with Liemke Ventures Limited for property bearing PID #70110903, being the property known as South Shore Regional Airport, for the appraised value of \$565,000 plus HST.

Mayor Norman stated RQM was approach by a company to purchase the airport. Concerns were raised about the Nova Scotia Drag Racers Association and the South Shore Flying Club. Liemke Venture Limited was successful in reaching agreements with both groups. The proposed purchaser plans on expansion activities as well as having the airport open to the public.

Deputy Mayor Muise voiced his concern on the sale price being too low for the airport and was not in agreement with the sale.

MOTION CARRIED with 6 in favour and 1 against.

8.3 Personnel

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the Municipal Clerk and Diversity Coordinator Job Description.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

8.4 Personnel

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

THAT Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the Accessibility and Inclusion Coordinator Job Description.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.



Mayor Darlene Norman, Chair



Chris McNeill, CAO



for/ _____
Christine Watson, Administrative Assistant – Planning & Development

Date Approved: April 26, 2022