

**REGION OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY
REGULAR COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2015
9:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher Clarke, Chair
Councillor Darlene Norman
Councillor Brian Fralic
Councillor Susan MacLeod
Councillor Bruce Inglis
Councillor Raymond Fiske
Councillor Jack Fancy
Councillor Peter Waterman
Kathleen Rafuse, Chief Administrative Officer
Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance
Shelley Connolly, Executive Secretary

1.0 CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Clarke welcomed Christine Watson who has been hired as the Recording/Management Secretary.

Mayor Clarke also stated that the Council proceeding is now being recorded by QCCR.

2.0 CHANGES / APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was moved by Councillor Waterman and seconded by Councillor Inglis that the Agenda be approved with the following addition:

10.2 IBEW, Local 1928 Collective Agreement

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

3.0 PRESENTATION(S):

3.1 RCMP Monthly Report

Staff Sergeant Paul MacDougall was welcomed to Council to give a brief overview on the February 2015 Police Report which was included in the Council Agenda package. The RCMP Monthly Report is attached to the minutes.

- One member is on Parental Leave and not expected back until February 2016
- Another member off with health issues
- New member expected by end of summer
- One member transferred pending sale of house
- More transfers expected in the Spring
- Calls for service in February 2015 have decreased from previous month by thirty-nine occurrences
- Eleven persons lodged in the Queens Detachment Cells for the month of February 2015
- Two impaired drivers were charged in the month of February
- Senior Safety Coordinator's Program:
 - o 13th Queens 50 + Info Fair – May 4, 2015 at Best Western Hotel & Conference Center, Liverpool
 - o Organized a volunteer appreciation dinner to thank all VON volunteers
 - o Gave on-air interview to CKBW concerning the 2015 Seniors Safety Program Grant

Councillor Fralic asked what the hours were for the Senior Safety Coordinator.

S/Sgt. MacDougall responded by saying that the Senior Safety Coordinator works Mondays (all day) and Wednesdays (half day). S/Sgt. MacDougall stated that the Senior Safety Coordinator does not report to him, but the RCMP provide assistance when the Coordinator is not available.

Mayor Clarke thanked S/Sgt. MacDougall for his presentation.

3.2 Traffic Study – Jill Morrison, M.Sc.E., P.Eng.

Jill Morrison, P.Eng., Senior Transportation Engineer for Insight Traffic Engineering was retained by Region of Queens Municipality to conduct a review of the three-way intersection located at Market Street and Main Street in Liverpool, NS. There have been some concerns over the safety and operation of the intersection; in particular, with respect to safety of pedestrians crossing at the intersection and with motorists failing to come to a complete stop. The presentation is attached to these minutes.

The objective of this review was to evaluate the current physical and operational characteristics at the intersection; and to identify factors that may potentially contribute to unsafe conditions for intersection users.

Discussion involved questions such as the need for speed bumps prior to crosswalks and the need for zebra crosswalks.

Ms. Morrison stated that speed bumps provide a maintenance issue and zebra crosswalks are an overdesign for a three-way stop. White paint is recommended in crosswalks as it increases visibility.

Summary:

- Main safety concern is pedestrian visibility
- Overhead directional signage should be read from left to right to meet driver expectations
- Concerns with rolling stops are more of an enforcement issue than a safety issue
- There are no operational issues with the existing intersection configuration and traffic control. Changes to existing traffic control are therefore not required.

Recommendations:

- Relocation of stop sign and crosswalk to improve visibility between the Main Street and Market Street approach
- Assess current sidewalk furniture in terms of aesthetic value vs. intersection functionality
- Rearrange overhead directional signage on the eastern Main Street approach to meet standards and driver expectations.

Mayor Clarke thanked Jill Morrison for the excellent report.

3.3 Litter Abatement – Kirk Symonds, Regional Educator, Region 6 Solid Waste Management

Kirk Symonds, Regional Educator, Region 6 Solid Waste Management, gave a presentation on 'Dealing with Litter'. The presentation is attached to these minutes.

Three issues:

- Accidental Litter
- Intentional Litter
- Illegal Dumping

Education, awareness, community cooperation and enforcement are required to combat this issue.

Some of the challenges are:

- Municipalities do not have the authority to prosecute litter complaints
- We don't have a profile on who the litterer or illegal dumper is
- We are very good at cleaning up litter, not so good at litter abatement

Mayor Clarke thanked Kirk Symonds for his presentation.

4.0 **TABLING OF PETITIONS:**

There were no petitions to come before this meeting.

5.0 PUBLIC QUESTION / COMMENT SESSION:

Leon Robertson
45 College Street
Liverpool

Mr. Robertson stated that he was glad to see that Region of Queens Municipality was providing a letter of support for the South Shore Housing Action Coalition's use in applying for funding for the proposed South Shore Collaborative Housing Needs Assessment, as he feels that adequate and affordable housing is needed in Queens County.

David Dagley
9 Meadow Pond Lane
Liverpool

Mr. Dagley congratulated Region of Queens Municipality and QCCR for recording and airing the Council Minutes, as it is beneficial to keep residents informed, especially those that cannot get out of their homes.

6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

6.1 Emergency Council Minutes – March 4, 2015

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor MacLeod:

THAT the minutes of the Emergency Council meeting held on March 4, 2015, be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.2 Regular Council Minutes – March 10, 2015

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor Waterman:

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on March 10, 2015, be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

7.0 DANGEROUS OR UNSIGHTLY PREMISES:

There were no Dangerous or Unsightly Premises issues discussed at this meeting.

8.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

8.1 Economic Development Monthly Report

Jill Cruikshank, Director of Economic Development, reviewed the Economic Development Monthly Report for February 2015.

The following topics were discussed:

- Worked with 16 businesses this month; 5 are existing businesses, 4 are new and 7 are potential businesses
- 3 students have signed up for the Start-Up 100 Project from Queens
- Next event for the Mersey Forum will be held on April 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Best Western Liverpool Hotel & Conference Centre – Renewable Energy in Nova Scotia
- BioResource Forum was held in Dartmouth. Nova Scotia needs to look at Agriculture Biomass (purpose-grown crops and waste streams), Woody Biomass and Municipal Solid Waste
- Agriculture Day will be held on March 28, 2015 – one presenter from Queens
- Saltscapes Expo – April 24-26, 2015 in Halifax

- South Shore Opportunities – hosting a five-week “Tourism Essentials” training course aimed at giving unemployed and under-employed local citizens information and skills applicable to the tourism industry.

8.2 Housing Needs Assessment – Letter of Support

It was moved by Councillor Norman and seconded by Councillor Inglis:

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality provide a letter of support for the South Shore Housing Action Coalition’s use in applying for funding for the proposed “South Shore Collaborative Housing Needs Assessment”.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

9.0 CORPORATE SERVICES:

9.1 Tax Exemption Bylaw

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor Inglis:

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality give final reading to a Bylaw respecting Tax Exemptions.

Councillor Waterman mentioned that this Bylaw helps small groups and halls remain open.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

10.0 ENGINEERING AND WORKS:

10.1 Heavy Equipment Rental Tender – Queens Contractors Only

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

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality give acceptance to the Heavy Equipment Rental Tender for the 2015’2016 fiscal year, as submitted, for various pieces of equipment;

AND THAT the rental of equipment be based on the Rental Schedule as attached;

AND THAT if, for some reason, a particular piece of equipment is not available, the firm with the next lowest bid be contacted and given the work;

AND THAT the firms with the exact tender be given work on a rotating basis, depending on the amount of work available.

Councillor Norman asked why three companies showed incomplete under submissions received.

Brad Rowter, P. Eng., Director of Engineering and Works, stated that this happens every year as Region of Queens Municipality must be named on the insurance papers and the Insurance companies are late doing this.

Brad Rowter stated that Region of Queens Municipality will award rentals based upon the lowest bid submitted in consideration of availability of equipment, analysis and comparison of equipment specification details. If for some reason a particular piece of equipment is not available, the firm with the next lowest tender will be contacted and give the work.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

10.2 IBEW, Local 1928 Collective Agreement

It was moved by Councillor Waterman and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approve the Collective Agreement between the Region of Queens Municipality and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Works (IBEW), Local 1928.

Kathleen Rafuse, Chief Administrative Officer, stated that this Agreement runs from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

11.0 FINANCE:

Mayor Clarke stated that the Region's snow removal budget is in reasonably good shape with road salt expenditures at 84% to the end of February.

Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance, stated that tax collection has been progressing extremely well and anticipates the March 31, 2015 balance to come in slightly less than last year-end.

12.0 RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES:

12.1 Lease – Queens County Day Care Association

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality approve the attached lease with the Queens County Day Care Association at the former Mount Pleasant School for a five-year term beginning April 1, 2015.

Norm Amirault, Director of Recreation and Community Facilities, stated that the only change to the Lease is under the Duration section which says, in the event of significant renovations in the leased area, both parties do hereby agree that with thirty days written notice by the tenant, the lease can be reopened and consideration be given to extending the lease until April 1, 2025, with a lease payment until the end of the term to be negotiated at that time.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Councillor Fralic stated that they are now planning for a Canada Day meeting and a Newcomers Welcome meeting. He also stated that March Break activities held at Queens Place Emera Centre were well attended.

13.0 PLANNING:

13.1 Discussion Paper – Land Use Bylaw

It was moved by Councillor MacLeod and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT the Land Use Bylaw amendments as prepared in the Staff Report do not go far enough to regulate high density residential development, particularly in the Liverpool Waterfront (C4) Zone;

AND THAT should it be the will of Council to further pursue amendments for row house developments, that both the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw be amended to establish a new and separate zone for this use, which incorporate special requirements addressing maximum lot coverage, open space/green space, building design standards and landscaping.

Mike MacLeod, Planner, gave us some background information on this paper stating that Council has requested that Staff initiate the process to amend the Region's Land Use Bylaw to allow for reduced lot frontage and lot area requirements for row house type of developments in the Liverpool Waterfront (C4) Zone and the Multiple Unit Residential (R3) Zone. The amendments would allow for the subdivision of a parcel of land so that each row house unit is on its own lot.

Councillor Fralic asked how long the process of amending the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw would take.

Mike MacLeod stated the process would take approximately four months, as the document will have to be sent to the Province for ministerial approval.

Councillor Norman stated that she is not in favour of this recommendation as she feels it is too late for the Planning Advisory Committee to restrict development on a private lot, the Land Use Bylaw having already been developed.

Councillor MacLeod stated that she is not in favour of this recommendation as she was away for the Planning Advisory Committee meeting and feels that this is not in the best interest of the developer.

Councillor Fralic stated that if the Planning Advisory Committee had been given more recently acquired information a new motion would probably have come forth.

The Question was called.

MOTION DENIED with 2 for and 6 against.

It was moved by Councillor MacLeod and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality give notice of its intention to adopt a bylaw respecting amendments to the Region of Queens Municipality Land Use Bylaw, which would see a reduction in the minimum lot area and minimum lot frontage requirements for row house dwelling units on separate lots in the Liverpool Waterfront (C4) Zone and the Multiple Unit Residential (R3) Zone;

AND THAT a Public Hearing be held on April 14, 2015 in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, 249 White Point Road in Liverpool, NS, at 8:55 a.m.

Councillor Fralic asked for clarification of this motion.

Mike MacLeod stated that the Developer will still have to satisfy the set back and then it will be evaluated. The Planning Advisory Committee will not need to be involved.

Councillor Inglis stated that this process allows the public to have their say.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

13.2 Discussion Paper – Rezoning – 3 White Point Road, Liverpool

It was moved by Councillor MacLeod and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT Council of the Region of Queens Municipality give notice of its intention to rezone PID# 70020482, from Neighbourhood Commercial (C3) to Restricted Residential (R1);

AND THAT a Public Hearing be held on April 14, 2015 in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, 249 White Point Road in Liverpool, NS at 8:50 a.m.

Mike MacLeod stated that the property, formerly Hank's Variety, was currently zoned Neighborhood Commercial (C3), but the new owner wishes to convert the vacant convenience store to a single family dwelling.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

14.0 QUEENS PLACE EMERA CENTRE:

14.1 Queens Place Emera Centre Monthly Report

Steve Burns, General Manager, briefly reviewed the regular monthly report that was included in the Council agenda package.

The following topics were discussed:

- Liverpool Privateer Junior B Hockey Club have finished their season
- South Shore Opportunities hosted a Community Showcase on February 13 in the Community Room
- Skate Canada STARSkate Provincials were held on February 28 and March 1
- Queens County Minor Hockey Association held a Timbit Jamboree on March 7.
- March Break activities were held in the Community Room
- Queens County Blades Annual Ice Show was held on March 22

Councillor Jack Fancy announced that Johnny Lake will be performing in the Community Room on April 17 from 9:00-12:00.

15.0 REPORTS:

The following reports were included in the Agenda package for information purposes:

- 15.1 Bylaw Enforcement Department Monthly Report – February 2015
- 15.2 Building Inspector's Monthly Report – February 2015

16.0 OTHER:

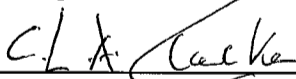
There was nothing else to discuss.

17.0 IN-CAMERA ITEMS:

There were no In-Camera items to discuss.

18.0 ADJOURNMENT:

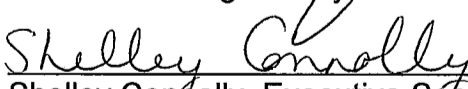
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



Mayor Christopher Clarke, Chair



Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Director of Finance



Shelley Connolly, Executive Secretary

Date approved: April 14, 2015