

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN COUNCIL, TOWN HALL
Monday, May 15, 2017

A regular meeting of Oxford Town Council was held on the above date at 6:00 pm. Mayor Stewart presided with Councilors Colborne, Kay, Draper, Thompson and Adshade in attendance. Regrets: Councilor Wood

Town Council Meeting – Called to order by Mayor Stewart – 6:00 pm

Presentations – Nil

Approval of the agenda – Mayor Stewart added to the agenda under New Business 8.8 Pride Flag. Mayor Stewart also added under correspondence a letter from the UNSM and also the Cumberland Pride Celebrations 2017. It was moved by Councilor Kay, seconded by Councilor Adshade that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of the Minutes – It was moved by Councilor Adshade, seconded by Councilor Thompson that the minutes from the meeting held on April 18, 2017 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Action List – General Discussion on the action list, it was reviewed and updated. There was discussion regarding the naming policy, item number 34 on the action list. Speed limits, item number 16 on the action list, Darrell White spoke to Staff Sergeant Keith MacKinnon regarding this issue. Staff Sergeant Keith MacKinnon is going to do some observational work as part of our traffic review requested by council in the April 2017 meeting. Staff Sergeant Keith MacKinnon will report back to the next Police Advisory Board meeting on June 20, 2017. He understands that he has a mandate within the traffic authority to reduce the speed limits. Staff Sergeant Keith MacKinnon is going to check with the authorities to ensure that he is able. Darrell then spoke about the policing contract. He mentioned that Mayor Stewart and he went to a meeting in Antigonish. There was discussion at that meeting regarding the policing contract. What has slowed down the process is that they are now taken on our review and also a broader review, to include all of Cumberland. This will include Oxford, Springhill and Greater Cumberland. There is no firm timeline as to when they can present, but they did say forthcoming, and expected to be before we break for summer. Next there was discussion on the expected presentation from Black and MacDonald – they need to finish their report, this is expected to be ready for the June's regular Council meeting.

Reports

All Director Reports and Councilor Reports were distributed and/or discussed.

Public Works – General Discussion on Public Works Report that was submitted. Wes Adshade was present to give his report to council. Councilor Draper commented that the Public Works crew did a great job cleaning up. Also commented it was nice to see the volunteer groups that were out to help with clean up within the Town of Oxford, very helpful. Councilor Colborne commented that the asphalt on Upper Main Street is all cracked

to pieces, where it was paved just last fall, it should not be cracked this quickly. Councilor Colborne also commented on the crosswalk painting. They need to be done soon. It was commented now that the paint is now water base that it does not last very long. Public

Works paint the crosswalks twice a year. Right now public works is using up the paint they have in stock now, once used up Wes will look into different paint to see if there is any with better quality.

Arena – There is no report, as the arena is now closed.

Recreation – General discussion on the Recreation Report that was submitted. Corey Skinner could not be in attendance as he was coaching the Steve Nash Basketball Program. Mayor Stewart commented that the ball hockey should be well attended.

Fire – General discussion on the Fire Report. Tory Rushton, Fire Chief, was in attendance. Councilor Adshade asked, since the new fire hall has been built, has the fire department noticed any deficiencies arising. Tory mentioned that they have noticed that the floor has dropped about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in places and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in other spots. Also he mentioned that there has always been a leaky roof, and they can't seem to find the leak. Mayor Stewart asked about the final phase of the communication upgrade. Members now receive a text on their phone now, versus receiving a page. The next phase of the communication upgrade is the back up where an e-mail message will show up at the fire station. Eventually the communication upgrade will pull up a map as to where the call is. This phase has taken approximately three years.

Finance – This report will be forwarded in June’s regular council meeting.

Councilors’ verbal reports that were presented:

- **Councilor Colborne** – attended two VON meetings last month and also attended one library meeting.
- **Councilor Wood** – absent
- **Councilor Thompson** – Received an e-mail from Paul Carline regarding the Syrian Family. Their visas have been passed, just now awaiting board flights. The Syrian Family should be here between two – four weeks. Strawberry Festival is well underway. Currently she had 39 vendors registered. Nazarene Church is planning on doing the Kid zone again this year. The Lions is reaching out to a couple more groups with assisting to host the dance. The Strawberry Run is a go. The Legion is hosting the breakfast. The Facebook site name is Oxford Strawberry Festival Trail and Road Races. The music is planned to be outside in front of the Capital Theatre. The food court will be held at the heritage square. She is still looking for a major truck venue. Bill Smith Carnivals will be on site as well. Waiting to hear back from the Lionettes regarding the strawberry shortcake desert room and also from the OREC as they plan to do something, but they are not sure yet. She also attended Mike and Theresa Deveaux’s 50th wedding anniversary. Councilor Thompson attended the Elimination Supper.

She commented on the job well done by the Cumberland County Performers for their sold out shows for each night running, the Wizard of Oz. She recommends that the Town of Oxford should participate in the Cumberland Pride parade on Saturday, June 3rd in Amherst, NS. She would like to help put something together, but she will be away the day of the parade and won’t be able to be in attendance. It was brought to Councilor Thompson’s attention that this is the 25th year for the creation of the Mural.

- **Mayor Stewart** – She attended and was the master of ceremonies of the Volunteer Banquet. There were a couple of volunteer award winners that could not attend the banquet as they were busy volunteering at the theatre. Mayor Stewart and Councilor Colborne surprised them at the theatre and presented the awards to them there. She attended the Strawberry Festival Committee meeting; everything is going along as planned. Runners can register on the Facebook group for the “Oxford Strawberry Festival Trail and Road Races”. This year the Strawberry Run is offering a special family rate. Mayor Stewart has been working on the Canada Day Festivities. In June’s Community Calendar she plans to have a complete list of events happening in Oxford celebrating the Canada Day 150. Thursday night there will be a

closed meeting with the Town of Amherst and the County of Cumberland held at the Oxford Capital Theatre at 6:30 pm. Tuesday night at 6:30 pm she will be attending the Cadet's Inspection at the Legion, she invited council to attend this event as well to show their support for the Oxford Cadets. Mayor Stewart sits on a committee with Eleanor Crowley call the Harvest Feast. They are doing this in recognition of the Canada's 150th Birthday. This event will be held on the second week of September. There will be a Feast for the community, the plan is to close down part of Main Street and sell 150 tickets at \$15.00 / ticket. There will be outdoor music played. Councilor Draper added to this that the Oxford Heritage Committee will be unveiling the virtual museum.

- **Councilor Kay** – talked about the Fish and Game Show there are two guys on that committee, Matt Wood and Cole Wood, they are doing a great job getting this organized. There are spaces that are already booked at the arena for that. This event is happening on September 30 and October 1, 2017.
- **Councilor Draper** – hosted the Community Economic Development meeting, their priority is to get the job description finished for the Community Economic Development Officer position. Councilor Draper attended the YMCA Board Meeting. There was no personnel meeting last month, plan to meet in June.
- **Councilor Adshade** – attended the CJSMA meeting – the budget was approved, the cell is being built. There was discussion at the CJSMA that they will be looking for alternate ways to get rid of garbage more cost efficiently. Councilor Adshade attended the volunteer banquet and also the Cumberland Economic Development meeting.

It was moved Councilor Kay, seconded Councilor Draper that all reports be accepted as presented.

Motion Carried

5.1 – Correspondence – UNSM – asked for Council to host a debate as there is a Provincial Election. It was discussed and decided that there is not enough time to properly host this type of event as the election is coming right up. There is no current debate organized for Cumberland South, there are a couple set up for Cumberland North.

- Cumberland Pride Celebrations 2017 – asks us to fly the rainbow flag from May 24th – June 4, 2017, Council decided they would show their support and fly the rainbow flag.

New Business

- 8.1 – OH&S Committee and safety training** – an update was given to council from Darrell White. The committee is up and running and have met twice. Also have training set up in a couple of weeks. There was discussion about confined spaces equipment. Wes is currently looking into that. We have the training, but need the equipment.
- 8.2 – Road paving, water and sewer tenders** – This will be addressed on Wednesday night in a special meeting.
- 8.3 - Land Development Proposal** – Darrell White reported on this. He had not heard back from Mr. Roy Gillis regarding the development plan that was presented to council.
- 8.4 - Town Hall Repairs and Upgrades** – Councilor Draper discussed this with council. There was discussion about the face of the Town Hall in need of some sandblasting. Asked if would consider in putting up a sign similar to the Pharmasave’s new sign. We also need eaves trough and get the boys to pressure wash the building.
- 8.5 – Paving Upper Main Street** – this will be discussed on Wednesday night at the Special Meeting. That section is addressed in the tender and council will talk about that then.
- 8.6 - Arena Roof** – Councilor Kay spoke about this and mentioned that the roof is leaking in three different places. Two leaks on the Waverly side and one leak on the River side. It was discussed that this would be an unbudgeted expenditure and needs to be addressed.
- 8.7 - Library** – Councilor Colborne raised a question to Council for the Library. Their question was, since the YMCA is closing here in Oxford, is there a chance that the library could move into that space. Councilor Thompson commented that Mr. Bill Park is willing to work with anybody to try to put something in that building. The Town of Oxford pays the Knight of Phythias the rent fee for the library to be housed in their space. We also pay the phone bill. It was suggested by Councilor Draper that we make a new capital project for next year to build an infrastructure to house all these types of things. It was commented that the Library Board should talk to Mr. Bill Park.

Adjournment

Next Council meeting will be Monday, June 19, 2017.

There being no further business, Councilor Kay moved for adjournment

Motion Carried

Trish Stewart

Mayor

Darrell White

CAO