



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole

Place: Council Chambers

Date: Monday, November 4, 2019

Presiding Officer: Mayor Patricia Stewart

Councilors Present: Councilors Brenton Colborne, Dave Clark, Dawn Thompson, Rick Draper and Wade Adshade.

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Regrets: Councilor Wendy Sweet-Kontuk

Staff present: CAO - Rachel Jones and Deputy Clerk - Linda Cloney (recording secretary)

In attendance: Cumberland County EMO Coordinator – Mike Johnson

1. Call to Order

Mayor Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

- add 4.5 Habitat for Humanity Lots

It was moved and seconded that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for November 4, 2019 be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

3.1 Committee of the Whole – 7 October 2019

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the previous Committee of the Whole Meeting dated October 7, 2019 be approved.

Motion Carried

4. New Business

4.1 REMO Comfort Centre Options Report – presented by Mike Johnson

Mr. Johnson noted the following points that are considered when the need for a comfort centre is identified:

- It must be understood that once a comfort center is opened, it then becomes the home for those using it. The property owner has limitations on use and entry.

- The Town of Oxford generator is stored at the Municipality of the County of Cumberland Office
- After a major event has initiated and the power has been off for roughly 12 hours, the Comfort Center may be open. There are various factors that are considered before opening the Comfort Centre.
- Various radio stations and their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Cumberland-Regional-Emergency-Management-399000107198986/> are the current ways of communication.
- The Cumberland EMO is considering using brightly colored open signs in the windows of the comfort stations, so they are visible to the residents.
- In the case of a flood, the residents may need to go to comfort centers outside of Oxford or re-route their way into Oxford to access the comfort centers set up in Oxford.
- Staff will put together a one-pager regarding the emergency comfort stations and promoting the 72-hour preparedness.
- The brochures that are done up for the Cumberland Comfort Centers will be updated to include the Oxford Legion (pending Legion approval) and the Oxford Fire Department as comfort centers for Oxford.
- Mass call-out notification – EQ, a Cape Breton company – is currently used for REMO staff notification. It could also notify citizens by cell, text, email and phone. This is a potential option as another means of communication for the town.

Mike Johnson exited the meeting.

4.2 RFD 016-2019 Physical Activity & Recreation Strategy

The strategy has been developed through consultation with the public and work through the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, as well as the local Health Authority, using a consultant to bring all of the input together into this report. A welcoming message from the Mayor has yet to be added. The strategy will form the basis of the Recreation Director/MPAL's workplan and priority for the next five years.

It was moved and seconded that Committee of the Whole recommends Town Council to approve the Physical Activity & Recreation Strategy as amended.

Motion Carried

4.3 Committee List Appointments

A brief discussion took place regarding the vacancies currently noted on the committee list. Further work will be done to identify interested individuals from Council on the Health Authority and Northern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee. The CAO will determine if the position must be an elected official and if the meeting schedule can vary from daytime to evenings.

It was also agreed to add the Cumberland Tourism Strategy Implementation Steering Committee, noting Deputy Mayor Rick Draper as the appointee.

4.4 Department of Municipal Affairs Twelve-Month Notice: Bill 204: Workers' Compensation Act (Amended)

A brief discussion on the correspondence took place. Due to its arrival on last Friday as the agenda package was being assembled, further work on what possible impacts it could bring wasn't possible prior to this evening's meeting. It is anticipated to \$48.00 per Fire Department member, with the potential of impacting the Town's overall assessment rate with WCB (Workers Compensation Board).

The Association of Municipal Administrators Nova Scotia is working on this matter as well. Staff will bring back more information regarding this as it becomes available.

4.5 Habitat for Humanity Lots

Mayor Stewart raised the issue that the last activity through Habitat for Humanity housing development is well over two years ago. The third lot has a foundation in place. It was determined that there is no formal agreement with Habitat for Humanity to have guaranteed use of the lots on Little River Road.

Council directed staff to write a letter to Habitat for Humanity (a copy given to the local committee) that they have 12 months to finish the development on the existing lot or they will lose the use of the property. A thirty-day limit for a response will be given.

5. Correspondence – Oxford Historical Society Letter

Mayor Stewart noted that she received this letter of request today from the Oxford Historical Society indicating a proposed project to display the old Town Hall Clock in a public location. This matter will be placed on the December 2, 2019 Committee of the Whole agenda for further discussion.

6. In-Camera

At 6:42 pm, it was moved and seconded to go in-camera to discuss contract negotiations and land.

Motion Carried

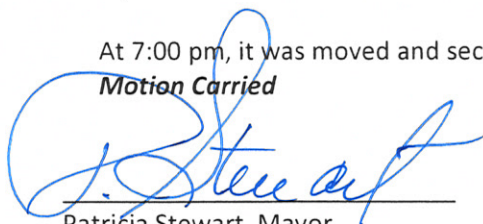
At 6:57 pm, it was moved and seconded to come out of in-camera and resume the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion Carried

7. Adjournment

At 7:00 pm, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried



Patricia Stewart, Mayor



Linda Cloney, Recording Secretary