



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Place: Conducted through Zoom, recorded and posted to Town of Oxford FaceBook.
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020
Presiding Officer: Mayor Patricia Stewart
Councilors Present: Councilors Dave Clark, Dawn Thompson, Rick Draper, Wade Adshade, and Brenton Colborne
Regrets: Wendy Sweet-Kontuk

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

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

1. Call to Order

Mayor Patricia Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Mayor Stewart announced that today was the opening day of voting for the Municipal Election in Oxford. Mayor Stewart advised the public that the phone number to use to vote by phone is not correct in the Voter Information Letter and that the correct number to use is 1-888-356-9965. Eligible voters will be receiving a card in the mail this week advising them of the correct number to use.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for October 5, 2020 be approved.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting for September 8, 2020 be approved.

Motion Carried

4. New Business

4.1 Oxford Fire Department Call Statistics: Discussion

Council noted that the agreement that is in place with the Municipality of the County of Cumberland will expire on March 31, 2023.

Council asked that the Oxford Volunteer Fire Department to keep track of the number of call responses for the Town and the County to be considered in future agreements. The CAO noted that there are other jurisdictions that use a rolling average with respect to fleet and other costs that help match the costs to current call volumes outside of the specific Town boundaries.

4.2 2020 Christmas Parade: Discussion

Through discussion, Council agreed that holding a Christmas Parade this year due to COVID-19 is not something that will be done for this year.

Council would like to see a Christmas Parade committee formed with community members and Councilors for the planning of 2021's Christmas Parade.

CAO Jones advised Council that there is \$1,000 budgeted for Christmas this year. Council would like to see that \$1,000 put towards enhancing the Christmas Decorations for this holiday season. Through discussion with the Economic Development Officer, another idea that promotes physical distancing and community togetherness is being considered. By promoting individual businesses and residents to decorate their properties, people will be encouraged to walk/tour through the community to enjoy increased physical activity, family time, and enjoying the holiday season. This would work in conjunction with the annual Bargain Bonanza. Council agreed that this would be a great idea.

4.3 The Great Trail: Discussion

Council discussed supporting the idea of constructing a Trail Head for the Great Trail in South Oxford.

CAO Jones mentioned that the idea of an information Kiosk is to be placed at that Trail Head in the long-term plan.

Council asked staff to draft a letter to be sent to the committee of the Great Trail expressing Council's support for a Trail Head to be located in South Oxford.

5. Correspondence

5.1. Minister of Justice: Police Review

A letter from Minister Mark Furey was presented to Council regarding the policing model option that was presented and chosen by Cumberland County and the Town of Oxford which includes the reduction of three regular members in RCMP Cumberland.

Council expressed their disappointment in the decision from Minister Furey's office to request updated statistics from the RCMP, particularly after the Town specifically followed the process for the review as set out by the Department of Justice. The option of repurposing a member to a civilian position for court liaison was indicated in the report and would require a vacancy for that to happen.

Council asked staff to formalize this response in a letter to Minister Furey reflecting the opinions of Council.

5.2. Cumberland Public Libraries

Mayor Stewart presented to Council a letter from the Cumberland Public Libraries.

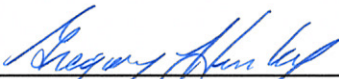
This letter informed Council of the changes to the bylaws that will take effect as of November 1, 2020.

Mayor Stewart and CAO Jones shared a video regarding the Provincial Community Spirit Award Presentation. This link will be shared to the Town of Oxford FaceBook Group for the public.

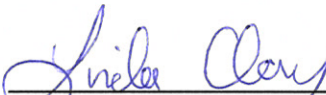
6. Adjournment

At 6:40 pm, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried



Gregory Henley, Mayor



Linda Cloney, Recording Secretary