



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

Place: Council Chambers
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2020
Presiding Officer: Mayor Patricia Stewart
Councilors present: Councilors Brenton Colborne, Dave Clark, Dawn Thompson, Wendy Sweet-Kontuk and Wade Adshade
Regrets: Deputy Mayor Rick Draper

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: CAO – Rachel Jones and Deputy Clerk – Linda Cloney (recording secretary)
Media Present: Mark Rushton and Bill Martin – Six Rivers News, Radio, & TV

1. Call to order

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

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the agenda of the Regular Town Council Meeting for February 18, 2020 be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Town Council for January 20, 2020 be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

4. New Business

4.1 RFD #002-2020: Police Services Review Committee Report

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposal as presented to Oxford and Cumberland County on March 18, 2019 with the reduction of 3 members overall in the district with the cost savings for Oxford to be clarified by Department of Justice.

Motion Carried

4.2 RFD#003-2020: Travel and Expense Policy Amendment

It was moved and seconded to approve the Travel and Expense Policy as amended.

Motion Carried

4.3 RFD#004-2020: Returning Officer Appointment

It was moved and seconded to appoint Deputy Clerk Linda Cloney as the Returning Officer for the Town of Oxford.

Motion Carried

4.4 Financial Variance Report: April 2, 2019 – January 31, 2020

Council discussed reviewing the Animal By-Law regarding dog tags. Staff will report back to council, at the Committee of the Whole Meeting, regarding the questions that were raised during the Financial Variance Report discussion. Items discussed were Dog Tags, Office Supplies and Advertising, Backhoe interest, Public Fire Protection Charge, and Salary Allocation.

5. Reports

CAO Jones presented the reports.

Economic Development – In preparation of the operating budget, staff is looking into the costs for an information kiosk in conjunction with the Downtown Beautification Grant. Another item that may be brought forward is the potential for a locked bulletin board outside of the Council Door.

The Information line has now been activated at the Town Hall. Staff will start promoting this feature. The phone number for the information line is 902-447-3129.

Recreation and Leisure Services – Council would like to thank all the businesses and organizations that advertise in our arena and to those that donated to the public skates. The Community Space Directory, that was presented in this report, presents the community spaces we have available in Oxford and provides a starting point in discussions around the need for a potential community centre.

Public Works – is working closely with the Department of Environment as they require the Town of Oxford to update the standard operating procedures, contingencies plans, and more documentation for both the water utility and the sewage treatment plant.

Fire Report – The Oxford Volunteer Fire Department are nearing the end of their payment agreement. They currently owe \$15,000.00 on the fire hall. It is anticipated that this will be fulfilled by the end of the 2020/21 fiscal year. The fire truck is paid in full.

RCMP Quarterly Report – Council raised questions on the numbers that were reported in the RCMP report. It was commented that those numbers may not be correct and the PAB has requested clarification by the RCMP.

Cumberland County Forestry Committee – As a member of the committee, Councilor Adshade verbally presented to Council. This committee is currently accessing the short-term goals. Short term goals that were identified were employment for the people currently working in forestry, and how to keep forestry progressing in Cumberland County. Other committees have been organized to assess the long-term goals. These were identified as developing new markets in Cumberland County for lower and higher end wood supplies. The largest goal is keeping the landowners engaged.

It was moved and seconded that Council receive the reports as presented.

Motion Carried

6. In Camera – Contract Negotiations

At 6:34pm, it was moved and seconded to go in-camera to discuss contract negotiations

Motion Carried

Bill Martin and Mark Rushton exited the meeting.

At 6:49, it was moved and seconded to come out of in-camera and resume the Regular Council Meeting.

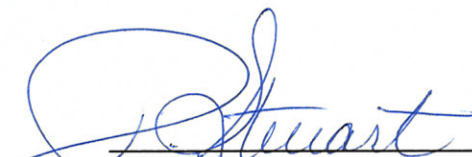
Motion Carried

8. Adjournment

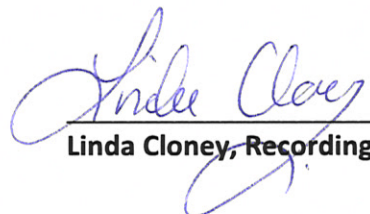
Mayor Patricia Stewart advised Council that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

At 6:50 pm, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried



Patricia Stewart, Mayor



Linda Cloney, Recording Secretary