

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
February 26, 2019

Present:

Deputy Mayor Jane Bustin Chair
Councillor Barry Corbin
Councillor Ty Walsh
Councillor Rod Reeves
Councillor Mike Trinacty
Councillor Anna Ashford-Morton
Mike Payne, CAO
Laurie Saunders, BDVFD
Ryan Kelly, Kings RCMP
Jerry Wood, Director of Finance
Tim Harding, Public Works
Debbie Elliott, Recreation & Community Development
Chantal Pineo-Atwood, Executive Coordinator

Absent with Regrets: Mayor Don Clarke

In Attendance:

Pat Jodrie
George Floris

1. Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:29pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Committee approved the Agenda as circulated, with the following additions:

- Date and Time for Joint Council Meeting with the County of Kings
- Clarification on Wellness Policy
- REN Liason & Oversight Committee Update
- Doctor Recruitment – Councillor Morton
- Councillor Trinacty Report
- Councillor Walsh Report
- Councillor Bustin Report
- In Camera

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The January, 2019 COTW Minutes were approved as circulated.

4. Departmental Reports

a.RCMP

Sgt. Ryan Kelly reviewed his report and highlighted there were 66 calls for service in January, 2019.

b. Berwick & District Volunteer Fire Department

Mr. Saunders noted the cleaning contract is up for renewal – there will be a request for bids out shortly.

d. Public Works

Mr. Harding's report was reviewed by the committee. Tim highlighted in his report that the department needs a new Salt Spreader. Much of the equipment is being worked on much of the time, just to keep it on the road.

e. Community Development and Recreation

Ms. Elliott's report was reviewed by Council. Debbie noted that Howard Little will be finishing the remainder of the trail at a cost of \$8000.00 from the approved \$40,000.00 budget.

Ms. Elliott also explained that Uncommon Common Art is looking for an approved \$1500 Grants From Organizations request so they are in a better position to seek an art project for Berwick for 2020. Council reiterated that this will go to budget deliberations and will be confirmed at that time.

Councillor Trinacty asked Ms. Elliott to ensure that advertising is being done to spread the word about the exercise classes at the gym facility. Attendance is low. Councillor Corbin highlighted that Council needs to reassess the gym "business".

f. Finance

Mr. Wood reviewed the Monthly Finance Report and comparative statements. Numbers currently show a deficit. Staff have been notified that all discretionary spending is currently frozen until April or notified otherwise.

g. Berwick Electric Commission:

No report submitted.

h. CAO:

Mr. Payne noted that he completed the Executive Certificate in Local Government through Dalhousie University. It was a ten week program that entailed weekly readings, assignments and two formal papers. It provided a solid overview of municipal government and the role of the CAO.

5. Presentation:

(a) Kings REMO

Dan Stovel, Regional Emergency Management Coordinator, offered a presentation on the Draft Kings REMO Regional Evacuation Plan and asked for Council's acceptance at the March Council Meeting.

Councillor Walsh commended Mr. Stovel's work with REMO and the significance of same.

6. Council Reports

(a) *Councillor Barry Corbin*

Councillor Corbin offered a brief update on Valley Waste noting a few points such as the Board, Chair and staff are all very happy with the new General Manager. As well there has been a deficit since the end of January so capital purchases have been put on hold.

(b) *Councillor Trinacty*

The committee received Councillor Trinacty's report and had no questions of same.

(c) *Councillor Bustin*

Councillor Bustin reviewed the Library Funding Review. Staff will write the Province raising the Town's concerns with regard to the Funding Proposal.

(d) *Councillor Walsh*

The committee reviewed Councillor Walsh's submitted report, it was highlighted that the new Kings Transit route will hopefully have proper approvals and will be ready to roll out on April 1st.

(e) *Councillor Morton*

Councillor Morton shared the results of the poll she had conducted on Facebook. 173 responded. 96% felt that the Town should be involved in doctor recruitment. 91% agreed that tax payers dollars should be spent on doctor recruitment.

7. New Business

(a) *Clarification on Wellness Policy*

There was some discrepancy with the meaning of Councillor Morton's motion with regard to Councillor's and the Wellness Policy. The Policy is to be amended that all Council are included in the \$200 reimbursement for a wellness initiative. Council is not included in the \$249.99 rate which applies to staff and volunteer fire fighters.

(b) *Joint Council Meeting Date*

Mr. Payne confirmed that the Joint Council Meeting with Kings will be held at the KMCC Lions Club on April 2nd at 1:30pm.

(c) *REN Liaison & Oversight Committee*

Deputy Mayor Bustin and Mr. Payne attended this meeting today.

The Town of Wolfville has submitted by written request that they are exiting from the REN of April 01, 2019.

The County of Kings have noted they are considering exiting, as well, by March, 2020, although their Council is divided on this.

8. Correspondence: Kings County Senior Safety

The group's ask for financial support will go before budget deliberations in the near future. Chantal will forward them the Grants to Organization form to complete for consideration.

10. In Camera Session (Contractual)

The Regular Council entered into an In Camera Session at 9:07pm and re-entered into Regular Council at 9:37pm, with no motions.

11. Adjournment

The Council Meeting adjourned at 9:38pm.