

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Via WebEx virtual meetings
January 26, 2021

Present:

Mayor Don Clarke
Deputy Mayor Ty Walsh, Chair
Councillor Derrick Jamieson
Councillor Rod Reeves
Councillor Chris Goddard
Councillor Mike Trinacty
Councillor Adam Lutz
Mike Payne, Chief Administrative Officer
Tim Harding, Public Works
Karen Peckford, Director of Finance
Chantal Pineo-Atwood, Executive Coordinator

In Attendance:

Chris Cooke, Public Works
Heather Morse, Community Development Committee
Beth Wilson, Community Development Committee

1. Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

- *Asset Management Program*
- *Correspondence: Coldest Night of the Year*

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The previous COTW Minutes were approved as circulated.

4. Presentation: Chris Cooke – Barrier Free Park

Mr. Cooke offered a presentation on a proposal for a barrier free Rainforth and Centennial Parks. The proposed timeline for Mr. Cooke's proposal could be up to ten years. Some of the Council members felt that the splash pad issues (a switch from pea gravel to rubber, concrete or turf and the lack of shade) should be rectified sooner rather than later.

Council will continue to discuss the plan as time goes on.

5. Departmental Reports

a.RCMP

The RCMP report was reviewed by the committee. No questions of same. Mr. Payne highlighted traffic enforcement and patrol stats.

It was noted that there will be sidewalk safety and 'Sammy the Snowplow' presentations at the Berwick School for student safety.

b. Berwick & District Volunteer Fire Department

Mr. Saunders was unavailable for the meeting. No report was submitted.

c. Public Works

Mr. Harding's report was reviewed by the committee. It was asked of the department to place signage at areas such as Spicer Park that pathways are currently not open. As well, to erect signage at the Honeycrisp path between the two houses that it leads to the KMCC connector and south to the Harvest Moon Trail.

Discussion with regard to sidewalks and snow clearing ensued.

d. Fitness Centre

Ms. Peckford reviewed the Fitness Centre report with Council and highlighted that the potential total revenue, this year, will be approximately \$60k. It takes \$115k annually to run the facility. The last three years have realized significant losses.. Ms. Peckford will meet with Ms. Best and Ms. Brydon to discuss potential membership rate increases and stats.

Mayor Clarke noted that we should consider the impact of the pandemic this before raising rates.. Perhaps memberships may increase post-Covid.

e. Recreation Programing

Ms. Boylan's report was reviewed by the Committee. Snowshoe and ski programs are very successful!

f. Active Living Coorindator

Ms. Brydon's report was reviewed by the Committee. Councillor Trinacty asked what conversations were taking place with Eden Valley (as per report). He also asked that the report to the WKM Health Centre be distributed to Council.

Councillor Goddard asked what the Citizen Survey was about. Mr. Payne explained the survey.

Mayor Clarke noted that some citizens have contacted Councillors about being apprehensive with regard to the survey cold calls and wanted to remind staff that Council should be informed of any program that goes out to the public in case a Council member is contacted with questions.

g. Finance

Ms. Peckford reviewed her financial reports at length. Council asked what is happening with the recreation formula with regard to County funding/youth programming. Mr. Payne noted he and Ms. Peckford will look into this.

Microsoft Office Upgrade:

Staff is currently using Microsoft Office 2010 and the support for same expired in October, 2020. There are 15 licenses that need to be upgraded at a cost of approximately \$510 per license. The cost of the upgrade will be \$7,650.

Staff recommends that Council approve the purchase of 15 Microsoft office 2019 licenses for staff, at a cost of approximately \$7,650.00. This motion will go to February Council.

h. CAO Report

Mr. Payne's report was reviewed by Council. No questions of same.

i. REMO Update

A REMO Committee Update was forwarded for Council's review. No questions of same.

6. Ongoing Business

(a) Asset Management Program (AMP)

Mr. Payne has been informed that assets of Berwick Electric Commission and the KMCC can be included in the Asset Management Program funding application supported by Council January 12. This revised project cost is now \$55,500 with the Town's share at \$5,500.00, an increase to the Town of \$1,017.00.

Staff recommends that Council approve the additional expenditures for a total of \$5,550.00 to the AMP project. This motion will go before February Council.

Councillor Jamieson inquired if our inter-municipal partners can benefit from this as well. Mr. Payne noted he will investigate this.

7. Correspondence: Coldest Night of the Year

The Town has received notice of the Coldest Night of the Year taking place in Berwick this year. As we did last year, it was suggested that we get behind the Berwick Baptist Church team. We can give a donation as well as advertise for the event in hopes of raising some further dollars towards the Walk and this great cause.

8. Councillors Updates

- (a) Councillor Trinacty – the committee reviewed submitted report. Mayor Clarke confirmed that Councillor Trinacty will chair the Land Trust committee. Councillor Trinacty will schedule a meeting for next week.
- (b) Councillor Jamieson – it was highlighted that the second draft of the Valley Waste Resource Management budget should be ready by the first of February.
- (c) Councillor Goddard – will have a report on Kings Point to Point at the next COTW Meeting. Kings Transit's new chair is Jody McKay and Jim Windsor is Vice-Chair.

Budgets for either committee have not been tabled yet.

- (d) Councillor Reeves – a Public Consultation meeting was held with regard to the Penner rezoning.
- (e) Councillor Walsh – Meeting with a representative from NS Realtors on Friday morning with regard to housing/land trust. Gala Days meeting on Jan. 27th. Councillor

Reeves noted he will take Councillor Walsh's place at the Diversity Kings Meeting on February 1st.

9. Adjournment

The COTW Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.