



**Special Council Meeting - Minutes of the Meeting**

**April 21, 2020 6:00pm**

**(Via Videoconference Webex Meetings)**

**Attendance**

In attendance

Don Clarke, Mayor

Chair

Councillors

Deputy Mayor Ty Walsh  
Jane Bustin  
Anna Ashford-Morton  
Mike Trinacty  
Rod Reeves  
Barry Corbin

Mike Payne, CAO  
Karen Peckford, Finance Director  
Chantal Pineo, Executive Coordinator

**1. Call to Order**

The Council Meeting was called to order at 6:23pm.

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The previous Council Minutes were approved by motion of Council with the following amendment:

That Kings Transit *may* build a supplementary budget.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

The Agenda was approved as circulated with the following additions:

*Community Development update*

**4. New Business**

*(a) Financial Update*

Ms. Peckford presented an update on the town’s current financial situation in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic.

- Received funding from FC this morning, and are now currently sitting at a negative \$100k
- The Town requires UARB approval for the over cost on the dam work – we are currently waiting on this
- Tax bills will be mailed out by this coming Friday
- HST Offset Report has been submitted

*(b) Kings Transit 2020-21 Budget Approval*

After some discussion ensued the following motion was put forth:

**IT WAS MOVED** and seconded

**THAT**

Council approve the Kings Transit Authority 2020-21 Operating and Capital Budgets.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Council asked staff to inquire with regard to paying our payments monthly instead of quarterly. As well, Council asked staff to strongly encourage KTA to build a supplementary budget.

*(c) Town of Berwick PACE Program YTD Update*

Stefan Tylak, of Equilibrium Engineering highlighted that there has been 84 Expressions of Interest, 27 signed participants, 23 heat pump projects, 4 insulation projects, 3 window/door projects and 1 heat pump water heater project.

Total EQ admin fees (HST included)	\$ 12,371.58
Total costs to homeowners (HST included)	\$267,280.04
Estimated rebates received from ENS	\$ 14,546-
Average Value of Efficiency Investments (not including rebates)	\$ 9,899

*(d) PACE Atlantic Proposal*

Equilibrium Engineering is requesting that the Town of Berwick join their proposed PACE Atlantic initiative.

There is an ask that each participating municipal unit contribute \$5000k plus HST in seed funding.

Council inquired as to what happens to this contribution if the project was not successful.

Council suggested that the Town hold on to the funding contribution of \$5000k until we see how things play out.

General discussion ensued with regard to the pros and cons of participating in the Atlantic Program.

**IT WAS MOVED** and seconded

**THAT**

Council agrees to participate in the PACE Atlantic Program.

**MOTION CARRIED**

*(e) Valley Waste Resource Management Update*

Councillor Corbin provided an update on the VWRM.

- Monthly meeting last week
- The managing of recyclables is becoming an issue with social distancing – management has written the Minister asking for possible suggestions/options
- Reviewing a contingency plan in the case of Covid 19 infection outbreak at the facility
- Restricting access
- Dept of Environment stopped work at the new Annapolis site
- The VWRM budget has now been passed by all partners – the payments are quarterly and Council has asked if staff can inquire if TOB can pay monthly.
- New Bylaw has been passed by all units except the County of Kings – seeking further legal advice.

*(f) Volunteer Appreciation Update*

There are 15 nominations. The April event has been postponed to Thursday, September 17 which is before the scheduled Provincial Award Event on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

*(g) Community Development Update*

Councillor Bustin noted that there is an effort to hold a meeting soon.

Activing Living Coordinator, Brittany Brydon, is proposing a community garden on the land at the back of Town Hall – these would be temporary gardens – approximately 20 gardens, 6x8 in size.

The committee will bring back alternative locations and costs.

General discussion ensued with regard to various topics:

- Karen confirmed that Stephen Dooks is insured through the Town
- There is no solid plan on new dates for Spring Brush and Leaf Pick Up but hope to soon have alternative dates – for now all material should be held in back yards and not at street side.
- Various Councillors and staff reported that speed on Commercial and Main Streets have been elevated. Mike Payne noted that the RCMP should be notified by residents when they see or hear this activity.
- Gala Days is still up in the air – hope to decide by the first of June
- Council suggested a further information flyer be put in the mail to residents highlighting various topics in light of the Covid 19 pandemic and restrictions. Councillor Walsh volunteered to build the flyer and Chantal will have it printed and distributed.

5. No In Camera Session

6. Next Meeting: **May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**

7. Adjournment – 7:53pm.