



Town of Shelburne
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday January 16th, 2023

Council Members Present

Mayor Harold Locke
Deputy Mayor Ben Nickerson
Councillor Elizabeth Acker
Councillor Rick Davis
Councillor Sheldon Ringer

Staff Present

Sherry Doane, CAO
Candy Venning, Executive Coordinator

Call to Order

Mayor Harold Locke called the Council meeting to order at 6pm.

The Town of Shelburne is located on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq, (Mi'kma'ki), in the District of Kespukwitk, home to Acadia First Nation. We are all Treaty people.

We also acknowledge the histories, contributions, and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities.

Approval of the Agenda

THAT Council approves the Agenda for January 16, 2023, as presented.

Davis-Ringer

CARRIED

Approval of the Minutes

THAT Council approves the Minutes from the Town Council Meeting held on January 3rd, 2023, with the minutes amended to say Deputy mayor Ben Nickerson, (not Councillor Acker as listed).

Acker-Ringer

CARRIED

Proclamations & Announcements

a) We would like to recognize the recent passing of former Town employee **Donald Shortliffe**. Donnie was an employee of the Town for over 30 years and was a cornerstone with the public works department, seeing through many projects over his tenure before his retirement in 2009. Our prayers go out to his family and friends.

b) We would like to recognize January 17th through 23rd as National Non-Smoking Week. Smoke free outdoor spaces help keep our communities healthy and safe and help to de-normalize smoking and vaping while also keeping outdoor places like parks, sidewalks, and parking lots freer from litter. Many of our public parks now have signage up since the passing of the Smoke Free Outdoor Spaces Policy.

c) We would like to recognize January 26th as Bell Let's Talk Day. Bell Let's Talk Day is an opportunity to start a conversation in your workplace, with a friend or colleague, and help decrease the stigma

surrounding mental health.

d) February is recognized internationally as African Heritage Month -a time to recognize and salute the many contributions and ongoing achievements of people of African Descent all over the world and here in the Town of Shelburne in the Province of Nova Scotia, we honour and pay tribute to a time of greater understanding.

We encourage residents, businesses, and community groups, to participate in the activities and celebrations as well as taking the opportunity to reflect on the stories of Nova Scotia's vibrant African Nova Scotian communities.

Delegations

None

Correspondence

Action: none

Information:

a) Construction/Demolition Debris Regulation & Guideline changes
Councillor Acker recommended the document be posted on the Town website.

THAT Council accepts the Municipal Affairs and Housing letter for information as these changes will be communicated and promoted through the Solid Waste Division partner.

Acker - Nickerson

CARRIED

Council Items

Consideration of Renaming Street(s)

The Mayor received a letter from Margaret Knickle asking the Town of Shelburne rename Cornwallis Street. The Mayor highlighted his response to Ms. Knickle that given the street was named after **Charles** Cornwallis, we were not considering renaming it at this present time but now would like to put it out for Council and community discussion as a future consideration.

Previously, administration had invited the Town Historian, Lewis Jackson, to discuss a concern that was raised before, asking us to consider taking down the street name Cornwallis, as was occurring across the province, including most recently on a Coast Guard vessel. In that discussion, Mr. Jackson reminded us that Cornwallis Street in Shelburne was named after Charles Cornwallis (DOB 31 December 1738), NOT his brutal uncle, Edward Cornwallis (DOB 5 March 1713). General Charles Cornwallis fought in the first battle against the Americans in NY, securing it as a peaceful place for Loyalists to live. Charles was also instrumental in the diplomatic exodus of British Loyalists from NY at the end of the American Revolution. The Mayor went on further by reminding everyone that Shelburne was earmarked to be the capitol of Nova Scotia which, back then, included what is now New Brunswick and PEI, and that the Town named streets after those aligned to the Loyalist cause and Charles Cornwallis was one of them. Other street names included Parr, Carleton, Morris Ham(m)ond, Mowatt, Digby, Rodney, Elliot and Fanning.

The Town has been asked about our street named Cornwallis by others previously and once they were made aware of the actual Cornwallis that was commemorated in the street naming, they seem to have respected the decision to have it remain. The Mayor brought this forward to Council today, as he stated it is an important topic for us to discuss in the open and look to understand if the community wish to consider renaming one or all the street names. This was followed by an open discussion by all the Council members. Some Council stating they didn't think there was any reason to change any of

them, to others suggesting everyone educate themselves with factual history. A further suggestion was to consider naming one or more streets that reflects the Mi'kmaq heritage or historical Black Loyalists in our community

The CAO further mentioned that perhaps there was an opportunity for adding Mi'kmaq and Black Loyalist names as there are a few duplicate street names; it would not only be a more inclusive outcome but would also increase safety from an emergency perspective.

Council agreed that at minimum, a communication to property owners on the duplicated streets should be sought and that this topic should be open to public engagement/feedback.

M23-050 **THAT** we put out information on our social media and our website with regards to the history of Charles Cornwallis and ask our staff to contact via mail or email the residents who live on Rodney Lane, Rodney Street, Charlotte Lane, Charlotte Street, about the possibility of looking at a name change.

Acker-Davis

Committee Reports

None

Staff Reports

- a) SVFD Reports for November and December 2022
- b) By-Law officer Report for December 2022
- c) Building Inspection Report for November and December 2022

THAT Council accepts the above Staff Reports, as presented.

Nickerson -Ringer

- d) Shelburne Longboat Society, Report

CAO summarized the correspondence received from the Longboat Society looking for a portion of the insurance expenses, sighting that there is no official owner of the building as it was built from funds from grants and locals and volunteers etc. Council agreed that the longboats are a regional asset and supported the request.

M23-049 **THAT** Council will increase The Shelburne Longboat Society grant by \$1167.48 in next fiscal year's budget.

Acker Davis

- e) Tri-County Regional Planning Initiative

The administration has researched the Town's previous efforts on the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and could find no review thereof since its writing in 1986. The province is requiring municipalities to not only ensure that a review is completed by 31 March 2023 (including the Land-Use By-Law [LUB]) but that at minimum, this is done every 10 years.

In the meantime, eight municipal units in the tri-county area had previously applied for (and gained) a grant to study the state of our MPSs and LUBs and a consulting firm had proposed what that would look like, what their mandate should be, the cost, etc. What was important to note is that this would not be done in time to meet the provincial requirement, so the CAO asked for and gained an extension to Dec 2024. Further, it was suggested that there is great value in doing this in partnership with other municipalities versus each of us hiring a specialist in silos.

M23-051 **THAT** Council of the Town of Shelburne authorize the CAO to negotiate and sign an Intermunicipal Agreement with those other interested municipal units for a Tri-County Regional Planning Initiative in order to meet the mandated provincial requirements

Davis-Ringer

New Business

Councillor Acker mentioned the 'Free Skate' at the Shelburne County Arena & wanted to thank the

various businesses and individuals who have supported it.

The Mayor mentioned that there was a great turnout at the free skate that we sponsored, and encouraged any businesses or organizations that would like to sponsor or a 'free skate' to get in touch with the arena

Upcoming Meetings

- a) CP & V Committee The CP&V meeting has changed from Jan 11 to Feb 8th, 2023
- b) Town Council Meeting- is February 6th, 2023, at 6:00pm at Council Chambers

Adjournment

THAT the Regular Town Council Meeting of January 16th, 2023, be adjourned at 6:33pm.

Davis

CARRIED

Mayor

Executive Coordinator