



Town of Shelburne
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
February 5th, 2024
APPROVED

Council Members Present

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

Staff Present

Chief Administrator Officer, Sarah Mattatall
Deputy Chief Administrator Officer, Ken Smith
Executive Coordinator, Jill Webb

Regrets

Councillor Rick Davis

Call to Order

Mayor 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 February 5th, 2024.

Acker-Nickerson

CARRIED

Approval of the Minutes

THAT Council approves the minutes from the regular Town Council Meeting held on January 15th, 2024.

Acker-Nickerson

CARRIED

Proclamations and Announcements

a) **February is African Heritage Month.**

WHEREAS February is recognized internationally as African Heritage Month - a time that all Nova Scotian's are encouraged to embrace, recognize, and salute the many contributions and ongoing achievements of people of African Descent all over the world, and here in Shelburne, we celebrate a time of better understanding.

WHEREAS we are in the 10th and final year of the International Decade for People of African Descent, together we acknowledge and understand that when we listen to others' perspectives, interpretation, and views on the world, particularly those from marginalized communities, we will gain a more meaningful understanding on how to make our world a better place.

WHEREAS this year's theme - "Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience as African Nova Scotians, outlines the spirit of perseverance that people of African Descent have demonstrated over the centuries in our province.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that WE, do hereby proclaim the month of February to be African Heritage Month. We celebrate the longstanding history of people of African Decent in the development of Canada.

We ENCOURAGE residents, businesses and community groups to engage in the activities and celebrations, and to take the opportunity to education yourself and reflect on the story of Nova Scotia's vibrant African Nova Scotian Community.

b) February 15th is National Flag of Canada Day.

February 15th, 1965, Canada's red & white maple leaf flag was raised for the first time on Parliament Hill. On the same day in 1996, National Flag of Canada Day was declared. Our national flag is symbol that unites Canadians and reflects the common values we take pride in – equality, freedom, and inclusion. On February 15th, let's celebrate the Canadian Flag!

c) Volunteer of the Month – Cheryll Blinkhorn

Cheryll Blinkhorn is being recognized as the Volunteer of the Month for February for her hard work and dedication to our community.

Cheryll's commitment to being a volunteer started many years ago and since retiring from a successful teaching career it has only increased.

For many years, Cheryll served as a Board member for the Osprey Arts Centre, working tirelessly to support art, theatre, and music in Shelburne. Her love of the Arts fueled her desire to share them with others.

On many Monday evenings, Cheryll can be found sorting through items for the NU2U shop which raises monies for the Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation. She is always available for whatever the Foundation needs.

Another recipient of her volunteerism is The Loyalist Food Bank; she along with her husband continue to be a shopper for much needed food products.

Cheryll is also a long-time member of the Shelburne Curling Centre; she always steps forward to assist with Bonspiels and special events. Working in a kitchen is second nature to Cheryll, she can be found in the curling Centre kitchen, the Sandy Point Community Centre kitchen as well as during the wildfires, she helped at the Shelburne Community Centre.

On top of all this, Cheryll serves on two committees of the United Church of Canada, and she can always be counted on to assist those less fortunate at a moment's notice. She has even turned her hobby of knitting into helping others - she knits finger puppets for the IWK, pneumonia vests for infants and hats for the homeless.

For all Cheryl has done and continues to do for this community, the CP&V Committee and Town Council recognize her as the Volunteer of the Month for February. Thank you, Cheryl!

Delegations/Presentations

a) Robert Enslow - Noise

This presentation was cancelled.

b) Val Kean – Shelburne Events Committee

Mayor Locke invited Val Kean to begin her presentation. Val began her presentation. She spoke how the committee began and where they are now. She told Council that they are responsible for 3 signature events: Dock Street Days, Giant Pumpkin Festival and Miracle on Dock. She also explained that they do an Easter event in the springtime at Islands Park as well as they work with the Town of Lockeport on planning an event.

She explained how each event looked in 2023 and what they envision for 2024. She discussed budgets and the Shelburne Events Committee is asking for a total contribution of \$15,795.00 (\$8,370 for Dock St Days, \$3,645 for Giant Pumpkin and \$3,780 for Miracle on Dock St) from the Town of Shelburne to help these events move forward in bigger and better ways. Val told Council if they agree to the funding, that the Committee would be more than happy to have representation from the Town on the Committee.

After the presentation, Val asked for questions, Mayor Locke asked Val to confirm what the Town gives the Municipality now, Val confirmed that the Town gives approximately \$12,000 now, thus the Municipality is requesting an additional \$4,000 in funding. Mayor Locke also asked if it's based on population and Val explained that it is. 73% from Municipality and 27% from the Town of Shelburne.

Councillor Acker made a couple of comments stating that she is just amazed at the volunteers that the Committee has, it's a great group doing great things. She commented that she felt it would be deferred to budget but that she will definitely be supporting this come budget time. She said that the Events Committee is very welcoming and accepting of any feedback given. Councillor Wagner from the Municipality of the District of Shelburne who also sits on the Committee chimed in and said this is exactly why we changed the dates of Dock Street Days as they had received feedback that a lot of people are away on the long weekend.

Brendan Pippy who is a member of the Shelburne Events Committee also noted that he sits on the South Shore Tourism Committee, and he mentioned that a lot of people are looking to go to different events around the province and we can capitalize on that.

THAT Council defer the item to the budget process.

Acker-Ringer

CARRIED

M24-161

Correspondence

Action:

a) Commissary Accessibility Marina Park Society

Councillor Acker mentioned that there was already a motion on the table regarding this from June 19, 2023 M23-077 – THAT Council direct staff to write a letter of support for the Commissary Accessibility Marina & Park. No other motion needs to be made.

b) Appointment of Eric MacIntosh to the Accessibility Committee

THAT Council approve the appointment of Eric MacIntosh to the Accessibility Committee.

Nickerson-Ringer

CARRIED

Information: NONE

Council Items

a) Complaints Reporting System

CAO Mattatall spoke to this topic. She explained to Council that at a Mayors/Wardens/CAO meeting the Municipality of Barrington told Mayors and Wardens of a system that they use to handle all complaints coming in. They have been using this for the last two years. Sarah told Council that from a resident perspective it's great as they can go online and make a complaint 24/7, they do not have to wait for the office to be open to go in or call. The system works by someone going online and filling in the complaint form and then that report would get sent to the appropriate staff person to handle it. From a Council and Staff perspective it's a great tool as Council and staff would be able to check on the status of a complaint by going to the app and clicking on it and checking the progress, who is handling it and what they have done. It also is a good data tool that allows us to compile information and use it to find the trends, number of complaints, and help Council to make decisions.

Councillor Acker asked what the cost would be, and CAO Mattatall explained that the start up fee would be \$5,000 and then it would cost \$2,400 per year. The local software development company would help us implement it and run the program.

We could use the program for work orders, by-law issues, etc. It would really help to streamline things. Councillor Nickerson mentioned that all the accountabilities would be right on the app. Councillor Acker commented on the time saving for staff and Councillor Ringer said it would be good to have a demonstration of the app, all Councillors and Mayor agreed. Sarah said she would ask Chris to come do a presentation on it.

THAT Council defer the topic to the budget process.

Acker-Nickerson

CARRIED

M24-162

b) Voyent Alert

Sarah explained that this was on the last Council meeting and Council made a motion to defer to budget. She explained to Council that the Municipality is going to be purchasing this in the upcoming weeks and if we were to purchase now with them, we would save \$1,800 because the cost would only be \$1,700, if we wait and purchase on our own the cost would be \$3,500. Mayor Locke explained in order to do this we need to rescind the previous motion and make another motion at the next Council meeting on February 20th, 2024.

THAT Council rescind the previous motion made #M24-156 on January 15th, 2024, to defer the topic to the budget process.

Nickerson-Acker

CARRIED

M24-163

c) Rezoning – 194 Rodney Street

Mayor Locke felt that we need a staff report on this topic. Councillor Acker asked for more information, she commented that it's a 12-unit apartment, is the property big enough? Mayor Locke wanted to know if that property goes right to Elliott Street and CAO Mattatall responded that she believes it does but would investigate it further. Sarah also mentioned that we are only allowed to have 6 units in the apartment building if we were to rezone because of certain streets in the town are only allowed so many according the land use by-law.

THAT Council direct staff to create a staff report.

Acker-Ringer

CARRIED

M24-164

Committee Reports

a) Source Water Protection Committee Minutes

Councillor Acker told Council that these are the minutes from our October meeting, and we recently had another meeting last week. Things are moving along, and we are making progress, it's a great committee.

Staff Reports

a) CAO Report

Ms. Mattatall spoke to her report, giving Council an update on projects happening. At he last meeting, the Region 6 Solid Waste Management approved budget did not have the breakdown regarding cost sharing and so she wanted to let Council know the Town's portion is \$2,533.99. She updated Council on the Town Wharves (95 Water Street and 14 Dock Street) damages. She has reached out to ACOA for funding, written a letter to MDS requesting funds and have spoken to Nolan Young as well. She also wanted to inform Council that the Barrington Lake Wildfire Review that was sent out in a previous Council meeting was indeed a draft copy, and the final copy should be coming along shortly. And lastly, she let Council know that the Grants to Organization program has been closed and we have received close to 20 applications. The CP&V Committee will be vetting these to bring back to Council at an upcoming meeting.

b) Update – Public Meeting, Pickleball

Deputy CAO Ken Smith spoke to this topic. He told Council that they held a public meeting on January 27, 2024, and had a good turnout. They have had several people interested in doing various aspects of the committee – grant writing, legal writing and serving as members. Ken explained the next step would be to create a lease agreement between the Town and the society. Councillor Acker asked if we will also be looking at the ballfield and Ken explained that once we get the tennis and pickleball courts moving forward we can begin to address the ballfield and the Grovestine Complex as a whole. One thing at a time.

THAT Council direct staff to meet with the society and prepare a draft lease agreement for Councils consideration.

Ringer-Nickerson

CARRIED

M24-165

In Camera:

MGA 22 (2)e – Contract Negotiations

It was moved that we go In Camera at 6:44pm

Acker-Riner

CARRIED

Council came out of Camera at 7:16pm. There are no motions coming out of in camera.

New Business

Deputy Mayor Ringer wanted to thank the Public Works staff for all their hard work in cleaning the streets and clearing the snow.

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Upcoming Meetings/Events

- a) Lobster Chowder Chowdown Showdown, Black Loyalist Heritage Centre, February 11th, 2024, 1-4pm.
- b) Meet and Greet with Shelburne County Special Olympic Athletes, Christ Anglican Church, 29 Anne Street, February 19th, 2024, 1-3pm.
- c) Next Town Council Meeting – Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, 6pm, Council Chambers.

Adjournment

THAT the Regular Town Council Meeting of February 5th, 2024, be adjourned.