

TOWN OF NACKAWIC
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor Kitchen
Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Councillor Farnsworth
Councillor Simpson
Councillor Toole
Councillor Meade

IN ATTENDANCE: Kathryn Clark, Acting CAO
Dallas Cakes
Gordon Wheaton, Atlantic Garden Homes
Peter Cole, Big Axe Brewery
Jonathan Stone, Big Axe Brewery

TO ORDER: Mayor Kitchen called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

21-169 Motion: Councillor Toole
Second: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane

“That the agenda be approved with the one addition:
-under TO THE FLOOR; add B) Big Axe Brewery.”

Motion carried.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

There was no declaration of conflicts of interest.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15TH, 2021 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

21-170 Motion: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Second: Councillor Simpson

“That the minutes of the November 15th, 2021 regular council meeting be approved

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18TH, 2021 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING:

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21-171 Motion: Councillor Farnsworth
Second: Councillor Meade

“That the minutes of the November 18th, 2021 special council meeting be approved as presented.”

Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING:

There was no business arising.

TO THE FLOOR:

A) Gordon Wheaton, Atlantic Garden Homes, re: Project Update and Salting Request

Gordon Wheaton gave an update on the Garden Homes, and stated everyone should be moved into the garden homes by the end of January and there are plans for 6 – 8 more units to be built.

Gordon Wheaton stated his request of Council was if the Town would plough, and sand Nicholas Lane. He stated the driveway is 26’ wide and approximately 100’ long. The Town already has a budget in place, the equipment and the man power to service this request and the cost to the Town would be next to nothing. The tax base will probably bring a considerable amount of revenue for the Town. Depending on the assessment, the Town would have a perpetual income of \$20,000 or more on an annual basis.

Gordon Wheaton stated he knows there is a great need for lower-income housing and affordable housing and towns like Nackawic do need to consider, not only co-operating by being flexible, but also some financial assistance. Otherwise, the developer will go to a larger community where there is more population and be easier to build.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked how the project went.

Gordon Wheaton stated the Town of Nackawic has been great to them but the project has gone well over budget.

Councillor Farnsworth asked if they wanted the Town to plough and salt just the lane or the two wings as well.

Gordon Wheaton stated just the lane but would like to have the two wings done as well, if the Town agrees to it.

Councillor Simpson asked to clarify on, ‘with small towns, developers would need municipal help’.

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Gordon Wheaton stated some towns were prepared to pay so much per unit and sometimes in cooperation with the larger employer, the employer would support with financing as well. Sometimes the town would give land and land is easy to give up if it is not being use, but it still has to be serviced and getting it serviced can be expensive.

Councillor Simpson stated Nicholas Lane is a private road, what if it could be made into a public road.

Gordon Wheaton stated he would not have any objections to doing that.

Councillor Farnsworth asked why it was made private.

Councillor Simpson stated he wasn't sure.

Councillor Meade asked would they just need to make a new By-Law.

Councillor Toole stated it would have to go to RSC 11.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated it would have to be rezoned.

Mayor Kitchen thanked Gordon Wheaton for coming.

Gordon Wheaton left the meeting at 7:10 pm.

B) Peter Cole and Jonathan Stone, Big Axe Brewery

Peter Cole stated they have plans on having the Annual Big Axe Beer Festival July 16 & 17, 2022. They usually have between 1200-1300 people at the event and have already started selling tickets for summer of 2022. Vendors have already reached out to them but are not sure if they will be present but their product will be available at the festival.

Jonathan Stone stated they are renting a tent for the two-day festival but it cannot be returned until the following Monday. It will still be up on Sunday, the day after the festival, for a church group or folk festival to use, free of charge. If a member of council knows of a smaller group who would like to use it, please have them contact the Big Axe Brewery.

Jonathan Stone stated tickets cost \$60 for Saturday only and they might do \$70 for a combo package. He stated accommodations is always a concern, he has spoken to the new owners of Sunset Park and they are in favour of accommodating people attending the festival, which wasn't available last year.

Jonathan Stone stated they refunded people their money when COVID hit in 2020 and they are prepared to do that again this year if the Government happens to shut the province down again.

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Peter Cole stated with regards to being safe at the festival, they are asking that everyone who will be attending to be double vaccinated and to serve everything from cans rather than opening up the cans and pouring it in glasses and giving it to people.

Councillor Farnsworth stated that the festival in the past has been hard on Town Staff and summer students and stated maybe the organization can have more of their own volunteers to help with the excessive work over the two days.

Peter Cole stated if the Town has concerns to please let them know before the festival so they can accommodate more volunteers on their end so it is not too much work on Town Staff.

Councillor Toole stated the festival needs to find a better idea with regards to dropping of people and parking. It should be one way only for both so that it doesn't get too congested.

Peter Cole stated he will look into it.

Jonathan Stone stated to maybe erect temporary signs saying 'One Way Only'.

Kathryn Clark stated there will be a Come Home Year in July, and they have permission to use the ballfield, maybe they could use the tent on Sunday.

Councillor Farnsworth left the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Peter Cole stated he has spoken to someone regarding the Come Home Year and he did mention to them that the Brewery can serve at the event.

Peter Cole stated if some local businesses want to set up booths outside the fence, that are not with the festival they can because when the buses arrive, people tend to hang out some before they enter the grounds, which would be great for them and people can see what the town has to offer.

Councillor Toole stated he will speak to the Lions Club committee and maybe serve a breakfast on Saturday.

Mayor Kitchen thanked them for coming.

Peter Cole and Jonathan Stone left the meeting at 7:31 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A) Request from Big Axe Brewery, re: 2022 Big Axe Craft Beer Festival. (New Business)
- B) Request from Neighbourhood Watch Steering Committee, re: financial support. (New Business)

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance –

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated no report other than the 2022 Budget has been finalized and submitted and he would like to thank the acting CAO for getting that completed.

Library – No Report

Protective Services –

FIRE

Mayor Kitchen reported on the minutes of November 16 & 23, 2021 meetings.

Recreation – No Report

Public Works –

Councillor Toole stated the temporary employee, Winston Harris, is working out great.

Councillor Toole also mentioned he found a report that he had done on the town's sidewalks when he was on his first term with Council, and they were very poor back then and nothing has been done with them since.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated he was walking on the sidewalks in front of the Fire Hall and slipped and fell. He would like for the public works department to make a sweep up around the fire hall when they are out salting the roads.

Councillor Toole stated Brian Feero has fallen several times in that same spot.

Special Reports –

DNEDC

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated they have been meeting regularly, the tourism committee is very active and they have a request in to the Department of Tourism for approximately \$80,000 for marketing and are waiting to hear back from them. They have around \$9000 left over in their Winter Campaign budget and \$2200 from Regional Community Partners for those who would like to participate in a winter campaign. The community would be adding their own money along with some money left over from the Corporation 2021 budget. They are trying to get the businesses from around the region to participate in the winter campaign.

Councillor Farnsworth entered the meeting at 7:50 pm.

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Acting Chief Administrative Officer's Report

Kathryn Clark stated that:

- the 2022 Budget was submitted to the province and was approved and received back.
- the By-Law T-3 ATVs was submitted to Department of Public Safety. Third reading won't be until Town receives approval of the by-law from them.
- Revised Capital 5-Year Investment Plan was submitted and Town has received the \$65,732 top up allocation funds through the Canada Community Building Fund (Gas Tax).
- she prepared a document for the meeting Mayor Kitchen and Deputy Mayor MacFarlane had with Minister on Entity 71, White Paper on November 26th. Still waiting to hear back.
- she submitted a funding request to the Rotary Club, re: marina equipment rentals. It will be considered at a business meeting in January.
- Winston Harris began at Public Works Department on November 29th.
- public works fixed the main water shut off at the street for the arena. Pipe burst for 2nd time and another pipe has a small drip in compressor room. So now that can be repaired.
- the ice schedule is being changed constantly and new COVID restrictions causing a lot of issues. We have one group is renting more to help the Town out, we have decided to not have a door attendant in place for this, to save money.
- she has been working the last couple of weeks on financial statements for November and then year-end predictions. Recommendations under New Business.
- the point-of-sale building has been crack filled and painted inside. Everything done for this year. Lonnie Forbes will attend a council meeting in January to update Council on the project and what is left to complete in the spring.
- COVID exposure at the Arena on December 11th between 11:00 am – 1:30 pm.

Councillor Simpson asked if the arena revenue is down approximately \$2000 a week with the new COVID restrictions in place.

Kathryn Clark stated yes, they have had a couple request for public rentals, waiting to hear back from Kent Kuhn.

Mayor's Report –

Mayor Kitchen stated that:

- he attended a meeting, along with Deputy Mayor MacFarlane with the Minister and the MLA on November 26th, regarding area 71 Entity.

Councillor Simpson stated does the Town consider Entity 71 our bottom line, if the Government comes back with something less can we say 'leave us alone'

Mayor Kitchen stated for Nackawic to stay alone is not an option.

Councillor Simpson stated it is for other communities.

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Mayor Kitchen stated they are alone from the beginning because that is how the government wants them.

Councillor Simpson stated Nackawic needs to express our displeasure if we don't like it.

Mayor Kitchen stated we pointed out that we want to be a region. It would be great to have Prince William and a part of Bright but he feels we will not get those regions.

Councillor Simpson asked if the Town looked at it financially along with the property values with the other areas and to be prepared for when the government does come back.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated if Nackawic gets the regions the government is saying, we don't know if we can run that kind of community because they haven't given us any numbers. In Early January, we will be getting a facilitator to have discussions about the new Entity and it is supposed to be completed the end of August because there is an election coming in November for a totally new Council.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated we understand the Town's budget but we don't understand the LSD's budget or what the province takes or puts back into the new entity. The Town needs to protect our budget and we need to protect the control of the town, we need to make sure we have 4 if not 5 councillors on this board, if they make the other communities to have at least one.

Councillor Simpson stated he knows there are a lot of unknowns, but we know the area better than they do.

Mayor Kitchen stated yes, and that is what the Deputy Mayor and himself told them at the meeting they attended, now they have to wait and hear back from them.

Councillor Farnsworth stated Dot MacElwain has been rallying for support to save the crossroad bridge, right now it is closed and she would like the Town to write a letter of support to the government.

Mayor Kitchen stated yes, he doesn't mind writing a letter of support, and asked if Council approved.

Council approved the letter of support to save the bridge.

Councillor Farnsworth stated Dot MacElwain has also started a petition to save the bridge, but instead of signatures, people can just send her an email saying they support her along with their mailing address.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Request from Big Axe Brewery

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21-172 Motion: Councillor Meade
Second: Councillor Toole

“That Council approve the Big Axe Beer Festival on July 16 & 17, 2022 to use the ball fields and meet to discuss with them regarding town staffing during the festival.”

On The Question-

Councillor Toole asked if the Town was going to be asked for a fee. Last year we stated we would look into it again this year.

Councillor Farnsworth stated all the money goes back into the community, but we have to look into the Town staffing it.

Mayor Kitchen stated we can approach them and say the town will help set up the day of the event, but for staff to work both days at the event, that is where it has to be changed.

Councillor Farnsworth stated we can have a meeting with them to discuss these changes with staffing.

Councillor Toole stated he was ok with that.

Motion carried.

B) Request from Neighbourhood Watch Steering Committee

21-173 Motion: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That Council approve the request of \$500 for start-up and signage and for it to be taken from the transportation sign budget and to add a line item for Neighbourhood Watch in the 2022 budget.”

Motion carried.

C) Amended Fire Service Agreement

21-174 Motion: Councillor Toole
Second: Councillor Meade

“That Council rescind motion 21-151 & approve the amended Fire Service Agreement 2022.”

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Motion carried.

D) Nackawic Fire Department Request – Mobile TMR Radio – Rescue 1

21-175 Motion: Councillor Toole
Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That Council approve the purchase of the Mobile TMR Radio for Rescue 1 at a cost of \$3195.15 taxes included.”

Motion carried.

E) Year End Predictions, Transfers

21-176 Motion: Councillor Simpson
Second: Councillor Meade

“That \$120,000 be transferred from the General Operating Fund to the General Capital Reserve Fund.”

Motion carried.

21-177 Motion: Councillor Farnsworth
Second: Councillor Simpson

“That Council move to closed session.”

Motion carried.

Council moved to closed session at 8:45 pm and Dallas Cakes left the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION:

A) Ron Berube Volunteer of the Year Award

B) Tentative Collective Agreement

C) Personnel Issue

21-178 Motion: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Second: Councillor Toole

“That Council move back to regular session.”

Motion carried.

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Council moved back to regular session at 9:43 pm.

A) Ron Berube Volunteer of the Year Award

21-179 Motion: Councillor Farnsworth
Second: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane

“That Council award the 2021 Ron Berube Volunteer Award to Marina Hull.”

Motion carried.

B) Tentative Collective Agreement

21-180 Motion: Councillor Toole
Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That the tentative Collective Agreement between the Town of Nackawic and CUPE Local 3620 be approved as presented.”

On the Question –

Mayor Kitchen asked if Council wishes were to go back to the bargaining table to clarify some of the language relating to vacation days.

Council agreed more clarification was needed prior to accepting the tentative changes to the contract.

Motion defeated – 5 Nay votes.

21-181 Motion: Councillor Simpson
Second: Councillor Meade

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Ian Kitchen
Mayor

Kathryn Clark
Acting CAO