

Council Minutes
June 21, 2010
Council Chambers

Present

Mayor C. Chisholm
Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm
Councillor S. Cameron
Councillor W. Cormier
Councillor D. MacInnis
Councillor J. MacPherson
Councillor D. Roberts

D. Kampen, MPA, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
S. Day, Planner

Media

Community Members
M. MacDonald, Observer

Call to Order

Mayor C. Chisholm called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis
Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron
"That the Agenda be approved with additions." Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron
Seconded by Councillor W. Cormier
"That the Minutes of the Council Meeting (Closed), May 17, 2010; Council Meeting (Closed), May 17, 2010; and E-mail Poll, May 28, 2010, be approved as circulated." Motion carried.

Public Hearing

- By-law #94-44 to Amend the Land Use By-law
S. Day, Town Planner advised that as a result of some discussions for proposed goals/ambitions to the benefit of the Town, the Town's own By-laws would not permit some proposed developments to proceed, and spoke on a proposal by the RK MacDonald Nursing Home, whereby some land currently zoned R1 (Residential First Density) and land that is part of an old riverbed and deemed floodway could not be developed as a parking area, house or and out building. He noted that although Section 5.14 of the Land Use By-law exempts the Town from complying with the By-laws, the definition of a Public Authority is specific to the Town only and therefore ties the hands of the Town with respect to the proposal of the RK MacDonald Nursing Home. S. Day further spoke on a proposed project which would see a monument erected at Columbus Field by the Royal Canadian Legion, which again, cannot be done as the current By-law prevents it.

S. Day reviewed and then recommended that Council amend the definition of a Public Authority and amend Section 5.14 of the Land Use By-law. He further noted that amendments would also ensure that floodway storage is not reduced and that the flow of water cannot be impeded.

Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis

Seconded by Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm

“That By-law #94-44 to amend the Land Use By-law pass Second Reading.” Motion carried.

Presentations

- Ms. C. Cameron re Antigonish Food Security Coalition

Ms. C. Cameron noted that she was speaking on behalf of Ms. K. MacKinnon who was unable to attend. Ms. C. Cameron noted that the Antigonish Food Security Coalition came about approximately one and one-half (1½) years ago. She noted that food security is a major concern and advised that if, for any reason, borders were to close, we would have enough food for approximately three (3) days. She then spoke on the cost of food noting that Nova Scotia is higher than the national average, and the impact this has on families and children. Ms. C. Cameron provided Council with details on the benefits of local food, the local food box program, the Farmer’s Market, difficulties producers face in selling their products locally, and the community food gardens.

Mayor C. Chisholm thanked Ms. C. Cameron for her presentation, noting that food security is part of the Town’s Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. Ms. C. Cameron left the meeting at 7:35 PM.

- Master J. Beuglas (for Ms. N. MacFarlane) re Development of Temporary Action Sports Ramp (Half Pipe) in Columbus Field for Summer 2010

J. Beuglas advised that the skateboard group is proposing a temporary Action Sports Ramp (Half Pipe) at Columbus Field for this Summer. He provided a history of the organization’s attempts to create a skate-park, which began in 1987. He noted their latest attempt came to a halt in 2005, and spoke on various attempts to locate a park in various areas of the Town and County.

He noted that the half pipe proposed would be 24’ X 16’ in size and could be placed on pavement or grass. He noted that the RCMP are in favour of their endeavour and noted the suitability of Columbus Field for its high visibility (easy to patrol), it highlights the community, and ample room for spectators.

Councillor J. MacPherson noted that it was his understanding from the Columbus Club (Knights of Columbus) that they would not support the installation of the half pipe at Columbus Field. Brief discussion took place on other possible and venues.

Mayor C. Chisholm agreed to accompany a member of the skateboard group to speak with B. MacNeil of the Columbus Club to determine if they will or will not support the placement of a half pipe at Columbus Field.

The Mayor thanked the group and they left the meeting at 8:08 PM.

- Mr. G. Grant re Antigonish Regional Development Authority Board and Executive, and Annual Review 2009/2010

Mr. G. Grant noted that after many years, Mr. G. Lerikos had retired as Chair of the Antigonish Regional Development Authority Board, and introduced the new Chair, Ms. S. VandeWiel.

Mr. G. Grant distributed copies of their 2009/2010 Annual Review and noted five (5) projects that they will be working on and outlined the details:

1. Social Media Pilot Project: 'You Tube' quality video-website; include what to do in Antigonish such as Highland Games; looking for funding from the Province and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency; interviewed three (3) good candidates for project, one (1) more interview to be completed; hope to start project by July 1, 2010.
2. Wayfinding: June 25, 2010, conference call with Mr. Roger Brooks; need to carry out in partnership with other areas (Amherst to Auld's Cove); deliverable will include conceptual signage and where it should be placed; cost estimated at \$70,000.00; may require \$1,500.00 each from the Town and County.
3. Exhibition Grounds: Ten (10) years remaining on lease of Federation Grounds land; Federation looking for a plan; \$19,000.00 estimated for conceptual plan; stakeholders may require some funds from the Town and County.
4. Investment Attraction – Community Profile: Antigonish profile (web-based and hard copy); SWAT analysis; need to pull all together as to who gets request from investor (protocol); \$15,000.00 in place; need to secure additional funding.
5. Community Gateway Planning: The deliverable is a planning document for community to move forward; Terms of Reference are in place; hope to award project in July 2010; \$60,000.00 estimated cost; \$5,000.00 from Town and County.

Total cost of all the above project are estimated at \$225,000.00 with \$10,000.00 being contributed from the Town.

Ms. S. VandeWiel thanked the Town for their financial support and the support of Council, noting that Councillor W. Cormier and Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm both represent the Town on the Board. She noted two (2) new members have joined the Board – Mr. S. Stephenson and Mr. D. Thompson. She further noted that the Executive is made up of Mr. G. Lukeman (Vice-chair), Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm (Treasurer), and D. MacDonald (Secretary).

The Mayor thanked Mr. G. Grant and Ms. S. VandeWiel for their presentation and they left the meeting at 8:23 PM.

Correspondence

- Lifesaving Society, Nova Scotia Branch, re Proclamation of July 17-24, 2010, as National Drowning Prevention Week

Moved by Councillor J. MacPherson

Seconded by Councillor D. Roberts

"That Council proclaim July 17-24, 2010, as National Drowning Prevention Week." Motion carried.

- Ms. K. Noble, West Park Elementary School, Alberta, re Reading for PINS (Pleasure, Interest, Necessity and Success)

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by Councillor W. Cormier

“That Council provide Town pins, community brochures, postcards, and a letter from Mayor C. Chisholm inviting students from West Park Elementary School, Alberta, to visit our community and encouraging them to read.” Motion carried.

Staff Reports

- Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron

“That the CAO Report be received for information.” Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That Council approve the hiring of Mr. A. Carter as the Fire Inspector and Safety Officer for the Town of Antigonish, effective July 12, 2010, as per the Letter of Offer.” Motion carried with Councillor S. Cameron voting against.

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by Councillor J. MacPherson

“That Council approve the following Vision, Mission, and Values Statements as part of the Town of Antigonish’s Strategic Plan:

Vision Statement: The Town of Antigonish is a vibrant, safe, diverse, and affordable community, caring in nature, proud in its heritage, and committed to sustainability.

Mission Statement: As a responsible order of government accountable to the people, the Town provides municipal services to its residents, businesses, institutions, and visitors with the goal of improving quality of life.

Values Statement:

- Sustainability: We strive to provide sustainable municipal services ensuring social, environmental, cultural, and economic integrity for present and future generations.
 - Leadership: We recognize the importance of leadership in achieving common goals for the benefit of our community.
 - Respect: We uphold the principles of fairness, equity, and inclusiveness.
 - Communication: We endeavour to be open, transparent, and accountable.
 - Social Well-Being: We promote initiatives that foster the health, safety, and security of our community.
 - Community Pride: We celebrate our history, multiculturalism, and quality of life.
 - Volunteerism: We recognize the important contribution that volunteers make to our community.
 - Partnerships: We build strong collaborative partnerships with community stakeholders.”
- Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That the Town hire Ms. M. MacPherson and Mr. B. McVicar as Recreation Summer Camp Leaders for the period of June 25, 2010, to August 31, 2010, at a pay rate of \$9.20 per hour.”

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor W. Cormier

Seconded by Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm

“That the Town write-off Account #262878 in the amount of \$56.73.” Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor W. Cormier

Seconded by Councillor J. MacPherson

“That the Town pay-out the lease balance of approximately \$14,000.00 for the purchase of the current truck used by the Town Recreation Department.” Motion carried.

- Comptrollers Report

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That the Comptrollers Report be received for information.” Motion carried.

- Electric Utility Manager Report

Moved by Councillor J. MacPherson

Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron

“That the Electric Utility Manager Report be received for information.” Motion carried.

- Engineer’s Report

Moved by Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That the Engineer’s Report be received for information.” Motion carried.

- Planning and Building Services Department Report

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That the Planning and Building Services Department Report be received for information.”

Motion carried.

- Recreation Report

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That the Recreation Report be received for information.” Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee

Moved by Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm

Seconded by Councillor D. Roberts

“To recommend that Council give consideration to the misuse of posters and signage being placed on poles within the Town.” Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm noted the problem of posters being taped onto light poles with the paint coming off the poles as the posters are removed. She noted a safety hazard to our Electric Utility with respect to staples on poles. She further noted that fines can be levied for putting posters on poles under the Environment Act.

Moved by Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm

Seconded by Councillor D. Roberts

“To recommend that Council approve the expenditure of approximately \$1,000.00 for the purpose of having Mr. D. Myers prepare a planter plan and to install plants for an area at the southern intersection of Main and St. Ninian Streets.” Motion carried.

- Planning Advisory Committee

Councillor W. Cormier noted that the matter of a proposed Development Agreement for 62 Hawthorne Street has been referred back to the Planning Advisory Committee and that an amended Development Agreement would come from the Planning Advisory Committee.

The developer, Mr. I. Kadray, noted that he has changed his plans to now include an elevator and has reduced the number of units from 29 to 24. He noted a desire to work with the community and add value to the community. He further noted that the rental prices will be high-end and what would not usually be considered affordable, with a two-bedroom unit costing \$1,000.00. In response to a query from Councillor D. MacInnis, he noted that the units will be either one or two bedroom units, similar to a senior’s complex recently developed within the Town. Mr. I. Kadray further noted that he currently owns 130 units within the Town. In response to a question from Councillor D. Roberts, Mr. I. Kadray noted that the proposal includes fifteen (15) one bedroom, and fourteen (14) two bedroom units.

Brief discussion took place on the need for time-lines for advertising the proposed development and a proposed date for Council to meet to further consider the development agreement.

- Police and Licensing Committee

Moved by Councillor J. MacPherson

Seconded by Councillor W. Cormier

“To recommend that Council refer a request from Antigonish Sustainable Development for the Town to consider the implementation of Active Living Transportation (bike lanes) to the Public Properties and Streets Committee for consideration, and that the Police and Licensing Committee would endorse a planned approach to this process.” Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor J. MacPherson

Seconded by Councillor W. Cormier

“To recommend that Council approve the list of Licensed Taxi-cab Drivers as presented by S/Cst. S. Smith until March 31, 2011.” Motion carried with Councillor D. Roberts voting against.

- Fire Committee

Councillor D. Roberts noted she had nothing to report.

- Recreation Committee

Councillor D. MacInnis noted he had nothing to report.

Other Business

- Tree Lighting at Chisholm Park (Councillor D. Roberts)

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm

“That arrangements be made as soon as possible to have the Town Electric Utility provide power to the tree outside the Federal Building at Chisholm Park.” Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor J. MacPherson

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That the meeting be adjourned.” Motion carried.