

**Regular Council Meeting
November 21, 2022
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor L. Boucher
Deputy Mayor W. Cormier
Councillor S. Cameron
Councillor M. Farrell
Councillor A Murray
Councillor D. Roberts

CAO J. Lawrence
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
M. Barkhouse, Corporate Service
K. MacInnis, Community Development
S. Long, Communications
K. Proctor, P.Eng., Director of Public Works

Absent with Regret

Councillor D. MacInnis

Call to Order

Mayor L. Boucher called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM and called for any additions to the agenda.

Approval of Agenda

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda as amended." Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Special and In Camera meeting of October 11, Regular Council meeting of October 17, 2022, Special Council meeting of October 20, 2022, Epolls of October 18th and 27th and November 7, 2022, as presented." Motion carried.

Proclamations/Presentations/Flag Raising

- NS SummerFest – R. Mattie/M. Camero
Information related to the presentation had been previously distributed.

R. Mattie took to the podium and provided Council with a PowerPoint presentation and overview of this summer's NS SummerFest event held at Columbus Field.

Council was advised that SummerFest has been approached by the NS Department of Agriculture for a new initiative and partnership which would see a Thursday night venue featuring local food.

Details were provided on a proposed marketing campaign with a financial ask of \$7,500 from the Town.

Following a brief question and answer session Council thanked R. Mattie for his presentation and he left the meeting.

- GFL Environmental (J. Warwick) – Tabled to December 2022

Business from Minutes

- Basic Income Guarantee (BIG) (Mayor L. Boucher)
Councillor S. Cameron declared a conflict of interest.

Mayor L. Boucher noted information on a basic income guarantee was distributed to Council and noted that personally and individually, each Councillor, should they wish to do so, could have their names included in the document as supporters.

Councillor S. Cameron returned to the meeting.

- Signs on Utility Poles – Tabled.

New Business

- Request to approve RK MacDonald Foundation Board Member
“It was Moved and Seconded to approve an appointment to the RK MacDonald Foundation as outlined in correspondence from the Foundation.” Motion carried

- Distribution of Dr. J.J. Carroll Funds (K. MacInnis)
“It was Moved and Seconded to allocate funds from the Dr. J.J. Carroll Awards as recommended by staff.” Motion carried.

- Request for Property Tax Reduction Re: Fire (M. Barkhouse)
M. Barkhouse took to the podium and provided Council with details surrounding damage to a home on Hawthorne Street as the result of a fire. She noted the reduction is based on a calendar year as opposed to a fiscal year.

“It was Moved and Seconded to prorate the property tax and other levies for Property Identification Number 01223585 as a result of a fire and as recommended by staff.” Motion carried.

- Delightful December Parking Request
K. MacInnis, Director of Community Development provided Council with details on the proposed ‘Delightful December’ parking request noting that as in the past, donations to the parking meters would be split between the Antigonish Community Food Bank and the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund.

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Delightful December parking request as recommended by staff.” Motion carried.

- Appointment of Deputy Mayor
Mayor L. Boucher briefly provided details on the role of the deputy mayor and thanked Councillor W. Cormier for his work over the past year. Mayor L. Boucher called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for the 2022-23 term.

Councillor A. Murray nominated Councillor W. Cormier for the position.

Councillor S. Cameron nominated Councillor D. Roberts for the position.

A secret ballot vote was taken with staff scrutinizing the ballots. Staff announced that there were four votes were in favor of Councillor W. Cormier, and two votes in favor of Councillor D. Roberts.

“It was Moved and Seconded that Councillor W. Cormier be re-appointed as Deputy Mayor for the 2022-23 term.” Motion carried.

- **Moratorium on Town of Antigonish Electrical Utility**
Councillor S. Cameron spoke to rumors surrounding the Town’s Electric Utility.

“It was Moved and Seconded that the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility have a moratorium placed upon it so that it will not be sold, for a period of twenty-five years by this Council, or the newly joined Municipality of the County of Antigonish, or any transitional or successor name, of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish.” Motion defeated.

Councillors provided comment on the matter of the Town’s Electric Utility.

Correspondence

There was no Correspondence.

Staff Reports

CAO J. Lawrence responded to questions from Council on matters contained within the CAO Report.

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the CAO Report as presented.” Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- **Eastern District Planning Commission (EDPC)**
Councillor M. Farrell reported that the EDPC has a meeting planned for next week.
- **Solid Waste Management Committee**
Councillor D. Roberts advised that a Waste Management meeting is coming up, and apprised Council on meetings she recently attended.
- **Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library/Fire Committee**
Councillor S. Cameron advised on correspondence including issues concerning the local theatre which was recently sold/purchased.
- **Police & License Committee**
Deputy Mayor W. Cormier advised a Police & License meeting is being scheduled for December and that the Committee will be looking at parking issues on Hillcrest Street and new speed signs.

With there being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.