

**Regular Town Council
October 16, 2023
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor L. Boucher
Councillor S. Cameron
Councillor M. Farrell
Councillor D. MacInnis
Councillor D. Roberts

Also Present

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

Absent with Regret

Deputy Mayor W. Cormier
Councillor A. Murray

Call to Order

Mayor L. Boucher called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Minutes of the September 18th Regular Council meeting and September 19th, 26th, October 4th and October 10th, 2023, Special meetings of Council.” Motion carried.

Proclamations/Presentations/Flag Raising

There were no Proclamations/Presentations/Flag Raisings.

Business from Minutes

There was no Business from Minutes.

New Business

- Antigonish Community Transit

A memo and report on Antigonish Community Transit was introduced. Discussion took place.

CAO J. Lawrence noted that senior staff, along with the Mayor and Warden were asked to meet with Antigonish Community Transit and it was noted that the existing model is not working and provided details. He further noted that Antigonish Community Transit would like to look at all options. Council was provided with details regarding transit as it relates to a ‘housing’ application. The approach, as outlined by the CAO was supported by the Antigonish Community Transit Board.

“It was Moved and Seconded that staff work with the County of Antigonish and Antigonish Community Transit toward a sustainable fixed transit route.” Motion carried.

- Antigonish Arena Funding

Councillor D. MacInnis provided comment on a report presented during a meeting of the Antigonish Arena and noted that the condenser and chiller have been replaced, however with cost increases there was an overrun. Councillor D. MacInnis provided further details.

“It was Moved and Seconded that the Town split the over-run costs with the County of Antigonish for the purchase and installation of a condenser and chiller at the arena with the Town’s share being \$27,730.” Motion carried.

- Iris Communication (Councillor S. Cameron)

Councillor S. Cameron stated that with news of the current government not putting Consolidation forward that it was unnecessary to further allocate funds to Iris Communications. Following discussion, and with general agreement that any outstanding funds would be required to be paid along with no requirement for further funding at this time, Councillor S. Cameron put forth the following motion:

“It was Moved and Seconded that the Town of Antigonish cease the use of the services of Iris Communication, effective immediately.” Motion carried.

- Communication (Councillor D. Roberts)

Councillor D. Roberts questioned why councillors were not informed on the decision of the current government not moving forward on the matter of consolidation prior to hearing about the issue on the news.

Mayor L. Boucher clarified what she heard from who and when. Discussion took place.

Business from Minutes

Councillor D. Roberts questioned the status of a meeting on waste receptacles. K. MacInnis provided details.

Councillor D. Roberts questioned the status of the paid metered parking on Sydney Street. K. MacInnis responded on issues that had taken place, noting that repairs are expected in the near future.

Councillor S. Cameron spoke to the need for a battery for a cross walk beacon, with K. MacInnis noting that the battery will be replaced when repairs are made to the Sydney Street parking lot.

Staff Reports

CAO J. Lawrence responded to questions from Council on the CAO report.

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

Committee Reports

- Antigonish Regional Library/Fire Committee
Councillor S. Cameron stated he had nothing to report.

- Waste Management/Antigonish Heritage Committee

Councillor D. Roberts reported on a waste clean up held on September 30th and provided details.

Councillor D. Roberts reminded councillors that she is seeking recommendations on a trading treasures program, should they have any. She noted a Waste Management meeting would be held in November.

Councillor D. Roberts noted that the sign for the Heritage Museum has been erected.

- Antigonish Arena Commission

Councillor D. MacInnis provided details on upgrades to make the Arena more accessible including the installation of an outside ramp, and an area for wheelchairs near the bleachers. He further noted a new sound system has been installed – with the next phase to include accessible doors and looking at an accessible change room/washroom.

Mary – nothing to report.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:31 PM.