

CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
Council Meeting – Minutes

**Tuesday,
June 23, 2020
1:30 p.m.**

Mayor Cecil P. Clarke called the meeting to order and noted the following participants in the Video/Teleconferencing:

Council: Mayor Cecil P. Clarke
Councillor Clarence Prince
Councillor Earlene MacMullin
Councillor Esmond Marshall
Councillor Steve Gillespie
Councillor Eldon MacDonald
Deputy Mayor Ivan Doncaster
Councillor Amanda McDougall
Councillor George MacDonald
Councillor Darren Bruckschwaiger
Councillor Jim MacLeod

Staff:	Marie Walsh	Joe Farrell
	Jennifer Campbell	John Phalen
	John MacKinnon	Matt Viva
	Deborah Campbell Ryan	Francis Campbell
	Demetri Kachafanas	Kirk MacNeil
	Wayne MacDonald	Robert Nearing
	Michael Ruus	Christa Dicks
	Michael Seth	Allan Clarke
	Robert Walsh	Paul MacDonald
	Gordie MacDougall	Karen Neville
	Bill Murphy	Kirk Durning
	Kathy Donovan	Sheilah MacDonald
	Ray Boudreau	Sharon MacSween
	Bruce Hardy	Angela Ross

Absent: N/A

The Council met In-Camera earlier this date pursuant to Section 22 (2) (a) and (c) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Summary of Decisions

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve minutes from:

- **Council Meeting – June 9, 2020**

Carried.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the June 23, 2020 Council Agenda and Addendum as circulated.
Carried.

3. PLANNING ISSUES:

3.1 REPORT ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAM (Approval to Advertise):

- a) **Municipal Planning Strategy and Subdivision By-law Text Amendment – Application 1073:**

Motion for approval to advertise notice of a Public Hearing to be held during an upcoming meeting of Council to consider the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Subdivision By-law as outlined in the staff report dated June 11, 2020.
Carried.

4. STREET CLOSURE – PUBLIC HEARING:

4.1 Request for Street Closure (undeveloped portion) Chisholm Street, Sydney Mines, NS, District #1 – Portion of PID 15725997:

Motion for final approval of the formal street closure for that portion of the undeveloped section of Chisholm Street, Sydney Mines, and to deem it **surplus** for sale to Ernest and Lillian Saunders pursuant to Section 315 of the *Municipal Government Act* and Property Management Policy. **Carried.**

Continued...

Summary of Decisions (Cont'd):

5. BY-LAWS & MOTIONS:

5.1 By-laws:

a) Second / Final Reading – Public Hearing:

i. CBRM Tow Truck Licencing By-law:

Motion that the CBRM Tow Truck Licencing By-Law be approved for second/final reading as presented. **Carried.**

b) First Reading: N/A

ADDENDUM:

6.00 COUNCILLOR AGENDA REQUEST:

a) Train Station, Dodd St., Sydney - District 5:

Motion that staff be directed to provide an Issue Paper to Council regarding the request for demolition of the former train station on Dodd Street, Sydney. **Carried.**

6.01 Cornwallis Street, Sydney, District 6:

Motion that Planning staff be directed to initiate the process for the renaming of Cornwallis Street, Sydney, and that the current residents have full participation and engagement in the renaming recommendation to Council. **Carried.**

6. Planning and Development Department Corporate Planning and Restructure:

Motion to approve the proposed changes to the Planning and Development Department structure as indicated in Appendix B of the staff Issue Paper dated June 17, 2020 and associated budget as presented in the 2020-2021 budget. **Carried**

Continued...

7. **BUSINESS ARISING:**

7.1 **Council Meeting – April 7, 2020:**

a) **CBRM Proposed Operating Budget 2020-2021:**

Motion to approve the 2020-21 Operating Budget totaling \$154,216,771 as presented, including:

- A transfer from Operating Reserve totaling \$438,000 (\$78,000 – MPS; \$360,000 – Election Reserve); and
- A transfer from Emergency Operating Reserve of up to \$2,536,797 (if required to offset impacts of COVID-19 on Operating Revenues and Expenditures

Carried.

Adjournment

The Council met In-Camera earlier this date pursuant to Section 22 (2) (a) and (c) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Roll Call

Mayor Clarke congratulated Mr. Gordie MacDougall on his upcoming retirement as Director of Human Resources and thanked him for his many years of service to the citizens of CBRM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Prince, seconded by Councillor MacLeod, approval of the Minutes from:

- **Council Meeting – June 9, 2020**

Motion Carried.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion:

Moved by Councillor George MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Bruckschwaiger, to approve the June 23, 2020 Council Meeting Agenda and Addendum as circulated.

Motion Carried.

3. PLANNING ISSUES:

3.1 REPORT ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAM (Approval to Advertise):

b) Municipal Planning Strategy and Subdivision By-law Text Amendment – Application 1073:

Ms. Karen Neville, Senior Planner, provided background information and reviewed the June 11, 2020 report on the Public Participation Program.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Gillespie, seconded by Councillor Prince, approval to advertise notice of a Public Hearing to be held during an upcoming meeting of Council to consider the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Subdivision By-law as outlined in the staff report dated June 11, 2020.

Motion Carried.

Continued...

4. STREET CLOSURE – PUBLIC HEARING:

4.1 Request for Street Closure (undeveloped portion) Chisholm Street, Sydney Mines, NS, District #1 – Portion of PID 15725997:

Mr. Demetri Kachafanas, QC, Regional Solicitor, provided background information on the issue.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Prince, seconded by Councillor George MacDonald, final approval of the formal street closure for that portion of the undeveloped section of Chisholm Street, Sydney Mines, and to deem it **surplus** for sale to Ernest and Lillian Saunders pursuant to Section 315 of the *Municipal Government Act* and Property Management Policy.

Public Hearing:

At this point in the meeting, the Mayor asked staff to report on the input received from the public regarding the street closure.

Mr. Kachafanas and the Clerk's Department advised that there were no submissions received regarding the street closure.

Motion Carried.

5. BY-LAWS & MOTIONS:

5.1 By-laws:

c) Second / Final Reading – Public Hearing:

ii. CBRM Tow Truck Licencing By-law:

Staff Sergeant Joe Farrell provided background information on the issue, noting that since the June 9, 2020 Council meeting, he contacted the owners of each towing company to inform them of the bylaw and emailed a copy of same.

Continued...

By-laws & Motions: By-laws - Second / Final Reading – Public Hearing: CBRM Tow Truck Licencing By-law (Cont'd):

Motion:

Moved by Councillor MacLeod, seconded by Councillor Gillespie, that the CBRM Tow Truck Licencing By-Law be approved for second/final reading as presented.

Public Hearing:

At this point in the meeting the Mayor asked staff to report on the input received from the public regarding the issue.

Staff Sergeant Joe Farrell and the Clerk's Department advised that there were no submissions received regarding the By-law.

Discussion on the Motion:

In response to a question Staff Sergeant Joe Farrell advised that if approved today, follow up with the tow companies will take place and discussion on the go forward, and answering any questions or concerns they may have.

Motion Carried.

d) **First Reading:** N/A

ADDENDUM:

6.00 Train Station, Dodd Street, Sydney - District 5:

Councillor Eldon MacDonald provided background information on the issue and advised that he is looking to have the old train station on Dodd Street in Sydney demolished. He further inquired into potential sale of the property.

Mr. Michael Ruus, Director of Planning and Development, advised that he was not in a position to be able to provide any information at this point, advising of the process and practice when dealing with dangerous and unsightly buildings and the worst first list. He added that the program is not intended to deal with commercial buildings due to budget allocations and a project this size would require the allocating of additional funds.

Mayor Clarke advised that Mr. Paul Burt, Manager of Buildings, Planning and Licensing Laws, has been in contact with the current owner and that a purchase and sale agreement is being arranged to be executed in the August.

Continued...

ADDENDUM - Train Station, Dodd Street, Sydney - District 5 (Cont'd):

Discussion took place and the following points were made by Council:

- An update on the current owner and a Purchase and Sale Agreement
- Process for buildings being added to the priority list for demolition
- Taxes on the subject property
- Cost of the demolition for this property
- The responsibility to secure the building to ensure safety
- Legal route for the Municipality if the property is not cleaned up
- Commercial properties should be included on the worst first list and in the Policy

Mayor Clarke noted that matters being raised will be part of the follow up.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Eldon MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Gillespie, that staff be directed to provide an Issue Paper to Council regarding the request for demolition of the former train station on Dodd Street, Sydney.

Discussion:

During discussion, it was suggested that the building be boarded up.

Motion Carried.

It was noted that quotes are being sought by the purchaser for the demolition of the current property.

6.01 Cornwallis Street, Sydney – District 6:

Mr. Demetri Kachafanas, QC, Regional Solicitor, provided background information on the issue.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor MacLeod, seconded by Councillor Gillespie, that Planning staff be directed to initiate the process for the renaming of Cornwallis Street, Sydney, and that the current residents have full participation and engagement in the renaming recommendation to Council.

Motion Carried.

Mr. Michael Ruus, Director of Planning and Development, reviewed the process of renaming a street in the Civic Addressing Policy, and noted they will reach out by mail to the property owners of the affected properties to ask for naming suggestions.

Continued...

Addendum - Cornwallis Street, Sydney – District 6 (Cont'd):

In response to a question regarding removal of the street name signage, and 911 calls, Acting Police Chief Robert Walsh advised that he is satisfied that there is enough awareness in the community and feels that the absence of street name signs will not pose a threat. He advised that the 911 Communications Centre Manager, Fire and Police Services and their staff are aware that the signs are not present.

6. Planning and Development Department Corporate Planning and Restructure:

Mr. Michael Ruus, Director of Planning and Development, provided background information on the issue.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor MacLeod, seconded by Councillor Prince, to approve the proposed changes to the Planning and Development Department structure as indicated in Appendix B of the staff Issue Paper dated June 17, 2020 and associated budget as presented in the 2020-2021 budget.

Motion Carried.

7. BUSINESS ARISING:

7.1 Council Meeting – April 7, 2020:

b) CBRM Proposed Operating Budget 2020-2021:

Ms. Jennifer Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, provided background information on the issue.

Councillor McDougall declared a conflict of interest when discussion and decision regarding contracts takes place.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor George MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Prince, to approve the 2020-21 Operating Budget totaling \$154,216,771 as presented, including:

- A transfer from Operating Reserve totaling \$438,000 (\$78,000 – MPS; \$360,000 – Election Reserve); and
- A transfer from Emergency Operating Reserve of up to \$2,536,797 (if required to offset impacts of COVID-19 on Operating Revenues and Expenditures)

Continued...

BUSINESS ARISING - Council Meeting – April 7, 2020 - CBRM Proposed Operating Budget 2020-2021 (Cont'd):

Motion (Cont'd):

Discussion:

Some of Council discussion included the following:

- Recreation Programs across all Divisions of CBRM, not just Central.
- CBRM 25th Anniversary Celebrations
- CBRM and facility opening dates
- Transfer from Reserves
- Eagles Contract
- Discussion with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League regarding the hockey season

Mayor Clarke advised that discussions are taking place regarding CBRM 25th celebrations and future meetings to discuss a plan for each division within budget context.

Mayor noted that aside from the 25th Anniversary celebrations, Mr. Bill Murphy advised that Recreation staff are working with adjusted funding and support for Canada Day and other community celebrations.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Mayor Cecil P. Clarke

/acr

Deborah Campbell Ryan
Municipal Clerk