

Regular Meeting #07 April 21, 2020

A Regular Meeting of Council convened at 7:09 p.m. in the presence of Mayor French, Councillors, Chief Administrative Officer, Brian Crawley, Town Clerk, Gail Pomroy, Director of Finance, Liz Davis, Director of Engineering and Public Works, Jennifer Norris, Director of Recreation and Leisure Services, Dave Tibbo, Fire Chief, John Heffernan, Director of Planning and Development, Corrie Davis, Director of Economic Development, Jennifer Lake, and Communications Manager, Maggie Hynes.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDAS AND MINUTES

a. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda for April 21, 2020

Resolution #20-109

Councillor Hillier/Councillor Tilley

Be it so resolved that the agenda of the meeting of April 21, 2020 be adopted as presented.

- carried unanimously

b. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2020

Resolution #20-110

Councillor Bursey/Councillor Hillier

Be it so resolved that the minutes of the meeting of April 7, 2020 be adopted as presented.

- carried unanimously

Councillor Bent commented on the recent mass shooting in Nova Scotia. He stated that our thoughts and prayers are with the friends and family of the 23 victims. He stated this happened in a rural area with close communities much like our own. He commented on the loss of an RMCP officer and expressed condolences to the RCMP. He stated that he hopes that they may find strength in our support and in each other. He called for a moment of silence.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

3. NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Murphy

commented on the Covid-19 outbreak and noted that social distancing is not being practiced in our town as it should. He urged everyone to adhere to the policies.

Councillor Youden

stated that April 19-25 is National Volunteer Week. During this week, we would ask that all of our residents take a moment to think of a volunteer, or volunteer organization within our community, and all of the wonderful work they do. The efforts of volunteers can be seen on the sports field, in our schools, with our vulnerable populations, and in so many other ways.

While we may not be able to come together and celebrate with an official volunteer reception, at this time, the Town will use its social media to say thank you to all our dedicated volunteers.

stated that in an effort to continue programming ideas for residents, Department staff have begun initiating Virtual Programming for residents.

Trivia Night

The 1st Virtual Trivia Night took place on Thursday, April 16 at 8:00pm. This program was organized by a Zoom Meeting. Over 20 residents joined the game with no special memberships or cost, and played a round of trivia against friends and neighbours. The feedback from participants was very positive and it proved to be a great way to still be able to offer quality recreational programming to residents.

The next scheduled Trivia Night session is set to take place on Thursday, April 23, at 8:00pm.

Foodie Fridays

This is a Facebook Challenge, asking residents to post pictures of food dishes that meet that week's theme. Every week, a select few will be featured and promoted to residents.

The 1st Foodie Friday's event took place on Friday; April 17 and it was a great success. The theme for that week was comfort foods, which encouraged people to share their favourite go to dishes. There was a total of 9 receipts shared.

The next scheduled Foodie Fridays is set to take place on Friday, April 24, and the theme is sweet treats.

Councillor Tilley

expressed appreciation to the area MHAs for the recent announcement of roadwork to be done on provincial roads within the Town. He also acknowledged Minister Crocker, Department of Transportation and Works.

Councillor Hillier

stated that tickets are on sale for the Health Care Foundation Home Lottery. He stated that the Dream Home is located in the Town of Conception Bay South.

Councillor Bent

stated that over the past few days there have been no new cases of Covid-19 and there have been some recoveries but that, at least for the time being we can't let our guard down. I ask residents to continue to physical distance, not to gather as the weather gets warmer this week into the weekend. I know throughout the Town there have been some problem areas, we've reluctantly had to close Topsail Beach and Worsley Park based on concerns of people gathering and not following protocols. He stated that the sooner we can knock this down, the

sooner we can get back to our regular lives. And we can get these areas opened up for all of us to enjoy.

stated that each year in Conception Bay South we celebrate the memories of Alex and Riley Mercer on their birthday, May 9th and the way we do that is by giving back to the community in their memory through donations to the CBS/Paradise Food Bank. This year is going to be different, but two things remain the same. We will celebrate the lives of these two beautiful children taken too soon and we will still be able to support the Food Bank in a way that helps sustain it's good work into the summer. This year instead of thousands of pounds of food – to abide by Covid-19 Protocols – Louise and Bernie Mercer are going online for donations that will go directly to the Food Bank. During the week leading up the celebration of Alex and Riley's birthday of May 9th anyone can donate through the website canadahelps.org – which is linked directly to our local food bank. Whether it's \$5, \$10 or \$100 or more, every single cent is important to sustain our food bank and you will be honouring the memories of Alex and Riley through your donations. With the food bank serving 320 families each month the Mercer's have set a goal of \$20,000 but I think we can all beat that. Let's think of it this way, Louise put in perspective for me, if we were to put 4 tins of soup in basket, that's one tin of soup a week for a month, if that tin was \$1 it would cost \$1280 a month to just give the soup to each family. That's only 1 item per week so when you think about it all donations will make a big difference. The Mercer's will be releasing full details this week and the Town will also promote through their social media sites. I encourage everyone, no matter where you are, no matter how small a donation you can afford, to give to this year's online Spirit of Alex and Riley food bank fundraiser. We can't do it in person but this is one way we can make a big difference and not even leave our homes.

I want to thank Louise and Bernie for the selfless work they do to help our community in such a meaningful way.

Councillor Bursey

expressed condolences to family and friends of the victims in Nova Scotia. He also expressed support to the first responders who had the task of being first to many of these crime scenes.

Read the following statement on recycling:

The Town of Conception Bay South continues to monitor its recycling service as the Covid-19 pandemic evolves. Council views recycling as an important environmental responsibility of the Town, but out of an abundance of caution and safety, has decided to continue suspending this non-essential service for the time being.

The coronavirus is having a devastating impact around the world. We have 30 individuals confirmed as having contracted Covid-19 in our Town, with many more awaiting test results or staying at home in self-isolation.

Council is concerned with these large numbers and the rapid pace with which the virus can spread.

Under the Town's recycling program, an employee is required to physically lift the recycling bag and place it into the recycling vehicle. As the virus can survive on surfaces for 24 hours or more, the staff who collect the recycling would need to wear an appropriate level of personal protective equipment.

Supplies of PPE are very short across the country, and Conception Bay South only has access to a limited supply. We cannot justify, nor are we prepared to redirect supplies to a non-essential service, when they may be needed in the not too distant future for critical services, such as frontline emergency response or close quarter repairs to vital infrastructure.

All options to provide recycling services are being evaluated and we will continue to do so and government directions change and new information becomes available.

The Town of Conception Bay South would like to thank the public for their cooperation and understanding during this time.

Councillor Butler

expressed condolences to all in Nova Scotia.

Councillor Davis

today I'm thanking some wonderful ladies who are helping others during these challenging times.

Back around March 25th a young lady from Conception Bay South, Jo-Lynn Butt took it upon herself to find a video on how to make a mask. She needed this to help out her sister who is an essential worker and has some health issues. This started her desire to help others in need.

Jo-Lynn reached out to her friends from her quilting group, the Quilters Quest. Some were already making masks for family and friends.

Together they started the Facebook group known as the Masked Bandits. The orders started to come in. One of the first orders was from a business in Carbonear. This group reached out and a lady from that area stepped up, made those masks and delivered them.

They received and filled orders for the RNC, Funeral Homes, Chemo patients, pharmacies, nurses, and many, many more. This group has been quite busy filling all these orders.

All the masks they have made are free to anyone who needs them to stay safe. Their goal

is to help others and keep this act of kindness going.

So far this group has given away approx. 2000 masks.

Jo-Lynn has a bag placed on her front deck almost daily with new masks for the taking. I know many people who have taken advantage of this, including myself.

Some individuals and business owners have stepped up with donations of material and discounts on supplies. Others residents have given back and donated some funds. These funds are used to purchase more supplies.

All these ladies are very special people and I would like to thank each one individually.

Jo-Lynn Butt
Tracey Parsons
Shelly Goodyear
Denise Petten
Lori Eason
Maureen Harvey
Charmaine Woodland
Pat Burden
Anne Haines. (All these ladies are from
Conception Bay South)
Donalda Murley (Portugal Cove)
Darlene Hiscock (Paradise)
Sharon Peach (Carbonear)

And any others that I may have missed. A big thank you for your hard work and kindness. It is appreciated.

Mayor French

advised that he has asked staff to look to see if anything can be done to improve the conditions on the damaged sections of the T'Railway while we are waiting for the full assessment to be completed.

stated a big hats off to the Town's staff who are working very long hours at home to keep the Town's operations going. He stated that we are now able to do some virtual inspections. He thanked staff for the innovation in trying to make things work.

stated that there is a motion coming forward tonight regarding the All Saints School property. He thanked the NL English School District, and the Minister of Education. He also thanked the CBS Minor Softball Association. He stated that the Softball Association will be doing some fundraising to complete the demolition of the building. He noted that the softball field is a great asset to our residents and that the Town will continue to support this recreational facility going forward.

4. VISITORS, PRESENTATIONS AND PETITIONS

a. Proclamation – Volunteer Week

Mayor French proclaimed the week of April 19 – 25, 2020 as Volunteer Week in the Town Conception Bay South.

WHEREAS, the **Town of Conception Bay South** recognizes the enormous contribution that volunteers and community organizations make to the social, cultural and economic development of our province; and

WHEREAS, it has been recognized that more than 46% of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians over the age of 15 contribute an average of 151 volunteer hours each year, resulting in a significant and positive impact on the quality of life for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the **Town of Conception Bay South** acknowledges the theme "APPLAUDING VOLUNTEERS" for Volunteer Week 2020, and recognizes the many people who contribute to our community by volunteering.

THEREFORE, with the support of the Town Council, I sign this proclamation and declare the period from April 19 to 25 in 2020 to be observed throughout the Town of Conception Bay South as Volunteer Week.

b. Proclamation – Mental Health Week 2020

Mayor French proclaimed the week of May 4 – 10, 2020 as Mental Health Week in the Town of Conception Bay South.

WHEREAS, mental health is an essential part of everyone’s health and well-being;

WHEREAS, Mental Health Week has been hosted by the Canadian Mental Health Association in communities across Canada for 69 years;

WHEREAS, all people in Canada need to promote, protect and nurture their mental health; and

WHEREAS, promoting social connection is an important aspect of human life and an effective way to protect mental health

WHEREAS, in these days of the COVID-19 pandemic, our community members may be experiencing further difficulties maintaining their mental health; and

WHEREAS, in these days of social distancing, we as a community are experiencing great challenges to maintaining our social connections;

and **WHEREAS**, the municipality of Conception Bay South, has a responsibility to promote mental wellness particularly at a time of increase social distancing and social isolation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Conception Bay South hereby proclaims the week of May 4 to 10, 2020, as CMHA **MENTAL HEALTH WEEK**.

I encourage all citizens to join me in underlining the importance of social connection for mental health.

c. Petition – Fowlers Road / CBS Industrial Park

Councillor Bent tabled a petition from concerned residents pertaining to the proposed development of a Drilling Mud Processing and Storage Plant at 24 – 42 Hops Street. This will be forwarded to the Planning and Development Committee for consideration.

**5. RECOMMENDATIONS OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(Chair, Councillor Rex Hillier)**

Councillor Hillier noted that staff are adapting processes so that work can be completed during the pandemic. He also noted that work continues on the Municipal Plan. Finally, he stated that we have received notification that the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment are requesting an Environmental Preview Assessment for the proposed Drill Mud Facility on Hops Street.

Presentation of recommendations of meeting held on April 14, 2020

1. Planning and Development Committee Meeting Report

**Resolution #20-111
Councillor Hillier/Councillor Davis**

Be it so resolved that the recommendations/decisions made at the Planning and Development Committee Meeting of April 14, 2020, be accepted as presented.

- carried unanimously

**6. RECOMMENDATIONS OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
(Chair, Councillor Junior Bursey)**

Presentation of recommendations of meeting held on April 14, 2020

1. Lift Station Upgrades – Approval to Award Engineering Services

**Resolution #20-112
Councillor Bursey/Councillor Hillier**

Be it so resolved that approval be given to enter into Prime Consultant Agreement with Stantec for the Lift Station Upgrades at the approximate cost of \$80,075.00 plus HST. Funds are available in the project account.

- carried unanimously

2. Engineering and Public Works Committee Meeting

Resolution #20-113
Councillor Burse/Councillor Butler

Be it so resolved that the recommendations/decisions made at the Engineering and Public Works Committee Meeting of April 14, 2020, be accepted as presented.

- carried unanimously

7. RECOMMENDATIONS OF RECREATION AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE (Chair, Councillor Kirk Youden)

Presentation of recommendations of meeting held on April 14, 2020

1. Approval to Call RFP - Recreation and Cultural Master Plan

Resolution #20-114
Councillor Youden/Councillor Bent

Be it so resolved that approval be given to call a Request for Proposals for a Recreation and Cultural Master Plan.

- carried unanimously

2. Recreation and Leisure Services Committee

Resolution #20-115
Councillor Youden/Councillor Bent

Be it so resolved that the recommendations/decisions made at the Recreation and Leisure Services Meeting of April 14, 2020 be accepted as presented.

- carried unanimously

8. RECOMMENDATIONS OF FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE (Chair, Deputy Mayor Richard Murphy)

Transferred from Committee of the Whole Meeting #08 – April 21, 2020

1. Capital Invoices

Resolution #116
Councillor Hillier/Councillor Butler

Be it so resolved that approval be given to pay capital invoices totaling \$67,558.02 as follows:

Project	Vendor	Invoice Number	Amount
2018 Streets	Exp Services	545494	\$40,676.77
Community Park	PEC	2019-031-1A	\$2,696.75
Blizzard Damage Repair	ETL	8524	\$9,200.00
Blizzard Damage Repair – Long Pond Dredging	RJG Construction Ltd	LPD20-018-PC01	\$14,490.00
Ledrew’s Road Drainage – Cronin Property	PEC	2019-041-2	\$494.50
Total Invoices:			\$67,558.02

- 7 yeas
- 2 abstentions (Tilley and Murphy)
- motion carried

Councillor Tilley and Deputy Mayor Murphy declared a conflict of interest on this item. They vacated the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Murphy returned to the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Transferred from Committee of the Whole Meeting #08 – April 21, 2020

1. Lawrence Pond Road Upgrade Phase 2 – PCA Approval

Resolution #20-117

Deputy Mayor Murphy/Councillor Bent

Be it so resolved that approval be given to enter into Prime Consultant Agreement with Progressive Engineering Consultants for the Lawrence Pond Road Upgrades – Phase 2 at the approximate cost of \$77,857.16 plus HST. Funds are available in the project account.

- carried unanimously

Presentation of recommendations of meeting held on April 14, 2020

1. Accounts Payable Cheque Register

Resolution #20-118

Deputy Mayor Murphy/Councillor Hillier

Be it so resolved that approval be given to pay Accounts Payable cheques totaling \$159,125.24.

- carried unanimously

2. Ratification of Manual Cheques Previously Released

Resolution #20-119

Deputy Mayor Murphy/Councillor Butler

Be it so resolved that approval be given to ratify the payment of manual cheques previously released totaling \$27,688.97.

- carried unanimously

6. Financial and Administrative Services Committee Report

Resolution #20-123

Deputy Mayor Murphy/Councillor Burse

Be it so resolved that the recommendations/decisions made at the Financial and Administrative Services Committee Meeting of April 14, 2020 be accepted as presented.

- carried unanimously

**9. RECOMMENDATIONS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
(Chair, Councillor Christine Butler)**

Councillor Butler advised that the Town will be issuing a call for expressions of interest for the installation of a RV Dumping Station from anyone who might be interested in hosting this service at their commercial location. This service was at one time provided by a local business but when the business closed, the service went with it, and is missed by those who utilized the service. A notice will be released on social media, in the Shoreline and through our business networks in the coming weeks.

Councillor Butler advised that the Community Garden Committee is proceeding with their schedule of events for 2020, including a free virtual workshop on Wednesday, April 22 titled, Building Soil Quality with Tom Loder. Anyone who wishes to participate should visit their Facebook page for details. The Seed Saving workshop that was held in March can also be viewed online. The Committee are also continuing with their 2020 plans to offer leased beds to anyone interested from the Gateway Garden, and expand their initiative to include satellite gardens in other areas of the Town.

Councillor Butler advised that the Economic Development staff are continuing to work with the local business community to help them navigate through the supports that are becoming available to them from both the federal and provincial governments. Last week, I attended an Open Forum hosted by the Conception Bay Area Chamber of Commerce which was a great medium to hear from businesses on how they are surviving and what they may need. In the coming week, the Chambers of Commerce and municipalities on the Northeast Avalon will be launching a Shop Right Here campaign highlighting business that are continue to provide products and services in a virtual manner.

Presentation of recommendations of meeting held on April 14, 2020

1. Economic Development and Tourism Committee Meeting Report

Resolution #20-124
Councillor Butler/Councillor Bursey

Be it so resolved that the recommendations/decisions made at the Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting of April 14, 2020 be accepted as presented.

- carried unanimously

10. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

Mayor French thanked the Chief Medical Officer, Premier Ball and Minister Haggie for what they are dealing with right now. All the hours they are putting in for the common good. He advised that he spoke with Minister Haggie last week and thanked him personally. Again, he thanked everyone on behalf of the residents of the Town of Conception Bay South.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Resolution #20-125
Councillor Hillier/Councillor Bursey

Be it so resolved that the meeting adjourn.

- carried unanimously

Terry French
Mayor

Gail Pomroy
Town Clerk