

Council Meeting - Minutes of the Meeting

January 12, 2021 6:30pm
Via WebEx Virtual Meetings

Attendance

In attendance

Don Clarke, Mayor

Chair

Councilors

Deputy Mayor Ty Walsh

Mike Trinacty

Rod Reeves

Derrick Jamieson

Chris Goddard

Adam Lutz

Karen Peckford, Finance Director

Mike Payne, CAO

Chantal Pineo, Executive Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Council Meeting was called to order at 6:31pm.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The previous Council Minutes were approved by motion of Council.

3. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as circulated with the following additions:

- Noise Bylaw Update
- Mayor's Update
- Asset Management

4. Ongoing Business

a. Climate Change Mitigation

Mr. Payne briefed Council with regard to the successful application made by The Kings Region Climate Mitigation Working Group, in the amount of \$60,000 for funding through the Low Carbon Communities Fund.

Berwick Council passed a motion committing up to \$2500 to this project pending grant approval.

Recommendations should be forth coming in the near future.

b. Update on Noise Bylaw

CAO Payne noted there had been a previous residential noise issue which has since been resolved. The Town does not have a Noise Bylaw but does make an effort to help resolve any issues. A Noise Bylaw may be worth considering when the budget allows for a Bylaw Officer to enforce same.

5. New Business

(a) Valley Waste Resource Management (VWRM) Bylaw – First Reading

VWRM proposed a draft bylaw to the Municipal partners. The County of Kings completed a legal review of the draft with specific areas (and subsequent) accepted amendments, the draft bylaw is now ready to be brought to each Council. The amendments streamline authority delegation and appointment of enforcement officers.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council pass first reading of the proposed bylaw. The Town of Berwick and the Town of Middleton were the only municipal units that approved the existing bylaw before receiving notice that the County of Kings was undertaking a review. The remaining parties of Valley Waste will be approving the proposed bylaw as well.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Fire Inspection Services Contract with County of Kings

Fire Inspection Services is provided to the Town through a contract with the County of Kings, since at least 2003.

The County has drafted a new agreement with updated costs and terms. The new agreement would be effective for five years and see the Town billed \$15,550 annually with provisions for adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index. 2019 and 2020 charges were \$10,571 and \$10,437 respectively. It is a significant increase but is mutually agreed by both the Town and County.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

The Town enter into the contractual arrangement that would see the County of Kings continue to provide Fire Inspection Services at a cost of \$15,550 annually.

MOTION CARRIED

(c) Conditional Temporary Borrowing Resolution (TBR) for Solar Garden

As a requirement of the funding for the potential Solar Garden project, the Town is required to confirm to the Federal government that Council approves funding its share of the project through a Temporary Borrowing Resolution.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approves the Solar Garden capital project, conditional on receipt of Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program Funding.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council approves TBR 20/21-02 in the amount of \$5,510,000 for proposed Solar Garden capital project.

MOTION CARRIED

(d) Review of Inter-municipal Service Agreements

In 2018 it was identified that the original IMSA's provide a complex mix of governance, administration and financial arrangements that could benefit from an updated review by the parties involved. Recently, the Kings CAO's have identified several issues that could form part of a comprehensive review of the existing agreements.

Staff recommends that Council approve the Memorandum of Understanding in this matter which outlines the organization and work program for a joint review of Intermunicipal Service Agreements and authorize its signature by the Mayor and CAO.

Council agrees with this recommendation.

(e) Diversity and Inclusion

Councillor Trinacty explained that there is a definite interest in moving forward with a Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The Community Development Committee feels that it is larger than their mandate. The CD Committee believes Council should decide on how to proceed with diversity and inclusion work.

Deputy Mayor Walsh noted that other municipal units, as well, are reviewing how to move forward with diversity efforts.

Council deems it important that the Town work and engage with the diversity groups, especially with such things as event planning and promotion of planned activities like African Heritage Month and National Aboriginal History Month.

An advantageous tool is a newly published "Diversity Calendar" which depicts important dates/occasions celebrating diversity. The Town will obtain one of these for our reference.

(f) Asset Management Plan

The Town, currently, does not have a formal asset management plan.

The Federation of Municipalities (FCM) is offering a grant to fund up to 90% of the costs of developing an Asset Management Plan. Asset Infrastructure Management (AIM) has confirmed their interest in working with the Town to develop such a plan.

CAO Payne, Tim Harding and Karen Peckford will be the key staff in working with AIM to move ahead with a plan for the Town.

The total project cost is \$45,325 funded at 90% by FCM. The Town's share of the project would be \$4,533 (10%). The project would start in April or May for approximately 11 months. The Town's portion would be required within the F2022 budget.

Councillor Trinacty has asked staff to inquire about the KMCC being part of the Town's plan and covered by the Town's funding. Mr. Payne will also inquire with regard to the inclusion of the Berwick Electric Commission.

Mr. Payne noted that the Berwick and District Fire Department will be under the Town's umbrella for this funding and believes the Fire Commission plans on contributing some dollars toward same.

IT WAS MOVED and seconded

THAT

Council supports development of a professional, evidence based AMP to guide staff and Council's decision making.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Mayor's Update

Mayor Clarke provided an update on his many events which he participated in during the month of December.

Upcoming events:

January 14 – Taskforce Meeting

January 18 – REMO Meeting

January 19 – Public Participation Consultation (PAC)

January 21 – Berwick Electric Commission Meeting

January 21 – Budget Priority Planning Meeting (5:30pm)

January 26 – Committee of the Whole Meeting

7. In Camera Session (Contractual)

Cancelled

8. Adjournment – Council adjourned at 7:56pm.