

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Special Session
March 7, 2018
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Minutes of the **special session of Municipal Council** held on March 7, 2018, in the Municipal Administration Building, Annapolis Royal, N.S., at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Deputy Warden Martha Roberts; Councillors Marilyn Wilkins, John A MacDonald, Wayne Fowler, Burt McNeil, Gregory Heming, Alex Morrison, Michael J Gunn, Wendy Sheridan, and Diane LeBlanc.

Absent: Warden Timothy Habinski (FCM, Montreal) by conference call.

Also

Present: Chief Administrative Officer John Ferguson, Acting Municipal Clerk Wanda Atwell, Municipal Solicitor Bruce Gillis, and other staff members.

Purpose of Meeting

Deputy Warden Roberts advised the meeting was called to discuss the four items on the agenda as circulated.

New Business

Re: Letter for David Wang in Support of Establishing an Annapolis Liaison Office in the Friendship Community of Quzhou – Mr. Wang would like to set up liaison offices (to be known as Annapolis Centre) in the communities of Quzhou and Suqian to represent the counties of Annapolis, Digby and Clare, which would focus on development and promotion in the areas of tourism, educational and cultural exchanges; economic and business development; and the management of mutual governmental protocols and discussions between our communities.

MOTION 180307.01 Letter for David Wang in Support of Establishing an Annapolis Liaison Office in the Friendship Community of Quzhou

It was moved by Councillor Wilkins, seconded by Councillor LeBlanc, subject to the positive review of the solicitor, that the Warden be authorized to provide a letter in support of David Wang's intention to establish an Annapolis liaison office, to be called the Annapolis Centre, in the Friendship Community of Quzhou. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: Letter for David Wang in Support of Establishing an Annapolis Liaison Office in the Friendship Community of Suqian

MOTION 180307.02 Letter for David Wang in Support of Establishing an Annapolis Liaison Office in the Friendship Community of Suqian

Councillor Wilkins moved, seconded by Councillor McNeil, subject to the positive review of the solicitor, that the Warden be authorized to provide a letter in support of David Wang's intention to establish an Annapolis liaison office, to be called the Annapolis Centre, in the Friendship Community of Suqian. Motion carried unanimously.

Re: Recognize Mr. David Wang's Contributions to the Municipality

MOTION 180307.03 Recognize Mr. David Wang's Contributions to the Municipality

Councillor Wilkins moved, seconded by Councillor Fowler that the Warden be authorized to invite Mr. David Wang to meet with Municipal Council where he may be recognized for his contributions to the Municipality of the County of Annapolis, followed by a social period, and further that Mr. Peter MacLellan also be invited to the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

In-Camera

Councillor Sheridan moved, seconded by Councillor Heming that Municipal Council meet in-camera from 1:57 p.m. to 2:53 p.m. under Section 22(2)(e) contract negotiations of the *Municipal Government Act*. Motion carried unanimously.

In-Camera

Councillor Fowler moved, seconded by Councillor Sheridan that Municipal Council meet in-camera from 2:54 p.m. to 3:13 p.m. under Section 22(2)(e) contract negotiations of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Deputy Warden Roberts left the meeting at 3:10 p.m., and Councillor Marilyn Wilkins assumed the Chair. Warden Habinski concluded his conference call at this time as well.

Re: Valley Waste Resource Management Authority – Advising Valley Waste to Seek Proper Commitment to Pay Money Beyond Current Fiscal Year – Municipal Solicitor Bruce Gillis summarized a legal opinion he had provided to the Municipality regarding the Valley Waste Board committing to a long term contract in amounts exceeding that allowed under Section 88(4) of the *Municipal Government Act*. He noted it is clear long term contracts over \$100,000 can only be done by motion and with the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The commitment made by The Authority that we are dealing with now is for 19 years – from 2016 to 2036. We have made it clear to The Authority that we can approve on an annual basis, otherwise the Minister’s approval is required for a long-term commitment. He noted a respected colleague of his had provided a very similar opinion to the Town of Wolfville’s representative on The Authority.

Further discussion included:

- Agreement with Chester reached without partner commitment
- Garbage collection is an important service
- Risks involved with long-term commitment
- Support for the Board

MOTION 180307.04 Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority: Advising Valley Waste to Seek Proper Commitment to Pay Money Beyond Current Fiscal Year

The Municipality of the County of Annapolis in an attempt to prevent a garbage collection shut down is providing the following resolution for consideration of the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority (The Authority):

WHEREAS The Authority is not permitted under provincial law to bind Municipal Parties to a commitment beyond the current fiscal year; and

WHEREAS the Municipal Parties that created The Authority are required to approve commitments beyond the current fiscal year as per s.88(4) of the *Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act*; and

WHEREAS The Authority has entered into an agreement committing money from 2016 to 2036 based on tipping and host fees to be paid to the Municipality of the District of Chester in the amount of \$30,141,748.61 and has not sought approval of the Municipal Parties; and

WHEREAS The Authority has also committed to pay the unfunded liability of the current cell at the Kaiser Meadow landfill in ten equal payments for ten years totaling \$1,384,817.00; and
WHEREAS the County desires to support these commitments with the other municipal parties, but can only do so if asked by The Authority;

IT IS THEREFORE moved by Councillor McNeil, and seconded by Councillor Fowler that The Municipality of the County of Annapolis Council recommends The Authority (Board /CEO), to act on the recommendations in the document titled **Commitment Approval Resolutions** well in advance of March 31, 2018 to ensure a temporary budget or actual budget could subsequently be

approved, and further the County Council directs the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality of the County of Annapolis to send the approved draft email and attachment to the acting CEO Geoff McCain of The Authority and appointed members of The Authority’s Board. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commitment Approval Resolutions (14 page document) was vetted by the municipal solicitor. Assumptions were based on information provided by Chester.

Re: Fort to Fort Bicycle Lane (Blue Route) – CAO advised official costs for the construction of a bike lane along the Granville Road from Mills Mountain Road to the Habitation in Port Royal have not been received, but it could cost anywhere from \$400,000 to \$500,000. Council could ask the Province to consider an amount that they could contribute, and the County could do the same. This is a unique area in the Valley.

Councillor Heming moved, seconded by Councillor McNeil, that staff host a meeting of the Province, Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, and Bicycle Nova Scotia, to discuss the construction of a bike lane from Mills Mountain Road in Granville Ferry to the Habitation in Port Royal, and the possibility of it becoming a part of the Blue Route, and bring a report to Committee of the Whole on March 13th. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Upon motion of Councillors McNeil and Gunn, the meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.