

COVID-19 COMMITTEE
Meeting Notes

DATE: May 20, 2020
TIME: 10:02 a.m. – 11:51 a.m.
PLACE: Zoom online platform

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Gary Clow; Councillors Jill Burridge; Gail MacDonald; Derek Smith; Robert Hughes, CAO; Jeremy Crosby, Deputy CAO and Director of Infrastructure; Jeremy Pierce, Director of Recreation; and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Councillor Darren MacDougall, Councillor Steve Gallant, and Wendy Watts, Community and Business Engagement Manager

CHAIR: Mayor Steve Ogden

Mayor Ogden called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Deferred until next week.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Assembly/Social Distancing Enforcement

Robert gave an update on the social distancing and assembly enforcement. It was noted that the chief public health officer said they would be enforcing gathering limitations and the restrictions on people who are self-isolating.

b) Fire Company Lease

Mayor Ogden spoke with Dave Swan and they asked for a few weeks to review the draft lease with their solicitor.

c) Community Campus Land Acquisition

Robert noted that we received a draft copy of the offer yesterday, and we will be making an offer once the Mayor signs the documents.

d) Planning Act Public meeting

When Robert spoke with Samantha Murphy she explained that provincial planning falls under Minister Thompson. Mayor Ogden noted that he called Minister Thompson but he has not had back from him yet. Robert noted that he did speak with the provincial planner Dale MacKeigan, but it looks like we may need to come up with a plan B. Mayor Ogden asked Robert to meet with our legal counsel on this issue.

Mayor Ogden and Robert both felt we need to come up with another plan for public meetings. Councillor Burrridge felt that this can absolutely be done. She felt that there would not be a problem in reaching out to the stakeholders and she felt we should move forward.

Robert will ask Kevin to come up with a plan b in case the province is not able to make the changes to enable virtual planning act public meetings in the interim.

4. Operational Update

a) Keppoch Road Active Transportation

Jeremy noted that he and Jeannie had a meeting with representatives from the Provincial Sustainable Transportation Action Plan Committee to discuss the upcoming Active Transportation Projects on the Georgetown Rd and Keppoch Road. They indicated that they reviewed the email he sent regarding the placement of a multi-use trail on the Keppoch Road rather than just putting in bike lanes. They also agreed that they would contribute up to 25% funding for ditch infilling and stormwater pipes. Further information will be provided soon, including funding applications.

b) Planning and Development Technician Position

This item was for information purposes only. Approximately 15 resumes were received for the technician position and three people were selected to be interviewed.

c) Concord Properties Conceptual Plan

Robert noted that Concord Properties is the Gray Group and they have submitted a conceptual plan for staff to review. It has been a pleasure to be working with them on the conceptual plan. He noted that we will get back to them with our comments and within a few weeks Council should be able to see the plan.

5. Canada Day Ceremonies (included in the agenda package)

Included in the meeting package was a list of items that were brought forward for possible events for Canada Day. Jeremy Pierce noted that there was a call last night and Dr. Morrison was in attendance; she noted that her office is working on a guidance document that will be released soon. Jeremy P. thought it would be a good idea to have a message from the Mayor and Council and maybe it could include a thank you to our local essential businesses such as Sobeys's, Murphy's etc. We felt it important to include every essential worker.

Deputy Mayor Clow noted that the Wannabe's will be playing for about an hour, but the residents will not be allowed out of their car and all agreed that we should pass on that so as not to create an issue with people gathering. Councillor Smith noted that we should be ready to bow out if required (if directed by Dr. Morrison).

Councillor MacDonald doesn't want to spend a lot of money on this event because as Councillor Smith stated we may have to call it off, so she would like to keep it as virtual as possible.

Councillor Burrridge suggested having Scott Chapman reading from a script in the parade.

Jeremy Pierce noted that some items were mentioned but some of them were just not feasible.

It was noted that when we open the facilities there will be signage of all the rules, but of course the number will be different in two weeks then it is now as things are changing day by day.

6. Covid-19 Resumption of Service Plan (included in the agenda package)

Robert felt that there is a lot of complacency now. Deputy Mayor Clow noted that the Skatepark in Charlottetown opened and things are going well and hopefully ours will go the same. Councillor Burrridge noted that it would be a good idea to have a discussion before things start opening so we are all on the same page. Robert stated that the concern is valid and it is happening all across the country. In regards to distancing Robert has seen gatherings that are illegal already. We need to convey the message to callers regarding these gatherings, to call the RCMP and not the Town because it is the RCMP who has the authority to break them up or issue a fine. Deputy Mayor Clow asked if we could have a conversation with Glen Dudley and Robert felt that would be a good idea. We want to bring them in the loop and see how they are dealing with this. Robert stated that if we find we need extra help, we should ask him to come prepared next week to talk to this issue.

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Jeremy Crosby stated that the RCMP is there to enforce and they are trying to not lay charges.

It was noted that the playgrounds, outdoor tennis, and outdoor Pickleball will be opening around June 1. We are still struggling with the gymnasium, walking track, and fitness area. We don't want to put Tena or a casual staff in the scenario of dealing with someone who is breaking the rules, so we would need to hire security. We are wondering if we should even open it up. Robert noted that staff is recommending that we don't make a decision on the gym and fitness centre right now. People would also need to sign in and out and give us their contact information, and they may not want to do that – so no decision yet on the fitness centre and the gym.

The washroom/change rooms will open on June 22. We don't have a date for the porta-potty yet, or even if it will be put out. Dr. Morrison had stated that the Town is responsible to have the hands sanitizers in the washrooms and in the porta potty.

The day camp is still up in the air and because not everyone is comfortable with this item, so we will come back with further information.

Councillor Burrridge felt that the day camp would be a good alternative to people who have to work and have absolutely no where to bring their kids. She felt it was important that we provide a service. Both Robert and Jeremy P. wondered what the quality of the program would be like, and agreed that it would be hard to know at this stage.

Mayor Ogden would like to bring this issue back next week.

Councillor Smith stated that a lot of the young people do not consider the pandemic that dangerous for themselves; however, he felt that we are in a situation where there is fear in the older people.

7. Street Names – several new streets must be names and the following are the name suggested the Heritage Committee

- **Chester Thomas Court – Private Street in Phase 2B of the Forest Trails Subdivision** – The question was asked if the Balderston's were contacted and they were not. We will reach out to them and bring this item to the June Council meeting.
- **Perley Street Connector Street between MacKinnon Drive and Marion Drive**

8. Covid-19 Operational Status Fund

Reports continue to be sent out weekly.

9. Covid-19 Contingency Fund

Jeremy noted that we are coming close to \$10,000 in Covid-19 expenses.

10. Communications to Residents

Robert stated that this week we will start to educate the public on what we will be opening. Mayor Ogden would like our media release to include what takes place at these weekly meetings as well.

11. Council Inquiries

Councillor Burrige noted that she received more calls on the park on the park near Rosebank and the basketball court is being used. She was advised to tell the callers to call the RCMP.

12. Other Business

Councillor Smith noted that there was an incident this past weekend and the person has been identified and approached, but that is all the information he can give at this time as the case is ongoing.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:51 p.m.