

Summary of issues brought forward at the **March 22, 2016 Meeting of [Town Council](#)**

- The Minutes from the meeting will be approved at the Town Council meeting on April 19, 2016 meeting.
- [Agenda Package](#)

MOTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, MARCH 1, 2016

APPROVAL TO HOLD COUNCIL SEAT WHILE NOT AN ORDINARY RESIDENT OF WOLFVILLE

- Council did not allow Councillor Dan Sparkman to hold his seat with Town of Wolfville Council until May 1, 2016 while he is an ordinary resident outside the municipality, but within the province.
- Council determined that a special election shall not be held for the vacancy on Council
- Council appointed the following Councillors as replacements to Councillor Sparkman on the following Committees:
 - RCMP Advisory Board Chair – Councillor Carl Oldham
 - RCMP Advisory Board Member – Councillor Hugh Simpson
 - Planning Advisory Committee Member – Councillor David Mangle
 - Alternate for Regional Enterprise Network Liaison & Oversight Committee and Alternate for Valley Waste Resource Management Authority Board – Councillor Mercedes Brian
- Council acknowledged Dan Sparkman's service to the Town of Wolfville as a Councillor for the last three and a half years

REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK

- Council accepted the following:
Whereas, The Town of Wolfville entered into an Inter-Municipal agreement on May 2014 to become a member of the Valley Regional Enterprise Network;

Whereas the Wolfville Town Council has reviewed its economic goals and objectives and wishes to focus on key local priorities;

Be it resolved that the Town of Wolfville give notice of its intention to withdraw from the Valley REN on April 1, 2017. Council further directs staff to work with the Valley REN to further define actions and outcomes and report back to Council by March 1, 2017.

VALLEY WASTE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 2016/17 BUDGET

- The Town of Wolfville provides solid waste service through an Inter Municipal Agreement with partnering municipalities from Hantsport to Annapolis Royal. There are eight partners in all.
- Annually the Board of VWRM approves a budget to be submitted to the funding partners for their approval. The formula for acceptance is not as straight forward as the Kings Transit agreement where a simple majority of positive votes is needed for budget approval. VWRM agreement has different combinations of votes that carry the day. No one Town carries the power of veto and even a combination of Towns may be insufficient to offset the vote of the two rural municipalities, Kings and Annapolis.
- Council approved the Valley Waste Resource Management 2016/17 Operating & Capital Budgets

KINGS TRANSIT 2016/17 BUDGET

- The Town of Wolfville is one of four municipalities that are signatory to an Inter-Municipal Service Agreement to provide public transportation services within the County of Kings. That agreement includes a mechanism setting out the terms for decisions as they relate to specific sections of the agreement. One of these decision points is the annual operating plan/budget.
- Council approved the Kings Transit Authority 2016/17 Operating & Capital Budgets.

REQUEST FOR MPS AMENDMENT – THREE PHASE POWER

- Staff are processing a development agreement for the West End Lands. The Developers have asked that the lands south of the ravine, which are slated for multi-unit residential, not require underground power. This is because Nova Scotia power requires this type of development to have [three phase power](#), which is much more expensive to place underground. This requires a Municipal Planning Strategy Amendment as underground services are required in RCDD areas.
- Council initiated a plan amendment concurrent to the approval of the draft Development Agreement that considers allowing overhead power in limited circumstances

2016/17 OPERATIONS PLAN & BUDGET (Version 4)

- Council approved the 2016/17 Town Operating Budget, Ten Year Capital Investment Plan, and the Water Utility Three Year Operating and Capital Budget, including the following details:
 - Town Operating Budget with revenue & expenditures in the amount of \$9,590,500;
 - Residential Tax Rate of \$1.44 per hundred dollars of assessment applied to taxable residential and resource assessments;
 - Commercial Tax Rate of \$3.56 per hundred dollars of assessment applied to taxable commercial assessments;
 - Taxes to billed by way of Interim Tax Bill (issued in April, due June 1, 2016) and Final Tax Bill (issued in August, due the September 30, 2016);
 - Interest on overdue amounts to be charged at a rate of 1.25% per month;



- Town Capital Budget with Year 1 totaling \$3,376,600, including capital reserve funding of \$1,170,400, operating reserve funding of \$143,000, gas tax reserve funding of \$300,000, long term debt funding of \$1,175,000, external grant/contribution funding of \$122,000, and \$466,200 from the Town's Water Utility for its share of street infrastructure.
- Water Utility operating revenues of \$1,055,200, non-operating revenues of \$719,500, operating expenditures of \$802,100, and non-operating expenditures of \$881,400.
- Business Development Area rates (pursuant to Section 56 of the Municipal Government Act)
 - Downtown Business Area Rate of 14.6 cents per hundred dollars of commercial assessment within the Downtown Business Area
 - Outside Downtown Area Rate of 7.0 cents per hundred dollars of commercial assessment outside the Downtown Business Area
- Sewer fees
 - Sewer usage rate of \$2.79 per 1,000 gallons of water used by customer;
 - Flat Rate fee of \$54.00 per quarter;
 - Minimum quarterly charge for any metered customer \$13.25;
 - Sewer connection fee of \$3,500.
- Low Income Property Tax Exemption
 - Income threshold to qualify a maximum of \$26,100;
 - Maximum exemption of \$550.
- Grants to Organizations under General Government (not part of Community Partnership Policy)
 - Acadia Scholar Bursary \$10,000

BUILDING INSPECTOR LEVEL I APPOINTMENT

- Mr Ergin Nemburt is now a fully qualified Level 1 Building Official and is one course away from achieving his Level 2 qualification (completion expected April 2016). The completion of various courses and testing are required from the Nova Scotia Building Code Training and Certification Board to qualify as a Level 1 and Level 2 Building Official.
- Council appointed Mr Ergin Nemburt as the Level-1 Building Official for the Town of Wolfville.



GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS POLICY 710-003

- The Town of Wolfville has offered the Community Partnership Program (CPP) since 2003 to non-profit organizations and registered charities that: operate facilities which are available for use by residents of the Town of Wolfville; organize or operate programs for the benefit of the residents of the Town of Wolfville; or coordinate and implement festivals and events in the Town of Wolfville.
- In 2013, the Town adopted a Community Partnership Program Policy and later amended the Policy in 2014. Although the CPP Policy is fairly recent there are a number of factors that contributed to the current review and proposed Grants to Organizations Policy.
- Council approved the Grants to Organizations Policy 710-003, and honour the contributions outlined in Schedule A for one fiscal year starting in 2016/17 without Partnership Agreements.
- Council approved the allocation to the Community Partnership Program (CPP) be \$25,000

SPRING 2016 DEBENTURE ISSUE

- Council approved the attached resolution for pre-approval of participation in the Spring Debenture Issue, with the following maximum parameters:

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| Street Infrastructure, including sidewalks and underground storm water systems | \$1,544,250 | 15 years |
| RCMP Building Upgrades | 100,000 | 15 years |
| Sanitary Sewer Collection – mobile generator | <u>10,000</u> | 5 years |
| TOTAL BORROWING | <u>\$1,654,250</u> | |

Maximum interest rate set at 5.5%.

TOWN COUNCIL TRAINING PLAN 2016/17

- Each year Council, like staff, have a budget for professional development, conferences and training for the fiscal year. In 2016/17 the proposed budget for Council is \$20,600. Given that all professional development budgets have been reduced in the proposed 2016/17 operating budget it was important to develop a plan to identify how that money would be spent.
- Council approved the Council Professional Development Plan 2016/17 outlined in RFD 023-2016.