

Your Town Council in Action

Items of Interest from Wolfville's Town Council Meeting



Summary of issues brought forward at the **March 21, 2017 Meeting of [Town Council](#)**

- The Minutes from the meeting will be approved at the Town Council meeting on April 18, 2017
- [Agenda Package](#) | [Audio Recording](#)

MOTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PUBLIC HEARING, MARCH 21, 2017

OVERHEAD POWER MPS AMENDMENT

- In January of 2016, a request was made to amend the MPS (clause 8.4.4(c)) by the West End land owners (Issam Kadray & Viking Ventures), to allow for overhead power and telecommunications infrastructure, particularly when there is a need for 3-phase power
- Council gave second reading to the Municipal Planning Strategy amendment as outlined in Resolution 2 – Attachment 2 to RFD 010-2017 that Policy 8.4.4(c) be removed from the Municipal Planning Strategy which would allow overhead (above ground) power and communication infrastructure

MOTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, MARCH 7, 2017

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY TRAILS COALITION (AVTC)

- It was brought to Council's attention, at the March 7th Committee of the Whole meeting, that the Town of Kentville intended to withdraw from the AVTC partnership
- Council directed staff to prepare a letter to Kentville to consider remaining as a partner in the Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

- Council appointed the following community members to the [Source Water Protection Advisory Committee](#) for the period of terms indicated, with the term of service to expire end-December of the applicable year:
 - John Brzustowski – three-year appointment
 - Jennifer Kershaw – two-year appointment
- Council appointed the following community member to the [RCMP Advisory Board](#) for the period of term indicated, with the term of service to expire end-December of the applicable year:
 - Robert Lutes – two-year appointment

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY 910-001 AMENDMENT

- An amendment to Policy 910-001 Source Water Protection Advisory Committee was presented to Council for consideration
- Council approved the amended Policy 910-001, which amends membership of the Source Water Protection Advisory Committee



COMMUNITY RECREATION ENGAGEMENT GROUP

- In 2013, Council adopted the following vision for recreation: “A Wolfville in which everyone is engaged in meaningful, accessible recreation experiences that foster individual wellbeing, community wellbeing, and the wellbeing of places and spaces.” One of the outcomes identified to achieve this vision was to shift the delivery method of recreation programs and services from a direct delivery model to a community development model. The community development model of recreation involves working with the community to help develop recreation initiatives and then work towards implementing an action plan to achieve them. Under this model, staff act as a facilitator and support community groups and volunteers to effectively apply their experiences, knowledge, priorities, and general expertise in delivering recreation programs and services.
- Council approved the creation of a Community Recreation Engagement Group for the Town of Wolfville

DEVOUR! REQUEST

- Council received a presentation from Devour on January 17, 2017 which requested funding in addition to the Strategic Partnership Program
- Council denied the request to increase the Strategic Partnership Program Grant to Devour!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK (REN)

- Council approved extending the Town of Wolfville's notice for withdrawal from the Regional Enterprise Network to March 31, 2018
- Council requested that the Valley Regional Enterprise Network (REN) look at the following issues in 2017-2018:
 - A review of the Governance Structure,
 - A review of the Strategic Plan, and
 - A consideration of sub-regional economic development
- Council directed staff to bring back a full evaluation of the Town's membership with the Valley REN for Council's consideration in March 2018

ONE-TIME CAPITAL GRANT REQUEST – WOLFVILLE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

- The Wolfville School Playground Improvement Committee is seeking a \$100,000 contribution for Capital Improvement to the Wolfville School Playground. Council received a presentation from the Committee and an Information Report from Staff evaluating the proposal on February 7, 2017
- Council approved funds from the 2017/18 Operating Budget in the amount of \$50,000, for the Wolfville School Playground in support of the Soccer Pitch



ONE-TIME CAPITAL GRANT REQUEST – LANDMARK EAST SCHOOL EXPANSION

- Landmark East Association is seeking financial support of \$100,000 from the Town of Wolfville as a contribution to a capital campaign to raise 2.4 Million to build a new learning center as an expansion on their current Landmark East School location
- The new complex will include a high school size gym, a creative maker-space, cafeteria and kitchen. The new facility would be an expansion on the site of the current facility
- Council deferred funding consideration for Landmark East School Expansion under the One-Time Capital Grant request until the fiscal year 2018/19 Operating Budget

LAND ACQUISITION – WICKWIRE AVENUE SIDEWALK

- The development agreement in place on the property at 30 Wickwire Ave requires the property owner to transfer a portion of land to the Town for use as a sidewalk. The sidewalk, through negotiations with the property owner, is proposed to be extended to run further along Wickwire Avenue and a motion of Council is required to formally accept the additional land.
- Council approved accepting the land on Wickwire Avenue shown as Parcel R on Survey Plan DWG 14-023-22 by B. Davison Surveying and Engineering, dated December 18, 2016, for use as a public sidewalk for the nominal fee of \$1.00

SPRING 2017 DEBENTURE ISSUE APPROVAL

- Annually the Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC) provides two opportunities for municipalities to participate in debenture issues to meet their long-term debt funding requirements. There is a spring and a fall debenture issue. The dollar amounts leveraged through the combined debt requirements of the provinces municipalities allow participants to obtain borrowing rates not otherwise available
- The Town of Wolfville typically participates in the spring issue to obtain long term debt funding for capital projects completed in the previous fiscal year (or completed early in current year). This is the process being followed again this year
- Council approved the resolution attached to RFD 021-2017 for pre-approval of participation in the Spring Debenture issue, with the following maximum parameters:

Street Infrastructure,		
Incl. sidewalks, underground sanitary, storm systems	\$ 590,000	15 - 20 years
Library Roof	150,000	15 years
Storm Water system – Waterfront Park	110,000	15 years
Sewage Treatment Plant – Dredge Lagoon	125,000	15 years
Comfort Station Generator	75,000	10 years
Water Utility – Distribution lines	<u>317,500</u>	20 years
TOTAL BORROWING	<u>\$1,367,500</u>	
Maximum interest rate set at 5.5%.		



2017/18 BUDGET AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

- Annually the Town is required to approve a *balanced* budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Town of Wolfville has over the last five years, set a goal to have an approved budget by the regular March Council Meeting. This has allowed the organization to start each new fiscal year with direction and spending authority in place before the operational year begins on April 1st
- Council approved the 2017/18 Town Operations Plan and related 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 \$9,897,100;
 - Residential Tax Rate of \$1.45 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 be billed by way of Interim Tax Bill (issued in April, due June 1, 2017) and Final Tax Bill (issued in August, due the October 2, 2017);
 - Interest on overdue amounts to be charged at a rate of 1.25% per month;
 - Town Capital Budget with Year 1 totaling \$3,435,000, including capital reserve funding of \$1,647,750, operating reserve funding of \$75,000, gas tax reserve funding of \$300,000, long term debt funding of \$959,750, external grant/contribution funding of \$20,000, and \$432,500 from the Town's Water Utility for its share of street infrastructure.
 - Water Utility Operating Budget with revenues of \$1,061,200, operating expenditures of \$816,200, and non-operating expenditures of \$165,300.
 - Water Utility Capital Budget totaling \$467,500, including Depreciation Reserve Funding of \$127,000, Capital from Revenue Funding of \$70,500, and Long Term Debt Funding of \$270,000.
 - Business Development Area rate (pursuant to Section 56 of the Municipal Government Act) of \$0.31 per hundred dollars of commercial assessment
 - Sewer fees
 - Sewer usage rate of \$3.25 per 1,000 gallons of water used by customer;
 - Flat Rate fee of \$63.00 per quarter;
 - Minimum quarterly charge for any metered customer \$15.50;
 - Sewer connection fee of \$3,500.

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- Low Income Property Tax Exemption
 - Income threshold to qualify a maximum of \$26,400;
 - Maximum exemption of \$600.

- Grants to Organizations under General Government/Community Development (not part of Community Partnership Policy)
 - Acadia Scholar Bursaries \$10,500
 - Wolfville Historical Society \$5,000
 - Wolfville School Playground \$50,000

- Development Agreement Application Fee
 - A fee of \$600 per Development Agreement application is established

WOLFVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

	Email Address	Cell Phone Number
• Mayor Jeff Cantwell	jcantwell@wolfville.ca	902-698-1676
• Deputy Mayor Carl Oldham	coldham@wolfville.ca	902-679-7702
• Councillor Mercedes Brian	mbrian@wolfville.ca	902-670-7896
• Councillor Wendy Donovan	wdonovan@wolfville.ca	902-698-9522
• Councillor Wendy Elliott	welliott@wolfville.ca	902-599-1675
• Councillor Jodi MacKay	jmackay@wolfville.ca	902-599-2175
• Councillor Oonagh Proudfoot	oproudfoot@wolfville.ca	902-599-2844

[Collective Email Address – Town Council](mailto:collective@wolfville.ca)