

ATTENDING

- Mayor Wendy Donovan
- Deputy Mayor Isabel Madeira-Voss
- Councillor Jodi MacKay
- Councillor Wendy Elliott
- Councillor Jennifer Ingham
- Councillor Mike Butler
- Councillor Ian Palmeter
- CAO Erin Beaudin
- Recording Secretary Laura Morrison

ALSO ATTENDING

- Director of Financial Services, Mike MacLean
- Director of Planning & Economic Development, Devin Lake
- Director of Public Works, Alex de Sousa
- IT Manager, David Hopkins
- Community Planner, Lindsay Slade
- Interested members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mayor Donovan called the Special Town Council Meeting to order at 6:35pm

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions	
1. Approval of Agenda	19-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.	CARRIED
	<i>Addition of IR025-2023 Welcome Centre</i>	
2. Approval of Minutes		
a. Town Council Meeting October 24, 2023	20-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 24, 2023 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.	CARRIED
b. Town Council In Camera Meeting October 24, 2023	21-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE IN-CAMERA MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 24, 2023 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.	CARRIED

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c. Special Town Council In Camera Meeting of November 6, 2023	22-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE IN-CAMERA MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2023 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
3. Comments from the Mayor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mayor enjoyed the Diwali event at Lions Hall Nov 10.• Thanks to Wolfville Legion for their Remembrance Day ceremony held in front of post office at the cenotaph.• Amazing unveiling of Alex Colville wall gallery.• Looking forward to Night of Lights on Nov 25th.• Mayor Donovan made a statement regarding the numerous emails Council and the Mayor have received from residents asking Council to add their voice to calls for a ceasefire in the Gaza strip.• Councillor MacKay asked for a moment of thoughtfulness in silence.
4. Public input / Question Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ahmed Nassrat, Executive member of our Mosque, Financial Controller of Just us Coffee in the valley and local businessman. On Nov 8 Amnesty international sent an open letter to PM Trudeau calling for Canadian government to call for an immediate ceasefire. Here to ask Council and Mayor to make a motion to call for an immediate ceasefire and support unrestricted access to humanitarian aid and write a letter to the Canadian government to request this.• Saheed Akandi, a concerned resident, and president of the Muslim students at Acadia, is seeking Council to make a motion to call for an immediate ceasefire and write a letter to our government to listen to our call. Responsibility to advocate for those suffering abroad. Growing sense of unease and insecurity among the Muslim community as tensions rise globally. Wolfville has been a welcoming home for many of us.• Alif Kazi Golam, a member of this community asked that no-one ignore the ongoing conflict in Gaza. Urgent need for Council to acknowledge and address this. As a representative voice of our community, you play a role in fostering understanding empathy and

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advocating for a ceasefire that resonates within the heartfelt concerns of our community members.

- Joe Rafih thanked Council & Mayor for listening to the community and shared his personal experiences. Loss of life is very tragic on both sides. Here to speak on behalf of the children who are hurt and have no medicine, no water, sleeping on the ground, dealing with the elements.
- Shayma Badawa, first year Acadia student and part of Muslim Woman Committee here to speak on behalf of one of the valley's community members who is a Palestinian lady and mother of four. She is in pain watching her relatives suffer in Gaza who have been bombed. The world is watching, and we are asking for an immediate ceasefire.
- Mohammed from Syria, is a member of the Muslim community, attends NSCC and started a small farm business here. He wants everyone to live in peace and experienced conflict in Syria for 3 years before moving to Jordan and then to Canada. Here to express my feeling looking for ceasefire and human aid. To live under siege is a horrible thing you can't understand unless you live in it. We hope we don't feel it here in Canada. Call for first aid and ceasefire.
- Frank Harris, resident of the area, ancestors were settlers of the area, feels making land acknowledgements often is an empty gesture because things like this happen and people fall silent. As a human, feels we need to call for a ceasefire. Government ignore UN and Amnesty International, ashamed of them for not calling for a ceasefire. I stand up and say we need to call for a ceasefire, anything else is cowardice.
- Sadie Beaton, resident of Wolfville, part of reason lives in Wolfville is it's reputation is staked on being a progressive, safe place for peace loving people and has a long tradition of standing for justice. There can be no real peace when there is a lack of justice elsewhere. Civilian death toll in Gaza is over 12,000 with median being of children. Every day a ceasefire is not called hundreds die. People have been expressing anger at complicity of our government for not standing up. Municipalities across Canada are rising up and using their voices to

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call for a full and immediate ceasefire. I encourage all councillors to join in support of the message.

- Mayor Donovan advised that as a Council, these requests started to come in over the weekend. As a municipal Council this is not in Council's jurisdiction. There has been a discussion informally around this table and have only begun to discuss it seriously in the last few days. The Mayor did commit to personally write a letter to the government, but at this stage had not been given direction from Council. More discussion will take place in the short term. Mayor Donovan asked for understanding around the parameters in place around Council in the Province.

Break from 7:20pm to 7:40pm

- 5. 23-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL ASK THE MAYOR TO WRITE A LETTER TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT URGING AN IMMEDIATE CALL FOR CESSATION OF WAR. WE SUPPORT AN IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN TRUCE. THE TOWN OF WOLFVILLE SUPPORTS PEACE FOR ALL.**

CARRIED

6. Motions/Recommendations from Committee of the Whole November 7, 2023

- a. RFD 059-2023 24-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL
Nuisance Party GIVE FIRST READING TO THE AMENDED NUISANCE PARTY BYLAW CH.
Bylaw First 97 AS ATTACHED TO RFD 059-2023.
Reading**

CARRIED

- b. RFD 061-2023 25-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL
Policy Making APPROVE THE AMENDED POLICY #110-007 – POLICY MAKING AND
and MANAGEMENT POLICY, AS ATTACHED TO RFD 061-2023.
Management
Policy**

CARRIED

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c. RFD 060-2023 Code of Conduct for Elected Municipal Officials Policy	26-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AMENDED POLICY #110-011, CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ELECTED MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS' POLICY, AS ATTACHED TO RFD 060-2023.	CARRIED
d. RFD: 052-2023 Annual Appointment of Auditor	27-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL APPOINT GRANT THORNTON AS THE TOWN'S AUDITOR FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2024.	CARRIED
e. RFD: 053-2023 Low Income Tax Exemption Policy#140-003	28-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE ATTACHED REVISED LOW INCOME PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION POLICY #140-003.	CARRIED
f. RFD: 054-2023 Tax Sale Policy# 140-009	29-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE ATTACHED DRAFT TAX POLICY #140-009.	CARRIED
g. RFD: 062-2023 Council Appointments to Committees	30-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AS OUTLINED IN RFD 062-2023	CARRIED
7. Motions/Recommendations from Public Hearing November 21, 2023		
a. RFD: 051-2023 Development Agreement 234 Main Street	31-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT AT 234 MAIN STREET (PID 55278626) TO CONSTRUCT A 10 UNIT DWELLING AND THAT CLAUSE 5.1.8.3 BE AMENDED TO ALLOW A 5-YEAR COMPLETION TIMELINE	CARRIED

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8. New Business

- a. **Appointment of Deputy Mayor Elliott** **32-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCILLOR WENDY ELLIOTT BE APPOINTED AS DEPUTY MAYOR BY ACCLAMATION EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 22, 2023.**
- CARRIED**
- b. **RFD 019-2023 Civic Addressing Bylaw Chapter 110 (2nd Reading)** **33-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL GIVE SECOND READING TO THE CIVIC ADDRESSING BYLAW CHPT. 110.**
- CARRIED**
- c. **RFD 050-2023 Building Bylaw Chapter 65 (2nd Reading)** **34-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL GIVE SECOND READING TO THE BUILDING BYLAW CHPT. 65.**
- CARRIED**

9. Additional Item

- a. **Info Report IR025-2023 Welcome Centre Funding Breakdown and Project Scope**
- Director de Souza presented an overview of the information report that was circulated as a late agenda item at the request of Council.
 - The Welcome Centre project is a tear down and rebuild due to the project work revealing issues with foundation, problems with plumbing and to bring it up to modern accessibility and energy standards.
 - Discussion on procurement approach and challenges with budget and schedule.
 - Original application for ACOA funding was with an estimated budget of 1.532m for Welcome centre reconstruction, East End Gateway parking lot and reconfiguration of Willow Ave. Willow Ave was completed in 2021. East end parking lot is in progress.
 - Reduced scope scenario of removing interior office area will remove approx.. \$150k of overall build.

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- Funding application was for reconstructed welcome centre. Changing the scope, is a material change to approved funding agreement.
- Parking lot work was tendered early in terms of construction season. No bids. Will go back to tender in Jan/Feb.
- Accessible walkway is concrete.
- Incremental difference between accessible washrooms and whole plan could be approx.. \$70k based on estimated square footage build costs.

Council direct staff to stay the course of the project.

10. Adjournment of Regular Meeting **35-11-23 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:11PM.**

Approved by Council Motion 15-12-23, December 2023
As recorded by Laura Morrison, EA/Town Clerk