



TOWN OF SAINT ANDREWS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

December 11, 2023, 6:30 p.m.
W.C. O'Neill Arena Complex Council Chambers

A. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

A Special Meeting of the Town of Saint Andrews Council was held on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Mayor Brad Henderson, Councillors Mark Bennett, Annette Harland, Lee Heenan, Jamie Hirtle, Steve Neil, and Darrell Weare.

Electronic Attendance: Councillor Marc Blanchard.

Late: Deputy Mayor Kate Akagi - 6:40 p.m.

Chris Spear, CAO/Treasurer, Paul Nopper, Clerk - Senior Administrator.

Absent - Councillor Kurt Gumushel.

B. LAND RECOGNITION OF THE PESKOTOMUHKATI NATION

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 434-12/23

Moved by Councillor Harland

Seconded by Councillor Heenan

That the Agenda for the 231211 Special Council Meeting be approved as presented.

Amended

Motion: 435-12/23

Moved by Councillor Harland

Seconded by Councillor Hirtle

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews amends the Agenda to include under New Business a discussion on a Town of Saint Andrews Mental Health Forum and to go into Closed Session as per the Local Governance Act Section 68(1)(c) information that could cause financial loss or gain to a person or the local government or could jeopardize negotiations leading to an agreement or contract.

7 – 0

Carried

Motion: 436-12/23

Moved by Councillor Harland

Seconded by Councillor Heenan

That the Amended Agenda for the 231211 Special Council Meeting be approved as presented.

7 – 0

Carried

D. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

E. PRESENTATIONS

F. INTRODUCTION, CONSIDERATION AND PASSING OF BY-LAWS AND MOTIONS

1. **Policy P-23-03 The Town of Saint Andrews Children and Vulnerable Persons Policy, PS231209**

Motion: 437-12/23

Moved by Councillor Neil

Seconded by Councillor Heenan

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews approves Policy P-23-03 The Town of Saint Andrews Children and Vulnerable Persons Policy.

7 – 0

Carried

2. **Cancellation of Regular Council Meeting for December 18, 2023, FA231218**

Motion: 438-12/23

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Harland

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews cancels the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, December 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. under By-Law No. 16-03, A Procedural By-Law for the Organization and Operation of the Council of Saint Andrews.

7 – 0

Carried

3. **Town of Saint Andrews End of Year Financial Transfers, FA231217**

Council asked if there was consideration of moving funds to the General Operating Fund versus the Capital Fund. CAO Spear noted that consideration was given however there is \$188,000 in the General Operating Fund currently and there is a 5% restriction on the Operating Budget versus the General Operating Fund. We have a sufficient amount of funds to deal with operational issues as they arise. Council noted that additional funds will be used for upcoming capital projects like the Wharf.

Motion: 439-12/23

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Heenan

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews moves that \$449,000 be transferred from the General Capital Reserve Fund to the General Capital Fund for the financing of Capital Projects in 2023.

7 – 0

Carried

Motion: 440-12/23

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Neil

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews moves that \$32,000 be transferred from the Utility Capital Reserve Fund to the Utility Capital Fund for the financing of Capital Projects in 2023.

7 – 0

Carried

Motion: 441-12/23

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Harland

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews moves that \$170,000 be transferred from the General Operating Fund to the General Capital Reserve Fund for future Capital Investments.

7 – 0

Carried

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Saint Andrews Mental Health Forum

Councillor Harland, Neil, and Hirtle have been working with Mr. Matthew Dickson regarding the hosting of a Mental Health Forum in Saint Andrews. We have developed a small organizing committee with Muriel Jarvis and Lisa Cheney from the Canadian Mental Health Association of New Brunswick. We would propose the Town hold a Town Hall meeting in February to participate in a conversation on Mental Health and Wellness in the community. We want to discuss and empower our community on Mental Health and Wellness. 1 in 5 people experience a Mental Health struggle in a year. 1 in 30 Canadians struggles with substance dependency. The chances of experiencing a Mental Health issue by the age of 40 is 1 in 2. 4000 people die of suicides due to Mental Health issues each year, which is 11 per day. The Pandemic had a huge impact on individuals, and we are still understanding the full impact. There have been links made between Mental Health and Physical Health. In order to address these issues and discuss our emotional well-being we suggest discussions on a Mental Health Forum. Our ask is that the Town host the event and some assistance with advertisement, refreshments, and space. We are requesting \$1,000 for the event.

Council supported the Saint Andrews Mental Health Forum and that the committee can work with staff on advertisement, location, and refreshments. Options for locations include the W.C. O'Neill Arena Complex and the Bayside Community Hall.

Motion: 442-12/23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Akagi

Seconded by Councillor Hirtle

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews supports the Saint Andrews Mental Health Forum initiative to take place in February 2023 and that the Town participates as a partner in the event.

8 – 0

Carried

Motion: 443-12/23

Moved by Councillor Heenan

Seconded by Councillor Weare

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews supports the Saint Andrews Mental Health Forum with a contribution of \$1,000 from the Civic Promotions Budget in 2024.

8 – 0

Carried

2. Algonquin Hotel Dorm Lease W.C. O'Neill Arena Complex

Motion: 446-12/23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Akagi

Seconded by Councillor Weare

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews approves the W.C. O'Neill Arena Complex Dorm Lease to the Algonquin Hotel from 2024 - 2026.

8 – 0

Carried

H. QUESTION PERIOD

I. COUNCILLORS' AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Councillor Heenan - I would like to thank the staff for all the work done on the new website. It is easy to maneuver and a great platform. Lots of work and people involved. Staff deserve a pat on the back.

Councillor Neil - Thank you to Mr. Nopper, Mr. Spear, and all of the Town Staff for their dedication and hard work. Merry Christmas.

Councillor Weare - I would like to express my appreciation for what was, behind the scenes, a difficult year with the amalgamation. I had some history going into this, was on the transition team, and saw the potential for a lot of problems and difficulties. By working together we were able to get through our problems without major incidents. It was anticipated to be a difficult year but turned out far better than I thought.

Councillor Weare - Have we received any update from the Province, based on the released statements of October 12th, that based on our increased assessment of 10.3%, our potential tax revenue would go up by \$562,000? CAO Spear noted that the budget was submitted to the Province but no confirmation on the approval of the budget as of yet. There is a new website portal system that we had to submit through but have not received word back one way or another. Councillor Weare asked that back in October the Province was saying the term potential additional property tax revenue, has that not been updated? CAO Spear was unclear about the specific ask but that the Province released the assessments and the Town built the Mill Rates based on this. Councillor Weare asked when they did the assessments and released the numbers, it said if we did not change the Mill Rate we would have \$562,000 in additional property tax revenues. Does the Province keep us up to date? CAO Spear noted that based on the assessments if we did not change the Mill Rates we would be up by \$562,000.00 However Council did change the Mill Rates and this adjusted the additional revenue to \$350,000. Tax revenue has gone up some. Mayor Henderson noted that he produced a video and posted it to social media explaining that there would be increases in taxes and revenues under amalgamation and that he appreciated the questions.

Deputy Mayor Akagi - Provided appreciation to the Town Staff and Crew for all the hard work. I want to wish all Councillors and everyone in the Town a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Be safe over the holiday season.

J. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Henderson - I would like to echo the Council's statements. The truth is we overcame a lot of barriers and are fortunate in our processes and hope we can continue to find common ground. We appreciate all the efforts of the Council and we did some big things, development, and working towards large capital projects, and we were aggressive in getting shovels in the ground. In many ways, I am looking forward to having our new Ladder Truck and the big projects before us. We are not done with housing yet and there are still gaps in our community. This Council, staff, and developers have achieved about half the units we need for our community. It is impressive for every one of you. Take time with your families over the holidays and thank you.

K. CLOSED SESSION

Motion: 444-12/23

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Heenan

At 6:56 p.m. that Council enters into Closed Session as per the Local Governance Act Section 68(1)(c) information that could cause financial loss or gain to a person or the local government or could jeopardize negotiations leading to an agreement or contract.

8 - 0

Carried

Motion: 445-12/23

Moved by Councillor Heenan

Seconded by Councillor Harland

At 7:36 p.m. that Council returns to Open Session.

8 – 0

Carried

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 447-12/23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Akagi

Seconded by Councillor Blanchard

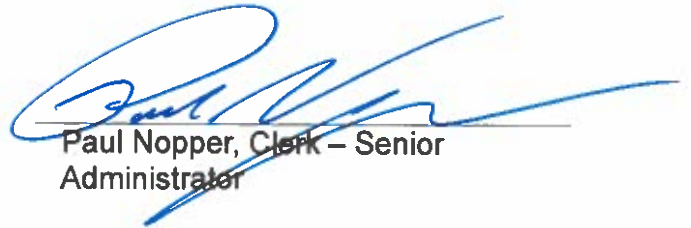
At 7:36 p.m. that the meeting be adjourned.

8 – 0

Carried



Brad Henderson, Mayor



Paul Nopper, Clerk – Senior
Administrator

