

A regular monthly meeting of Middleton Town Council was held at the Town Hall on Monday, December 18, 2017, starting at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chairing the meeting, Mayor Sylvester Atkinson; Deputy Mayor Melinda den Haan; Councillors Michael Fairn, Clayton MacMurtry, Gary Marshall, Brad Reid and Gail Smith; Chief Administrative Officer, Rachel Turner; Director of Finance, Marianne Daine; and Recording Secretary, Sharon McAuley.

Also in attendance were: Peter Smith, Eagle Project Management Inc.; Caroline McKay, GEMTEC Consulting Engineers and Scientists Ltd.; Chief Mike Toole and Captain Jody Spidle, Middleton Fire Department; and one (1) citizen.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Atkinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

171218.01: It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as circulated. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

171218.02: It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the regular Council meeting of November 20, 2017 be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

4. PRESENTATIONS

.01 Service Recognition Awards

Councillor Smith presented a plaque, cheque and service pin to Sharon McAuley in recognition of her ten (10) years of service to the Town of Middleton.

Mayor Atkinson presented a plaque and cheque to Marianne Daine in recognition of her thirty (30) years of service to the Town of Middleton.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1. Geotechnical Investigation Report: GEMTEC Consulting Engineers & Scientists Ltd.

Caroline McKay and Peter Smith provided Council with the highlights of the Geotechnical Investigation Report pertaining to the proposed site development and construction of the new Community Centre/Fire Hall:

- there is standing water on a large portion of the site;
- the site is generally unsuitable for conventional site development;
- proposed building could likely be built on a slab-on-grade foundation founded on a granular pad or pile foundation;
- organics and fill would have to be removed, the site ditched and drained of water and site grade to be raised to road level;
- the design engineer will determine how much rock to bring in or the use of pilings;
- additional site investigation would be required to provide final recommendations.

On questions from Council, Caroline McKay and Peter Smith advised Council:

- next steps would involve additional investigation/study using cone penetration testing (CPT) to determine how far down to go, what settlements to expect with the building loads and available options;
- much of Middleton and the Valley is built on silt, clay and organics which is good soil for landfills and lagoons but requires non-conventional site development for buildings;
- the nursing home and elementary school had to go through similar processes;
- site preparation is estimated to be in the \$100,000 range.

171218.03: It was moved and seconded, that Council agreed to proceed with further investigation using cone penetration testing. Motion carried.

171218.04: It was moved and seconded, that Council adopt the Geotechnical Investigation Report as presented. Motion carried.

5.2. Committee of the Whole Recommendations

a. Fire Hall / Community Centre Tender Document

Peter Smith updated Council on the project timelines:

- the tender will be issued this week and will take approximately one month to complete;
- the review of the tenders will take approximately one month;
- awarding of the tender is estimated to take place near the end of February/March;
- construction may start around April.

171218.05: It was moved and seconded, that Council approve the Community Centre/Fire Hall Tender Document, version 3, dated November 29, 2017, as presented. Motion carried.

b. Correspondence: Geoff Stewart

171218.06: It was moved and seconded, that Council write a letter to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) regarding their concerns with the proposed name change from UNSM to Federation of Nova Scotia Municipalities (FNSM). Motion carried.

Caroline McKay and Peter Smith left the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

c. RFD 017-2017: Rotary Riverside Park Memorial Sign

171218.07: It was moved and seconded, that Council grant permission to the Rotary Club to erect a sign for the Memorial Tree Grove at Rotary Riverside Park. Motion carried.

d. RFD 015-2017: Repeal of Taxi Bylaw

171218.08: It was moved and seconded, that Council give First Reading to Repeal Bylaw 15 B - Taxi Bylaw, as presented, and that the repeal be effective May 1, 2018. Motion carried.

e. Appointments:

i. Youth Ambassador

171218.09: It was moved and seconded, that Council appoint Madison Steele as the Youth Ambassador for the Town of Middleton. Motion carried.

ii. Audit Committee

171218.10: It was moved and seconded, that Council appoint Mayor Sylvester Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Melinda den Haan and Councillors Michael Fairn,

Clayton MacMurtry and Gail Smith as members of the Audit Committee for the Town of Middleton. Motion carried.

5.3. Strategic Priorities Chart

171218.11: It was moved and seconded, that Council approve the Strategic Priorities Chart, dated December 2017, as presented. Motion carried.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Management

The Management Reports were circulated to all Council members.

Council agreed that the crosswalk at Commercial and Marshall Streets will be the priority, with the second choice being Main Street and Taylor Drive.

6.2. Planning Services – November 2017

The Planning Services Report for the month of November 2017 was circulated to all Council members.

6.3. Planning Services Public Advisory Panel

Councillor MacMurtry provided a verbal report on the Planning Services Public Advisory Panel (PSPAP):

- the Panel met with the public on December 4;
- the meeting was well attended with Planner Chris Millier providing an overview of the process and findings to date;
- Planner Chris Millier is working on the draft document and will bring it back to the PSPAP on January 8 for review;
- meetings with Council and the community will then take place to review the first draft.

6.4. Police Advisory Board

Councillor MacMurtry provided a verbal report on the Police Advisory Board (PAB):

- a meeting was held last week;
- the PAB met Cpl. Dione Canning who is the new NCO in Charge for Middleton;
- there are eight (8) new officers in the Detachment;
- the Middleton office is fully staffed.

6.5. Valley Waste Resource Management – December 2017

The Valley Waste-Resource Management Report for the month of December 2017 was circulated to all Council members.

6.6. UNSM Board Report – December 2017

The Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Report for the month of December 2017 was circulated to all Council members.

6.7. Integrated Property Services Council: A Year in Review

The Integrated Property Services Council: A Year in Review Report was circulated to all Council members.

On question from Council, Director of Finance Daine stated that the Town is in the final testing for epost and that information will, hopefully, be sent out with the next water bills advising people on how to sign up.

6.8. Valley Business Leaders' Initiative: Update

The update on the Valley Business Leaders' Initiative was circulated to all Council members.

6.9. Mayor

Mayor Atkinson tabled his report for the month of December 2017.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence for the month of November/December has been circulated to all Council members and posted on SharePoint.

8. ANYTHING BY MEMBERS

Council members agreed that the Christmas party was a success.

9. ADJOURNMENT

171218.12: It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes Approved by Council Motion 180115.02, January 15, 2018.