

A regular monthly meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Middleton Town Council was held at the Town Hall on Monday, November 16, 2015, starting at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chairing the meeting, Mayor Calvin Eddy; Deputy Mayor Dan Smith; Councillors Darren Boates, Gail Smith, John Himmelman, and Melinda den Haan; Chief Administrative Officer, Rachel Turner; Director of Finance, Marianne Daine; and Recording Secretary, Sharon McAuley.

Regrets: Councillor Marc Britney.

Also in attendance were: Jeanne Saulnier & Lisa Salley, Soldiers' Memorial Hospital.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

151116.01: It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda, as circulated. Motion carried.

3. PRESENTATION**3.1 Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Update – Jeanne Saulnier**

Jeanne Saulnier, Site Manager at Soldiers' Memorial Hospital (SMH), provided an update to Committee on SMH:

- the Emergency Department was closed for one day in September and one day in November due to physician availability;
- all shifts are filled for December and January is looking promising;
- two new doctors have started employment and are continuing to take patients from the list of people without primary physicians;
- at the Provincial and local level, the Government is working to change the conversation on health and will be hosting conversations with Nova Scotians in communities and on-line to look at ways to transform health care;
 - Nova Scotia is spending more and more money on health care, but the population is not getting any healthier;
 - the life expectancy in Nova Scotia is a year lower than the national average;

- the number of years that people can expect to live in full health is two years lower than the national average;
- six percent of Nova Scotians report having been diagnosed with heart disease as compared to five percent nationally (ten percent for low income wage earners);
- the province sees 5,900 cases of cancer each year, with 2,500 deaths due to the disease;
- cancer rates are significantly higher than the national average (423 cases per 100,000 as compared to 391 per 100,000);
- 61% of Nova Scotia's population is overweight or obese, significantly higher than the national average of 52%;
- 23% of the adult population report having arthritis as compared to the national average of 16% (33% for low income wage earners).

3.2 Provincial Tobacco Legislation – Lisa Salley

Lisa Salley, Health Promoter, Public Health at Soldiers' Memorial Hospital (SMH), provided an update to Committee on the new Provincial Tobacco Legislation which became effective on May 31, 2015.

- The legislation treats e-cigarettes and waterpipes/hookahs the same as cigarettes and flavoured products such as methyl and bubble gum will be taken off the market as they target youth.
- The Town is asked to review its policies to ensure they are compliant with the new legislation.
- The Annapolis Valley has seen an 8.5% increase in smoking rates over a two year period and this does not include e-cigarettes.
- The Town was complimented on the amount of recreational programming and facilities it has for youth and in promoting their outdoor events as non-smoking.

Jeanne Saulnier and Lisa Salley left the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

151116.02: It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of October 19, 2015 be approved, as circulated. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 RFD 023-2015: Whistle Blower Policy

151116.03: It was moved and seconded to recommend that Council approve the *Whistle Blower Policy*, as presented. Motion carried.

5.2 Appointment of Building and Fire Inspectors

151116.04: It was moved and seconded to recommend that Council appoint Russell MacKintosh and Danny Wright as Building and Fire Inspectors for the Town of Middleton for the period January 1, 2016 to October 31, 2016. Motion carried.

5.3 Cancellation of December Committee of the Whole Meeting

151116.05: It was moved and seconded, that the Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for Monday, December 21, 2015, be cancelled. Motion carried.

5.4 UNSM Annual Conference Report

Deputy Mayor Smith, Councillor Smith, Councillor Himmelman and CAO Turner provided an overview of the UNSM Conference which they attended on November 3 – 6, 2015. Highlights included:

- the government is still supporting governance structure change in municipal units, but will not force municipal units to do so;
- how to engage communities, seniors and youth;
- issues around affordable housing;
- relevance of the Caucus structure;
- Ministers' Panel;
- use of signage in risk management.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Management Reports

The Management Reports were circulated to all Committee members.

6.2 Planning Services Reports – October 2015

The Planning Services Reports for the month of October 2015 was circulated to all Committee members.

6.3 Accounting Activities Report – October 2015

The Accounting Activities Report for the month of October 2015 was circulated to all Committee members.

7. ANYTHING BY MEMBERS

Councillor Smith informed Committee that the Town was thanked for making the walk signal a longer duration at the traffic lights.

Mayor Eddy reminded Committee of the following events:

- Meeting with the Fire Department and Peter Smith to discuss the Facility Assessment Report on November 17;
- Youth Ambassador Speeches on November 18 at the Macdonald Museum;
- Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 4 at Centennial Park;
- Council Meeting on December 7.

8. ADJOURNMENT

151116.06: It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Motion carried.


MAYOR

Straney
RECORDING SECRETARY