

**SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL**

Public Special Meeting of Council - Staff Reports – 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Robert Berry, Deputy Mayor Joyce O’Neil, Councillors Bruce Phinney, Bill Evans, Margaret Tusz-King, Ron Aiken, Ron Corbett, Michael Tower and Shawn Mesheau. Also in attendance were CAO Phil Handrahan, Treasurer Michael Beal, Clerk Donna Beal, Assistant Treasurer/Assistant Clerk Mary Dixon, Engineer Dwayne Acton, Fire Chief Craig Bowser and Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Jamie Burke.

Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Robert Berry called the meeting to order.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY
COUNCILLOR BILL EVANS THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL AND CLOSED/IN-CAMERA MEETING OF COUNCIL
OF NOVEMBER 2, 2015 AS CIRCULATED. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Sackville Schools 2020 – Brian Neilson

Brian Neilson introduced Catherine Gray who gave the presentation on behalf of the Sackville Schools 2020. Catherine reported that this initiative was evolved by the community based on the District Policy 409 which speaks to educational sustainability through improved facilities and continued betterment of programs. The Sackville Schools 2020 is an action-based, all-encompassing group, made up of students, parents, educators and concerned citizens who wish to work jointly with the Department of Education to engage the greater Sackville Community in a consultation process regarding the future of education in our town, and to develop a transparent and comprehensive plan for the desired future of our schools by the year 2020. Sackville Schools 2020 will consult widely across the Sackville region, gathering the recommendations for the future of education in our town, including the three public schools currently in place, as well as the wider educational community. The community consultation will collect valuable feedback, which will consider the educational needs of all students, including the cost-effectiveness of the existing schools, and the social and financial impacts of either the renovation of existing facilities or construction of new facilities. The focus is to strengthen schools as a whole, and to better prepare and develop our children for the future through collaboration, communication and compromise. The Department of Education has recently embarked on a school sustainability assessment process and hopes to consider the Sackville family of schools in the next few years. Our central goal is to assist in the planning and delivery of a modern and cost-effective school infrastructure for Sackville children within the next five years. The intention tonight is to make the Town aware of this. This is an information session at this time. Please feel free to contact us at [sackvilleschools2020@facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/sackvilleschools2020) with any additional questions or comments. We look forward to hearing from you.

Mayor Berry thanked the Committee for their very informative presentation.

3. By-Law No. 242, A By-Law Relating to the Establishment of a Special Business Improvement Area Levy in the Town of Sackville

Clerk Donna Beal noted that the BIA By-Law is an annual By-Law which is a levy imposed on all business properties within the area described in By-Law No. 128 which was passed in 1987 and the re-establishment of this By-Law has been in effect every year subsequent to 1987. There are no changes to this By-Law from previous years, however, as in past years the levy amount may change once we receive the budget submitted by the Mainstreet Redevelopment Sackville Inc., prior to third reading of this By-Law. First reading will be at the next council meeting. Staff will invite MainStreet Redevelopment to give an update on their Budget for the coming year.

4. Sackville & Nova Scotia TCH Closure Improvement Initiative

Engineer Dwayne Acton noted that over the last few years we have been hit with some very harsh weather conditions that have resulted in highway closures between Sackville and the Nova Scotia boarder. As a result of these frequent weather conditions and the safety concerns with this section of Highway, Mr. James Graves (RCMP), CAO Phil Handrahan and Mayor Robert Berry worked to get the highway speed reduced for this section of highway. Despite the fact that the province rejected this request, the work of Mr. Graves, Mr. Handrahan and Mayor Berry, were successful in getting the attention and arrangement of a meeting with Minister Melanson, MLA Mr. LeBlanc and even the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Mr. Horsman. As a result of these meetings, along with the safety concerns with this section of the TCH, the Minister committed to looking into these safety concerns and highway closure which, resulted in the “Sackville to NS Border TCH Closure Improvement Initiative” being established. As a result of this initiative it was determined that there was a need for more communication between NB and NS with respect to how we deal with these closures and the fact that it is a significant Provincial Highway leading to and from Nova Scotia. In the fall of 2014, Mike LeBlanc of NB EMO and Mike Johnson of NS EMO spearheaded meetings between NB DTI and NS DTI along with other EMO providers, RCMP, Sackville Fire Department, Town of Sackville, Town of Amherst and others to discuss the highway closure process between Sackville and NS border. These harsh weather conditions continued into the winter of 2015 where we experienced several highway closures and most notable the 12 hour highway closure in February on a beautiful sunny winter day that confirmed the need for the Sackville TCH Closure Initiative. The initiative, created the current committee, which is being chaired by Jay Cunningham of NB DTI and consist of several additional key members of the NB DTI, RCMP, and Mike Leblanc of NB EMO and several members of the management team with the Town of Sackville and Sackville Fire Department. The committee has been meeting each month to discuss and push forward the key aspects of the Sackville TCH Closure Initiatives. With the efforts of Mr. Cunningham and the full committee, we felt it was the right time of the year to provide council with an update on what the committee has been working on and where we the committee is at present and where we are heading with this very important project. Mr. Cunningham will be scheduled for the December 7th Discussion Group to elaborate on the work of the committee and this initiative. It was also noted that there are warning signs that will be installed soon adjacent to the Waterfowl Park to aid drivers in their determination of whether or not to proceed when the weather conditions are not favorable. As well, talk of ramp gates have been had, with the idea to stop traffic from getting onto the Highway when it is closed. Jay Cunningham from DTI will be in next month to speak to this further.

5. Corporate Projects Report

Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Jamie Burke noted that staff have been working on several corporate related projects that Council should be made aware of. First, RFP 2015-12 – Strategic Planning Services. As Council is aware, the Town’s current Strategic Plan is set to mature at the end of 2015. To ensure the corporation has a clearly set direction over the coming 5 years, an RFP for strategic planning services was issued on October 9, 2015. The RFP closed on October 26. Thirty-eight RFP packages were requested and thirteen proposals were submitted. The proposals will now be evaluated and a short-list will be assembled. Subsequently, a motion will be presented to Council to award the services once Council has been briefed. Second; RFP 2015-13 – Public Art for Bridge Street. The redevelopment of Bridge Street always contemplated this inclusion of public art. This was noted in the ACOA application for funding and is consistent with other large capital projects, such as Town Hall and the Bill Johnstone Memorial Park. Catalyst Consulting Engineers Inc., was retained to assemble and manage the RFP process. An RFP was issued on October 14, 2015 and closed today, November 2, 2015. There were no submissions received, so we are now going to have to approach some artists in order to move this forward and recommendation(s) will be forwarded to Council. Third; TransCanada Trail in the Waterfowl Park – Bridge Street to TCH. Staff are exploring the potential ownership and long-term lease options for the portion of the TransCanada Trail that runs through the Waterfowl Park – from Bridge Street to the TransCanada Highway. At the present, the property is owned by the NB Department of Natural Resources, who contact the maintenance of the trails to NB Trails Council. The town has infrastructure along this trail, and over the years, the town has maintained the trail, including snow clearing. Moreover, there may be a need for future stormwater and sanitary sewer improvements needed along this property and therefore, staff are exploring the available options for more control over the land. Staff will continue to update Council as the process continues as any ownership changes or long term lease options will require the approval of Council. Mr. Burke noted that the RFP regarding the Strategic Plan allows us to have a more comprehensive evaluation done by an outside source. Where there are many items that we have yet to complete on the existing Strategic Plan, it was noted that this would be more of an update to complement the existing Strategic Plan that we already have. With regard to the Public Art RFP, staff are looking at all options that would work with both the Town and the artistic Community in Sackville noting that we are working with timelines regarding that part of the ACOA Funding for this project. It was also noted that the Art component falls in line with the criteria that has been set out by Council when completing Capital Projects of this nature.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR RON AIKEN AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR JOYCE O’NEIL THAT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF NOVEMBER 2, 2015 BE ADJOURNED AND MOVE INTO THE CLOSED/IN-CAMERA MEETING OF COUNCIL. MOTION CARRIED.

**CLOSED/IN-CAMERA MEETING OF COUNCIL
FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL
NOVEMBER 2, 2015**

In attendance were Mayor Robert Berry, Deputy Mayor Joyce O'Neil, Councillors Bruce Phinney, Bill Evans, Margaret Tusz-King, Ron Aiken, Ron Corbett, Michael Tower and Shawn Mesheau. Also in attendance were CAO Phil Handrahan, Treasurer Michael Beal, Clerk Donna Beal, and Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Jamie Burke.

6. File No. P-2015-03

7. File No. P-2015-04

8. File No. HR-2015-07

Motion to Adjourn Closed In-Camera Meeting of Council

Note: In-Camera Meetings to deal with items as per section 10.2(4) of the Municipalities Act – Legal, Police, HR, Confidential Information – Personal, \$ Agreements of Contracts or Land Transactions