

**SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL**

In attendance were Mayor Shawn Mesheau, Deputy Mayor Andrew Black and Councillors Allison Butcher, Sabine Dietz, Matt Estabrooks, Bill Evans, Kenneth Hicks, Bruce Phinney and Michael Tower. Also, in attendance were CAO Jamie Burke, Clerk Donna Beal, Assistant Clerk Becky Goodwin, and Treasurer Michael Beal.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Shawn Mesheau called the meeting to order.

Mayor Shawn Mesheau acknowledged that we are located within the territory of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded, ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY DEPUTY MAYOR ANDREW BLACK AND SECONDED BY
COUNCILLOR MATT ESTABROOKS THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AGENDA OF
THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF AUGUST 3, 2021, AS CIRCULATED AND
MOVE INTO IN-CAMERA. MOTION CARRIED.

1. L-2021-01

Public

Town Engineer Dwayne Acton and Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Kieran Miller joined the meeting.

Also in attendance were four (4) members of the public.

Mayor Shawn Mesheau acknowledged that we are located within the territory of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded, ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

Councillor Bill Evans provided an apology for a statement made at the July 20, 2021, Special Meeting of Council and acknowledged the Town of Sackville Code of Conduct and accepted that the words were unacceptable and inappropriate.

2. Presentation – MASU – Hannah Ehler

MASU Vice President External Affairs Hannah Ehler provided a presentation to Council to give a brief introduction of the MASU members. Ms. Ehler spoke on the previous presentation to council regarding the three-stream recycling project and noted that MASU is interested in continuing the discussion with Council, whether that is to implement three-stream recycling system for multi-unit apartment complexes in Town, or taking a first step in asking the provincial government to ban compostable and recyclable items from landfills across the province.

3. Presentation – Natural Asset Inventories – James Bornemann

Mr. Bornemann provided a presentation to Council on Natural Asset Inventories, reviewing what natural assets are, why they are important and what can be achieved by creating an inventory. He

reviewed that Asset Management can include inventory, condition, level of service, value, operations and management and lifecycle and replacement planning. Mr. Bornemann provided an example of what the inventory and registry would look like and how it can be used. He noted that a Natural Asset Inventory can be integrated into plans such as Asset Management, Official Community Plan and Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

4. Natural Asset Inventory

Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Kieran Miller provided an overview of her Report, noting that the Mayor's Roundtable on Climate Change is recommending that the Town complete a natural assets inventory with the Municipal Natural Assets Initiative, as presented by Mr. James Bornemann. With support from the Roundtable and the Southeast Regional Service Commission, Staff will work with MNAI to identify Sackville's natural assets, evaluate their current state and prepare/implement a plan to protect and maintain those assets. A motion will be brought forward at the Regular Council Meeting of August 9, 2021 for Council to consider authorizing the signing of a MoU with MNAI and to commit \$2,500 plus HST to complete a natural assets inventory for the Town.

5. By-Law No. 262B Street Traffic By-Law (Skateboards)

Assistant Clerk Becky Goodwin provided an overview of her Report, noting that subject of Skateboards on Town streets has been a topic of discussion over the past year. The Clerk's Office has been reviewing the Street Traffic By-Law and Council approved a first reading of changes to the By-Law on February 8, 2021. Following information received from the Town's insurance provider, it was Staff's recommendation to obtain additional information and conduct additional research prior to presenting to Council again. At the April Special Meeting of Council there seemed to be an interest amongst the previous Council to allow skateboards on public streets, but to regulate them. The Clerk's Office worked with LAC Group to conduct research on Canadian Municipalities that regulate skateboards on municipal streets and how they manage their risk. Key findings of the report included that skateboarding is growing in popularity across the country. A number of municipalities across the country allow skateboarding on streets, while others prohibit it, requiring skateboarders to remain on sidewalks. Given the discussion at the April Council Meeting and after receiving the information from the LAC Group report, By-Law No. 262B, a By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 262, Street Traffic By-Law was reworded to include the use of skateboards on Town Streets. One of the added requirements is for users to wear a helmet, which conforms to the current standards in the Motor Vehicle Act. Other requirements include wearing reflective material between dusk and dawn, travelling in a straight line as close as is practicable to the right hand side of the roadway, yielding to the right-of way to pedestrians and cyclist, and to travel in a manner and at a speed appropriate to the surface being travelled. Following the review by the Town's Solicitor, it would be Staff's recommendation that Council consider first reading of By-Law No. 262B, A By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 262 Street Traffic By-Law at the August 9, 2021, Regular Council Meeting.

6. By-Law No. 279, A By-Law Respecting the Procedure and Organization of Council

Assistant Clerk Becky Goodwin provided an overview of her Report, noting that in March 2020, Council gave third and final reading to By-Law No. 262, A By-Law Respecting the Procedure and Organization of Council. This review came after several months of reviewing and drafting the By-Law after recommended changes to various sections within the By-Law, including Council Meetings, Agenda Items, Liaison Councillors, Quorum, Council Packages and Question Period. With the 2021 Municipal Election, changes to Committees and their Terms of Reference and calls for additional transparency, Staff have reviewed the By-Law and have made some housekeeping changes including orientation for Council, posting of information on the Town's

webpage, posting of the Special Meeting of Council package, electronic meetings, posting of presentations and updates to the Terms of Reference. Council will be given the opportunity to provide their feedback to the Clerk's Office on any additional recommendations for the By-Law. The Clerk's Office will present during the September 7, 2021 Special Meeting of Council on any additional recommended changes.

7. UMNB

Chief Administrative Officer Jamie Burke provided an overview of the Report, noting that each year, the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) hold their Annual General Meeting in late September to early October, with this years meetings being held virtually once again. Resolutions for submission at the UMNB Annual Conference need to be into the UMNB Office no later than August 17, 2021. Staff have reviewed possible motions for UMNB, with one suggestion being the Designated Highway Annual Operational Grant Funding, which we feel is insufficient to cover the trust costs. However, given that we are in the mile of the Municipal Reform process, Staff feel that it is best to allow the Reform process to be completed, but would be prepared to recommend a motion on this topic in 2022. The Town of Sackville, through the Finance Department, has previously considered other motions which have largely focused on ways to bring additional funds to municipalities. However, given Covid times and that there remains a number of Sackville initiated motions on the books, which have been worked on, but have had no positive financial results or decisions, Staff feel that adding more motions at the present time would not be beneficial. Deputy Mayor Andrew Black and Councillor Sabine Dietz provided topics for motions that they will be bringing forward for Council to consider at the Regular Council Meeting of August 12, 2021. Topics include a ban on recyclable materials at landfills across the province, a change to the NB Elections Act to allow permanent residents to vote municipally, petition the province to include indigenous languages on municipal and provincial ballots and that the province ensure that a significant portion of carbon tax be dedicated to the climate action plan.

8. Sackville Arts Wall Governance Guidelines

Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Kieran Miller provided an overview of the Report, noting that Kellie Mattatall has served on the Sackville Arts Wall of Fame Committee since October 2018. Her term expires October 31, 2021, but has reoffered to continue serving on the Committee for another 3-year term. The remaining members of the Sackville Arts Wall Committee supported Ms. Mattatall's re-offer via a motion at a committee meeting on June 29, 2021. Additionally Sackville Arts Wall Committee members are suggesting a minor change of the Sackville Arts Wall Governance Guidelines. They recommend that Council removed the last sentence in 11(e) "*Nomination forms of nominees not selected to the Sackville Arts Wall after being considered a total of three(3) times will be placed in an inactive file. Inactive nominees will require re-nomination to be reconsidered. The Selection Board may retrieve any information placed in said file for consideration at a later date.*" Removing the last sentence will eliminate the potential for confusion on the re-nomination process. A motion will be brought forward at the Regular Council Meeting of August 9, 2021, for Council to consider approving Kellie Mattatall for an additional 3-year term ending on October 31, 2024 and furthermore approve the recommended changes to the Sackville Arts Wall Governance Guidelines as outline.

9. Green Jobs Student Grant

Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Kieran Miller provided an overview of her Report, noting that in 2018, the Canadian Park and Recreation Association (CPRA) opened a student grant program called the *Green Jobs Initiative*. The program covers the lesser of 50% of the total cost of a student's salary or \$5,712.00, as long as the student is working in a position that falls under a particular list of criteria. The grant has recently been renewed and Town Staff were successful in obtaining funding for three of our summer students' positions, totaling \$11,405.49. To proceed with receiving the funding, the Mayor and Clerk are required to sign off on the agreement. A motion will be brought forward at the Regular Council Meeting of August 9, 2021, for Council to consider authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Green Jobs Initiative Subsidy Agreement.

10. Rink Subsidy Program

Treasurer Michael Beal provided an overview of the Report, noting that in 2020, Council was approached by the Sackville Minor Hockey Club and the Sackville Skating Club about the possibility of further subsidizing the cost of the ice. The discussion came forward again in the fall of 2021 where Council directed staff to explore the financial implications of such an initiative. Additionally, Council approved a motion to make our public skates free for the final few weeks of the 2021 ice season to gauge whether or not usage would increase. Mr. Beal noted that exploring an ice subsidy program for our residents is noted as the first objective in Strategic Direction #3 – Strengthen Recreation Programming, in the Town's Recreation Master Plan. After a thorough discussion and exploration of various options, staff have determined that where the request came from two youth sporting associations, we should maintain focus on that age demographic (ages 3-18). Staff provided Council with three possibilities to consider that included free civic centre use for youth sports, subsidize tax paying residents within Town limits in the form of a rebate, or leave it as is noting that operating the rink cost the taxpayers approximately \$337,700 per year in operating losses. It was noted that further subsidizing for youth sport could help increase the number of children participating in sport and have a long-term positive effect on the health of our community. It is Staff's recommendation that Council eliminate fees for family and lunchtime skates for the 2021-2022 ice season and furthermore recommend that Council endorse a reimbursement of a percentage of registration fees up to a maximum amount to tax-paying residents of Sackville who register for children and youth recreation programs that take place inside Town facilities or property as a pilot project. A motion will be presented to Council at the August 9, 2021, Regular Council Meeting.

11. Canteen Contract – Civic Centre

Town Engineer Dwayne Acton provided an overview of his Report, noting that in 2018 the Town of Sackville entered into a working agreement with Mary-Ann Oster to manage the canteen at the Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre. This contract is set to expire September 30, 2021. The arrangement has been working out well for the Town. Ms. Oster's professional approach to managing the canteen and excellent customer service have made the previous ice season some of the better years for the canteen. Due to COVID-19, the ice season for 2020 was cut short and the agreement was suspended in 2021 due to the pandemic restrictions. Given we are looking to get back to a normal ice season for the 2021-2022 season, it is Staff's recommendation that Council consider renewing a two-year agreement with Mary-Ann Oster starting on October 1, 2021. A motion will be presented to Council at the August 9, 2021, Regular Council Meeting.

12. Street Closure – York Street between Lansdowne to Salem

Senior Manager of Corporate Projects Kieran Miller provided an overview of her Report, noting that following the successful collaboration between the Town and Mount Allison University for the 2020 Welcome Centre at the Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre, Mount Allison is looking to continue with a Welcome Centre this September. Given that the Civic Centre is not available in September due to the COVID Assessment Centre, and to accommodate the Welcome Centre and student/parent traffic, Mount Allison is requesting the closure of York Street from Lansdowne to Salem Streets on Friday, September 3, 2021, from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Staff support this request given the success of last year’s Welcome Centre. Detour signage will be placed, and the street closure will be communicated through social media. A motion will be brought forward at the Regular Council Meeting of August 9, 2021, for Council to consider approving the street closure.

Question Period

Erica Butler asked if the \$65,000 from Council Initiative for rink subsidy and skateboard park study was coming out of the 2021 budget or would it roll into 2022. Treasurer Michael Beal responded that Staff would look to make a policy to potentially be in effect for Fall 2021, which funds would come from the 2021 budget.

Erica Butler asked for clarification on the changes to the Street Traffic By-Law related to Skateboards and if both versions of changes were sent to both the Solicitor and Insurance providers. Treasurer Michael Beal noted that insurance will provide us with best practices, but recommend that legal reviews the changes. Those changes have been sent to the Town Solicitor.

Bruce Wark asked if the Town of Sackville is proposing to accredit media based on the definition in the Procedures and Organization of Council By-Law. CAO Jamie Burke responded that Staff were only looking to have some type of accountability when it comes to the Press, if someone doesn’t respect or act professionally towards Town Business, Council or Staff members. Mr. Burke noted that the Town is not looking to license or sanction anyone, Staff are solely looking at parameters of defining who the Press are.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT COUNCIL ADJOURN THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF AUGUST 3, 2021. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor

Clerk

Assistant Clerk