

**Town of Kensington
Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
Monday, August 14, 2023
7:00 PM**

Council Members Present: Mayor Rowan Caseley; Deputy Mayor Jeff Spencer
Councillors: Toombs, Gallant, Mann, MacRae, and Doucette

Staff Members Present: Municipal Clerk, Kim Caseley; Police Chief, Lewie Sutherland

Regrets: CAO, Geoff Baker

1. Calling of Meeting to Order

1.1 Mayor Caseley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and welcomed Council members and staff to the August meeting of Kensington Town Council. Mayor Caseley acknowledged that the land on which we gather is the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq First Nation.

2. Approval of Tentative Agenda

2.1 *Moved by Councillor MacRae, seconded by Councillor Gallant to approve the tentative agenda for the August 14, 2023 regular meeting of Town Council. Unanimously carried.*

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

3.1 Councillor MacRae declared a conflict with an item of correspondence.

4. Delegations / Presentations

4.1 *Nil.*

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

5.1 *Moved by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Doucette to approve the minutes from July 10, 2023, regular meeting of Town Council. Unanimously carried.*

6. Business Arising from Minutes

6.1 July 10, 2023, Regular Meeting

6.1.1 Councillor Gallant inquired about residents blowing grass clippings onto the roadway. Chief Sutherland noted that the Kensington Police Service has received one complaint that has been addressed. Councillor Gallant noted concerns

regarding a vacant lot along Lowther Street.

- 6.1.2 Councillor Gallant inquired about updates regarding the broken barricades located at 88 Victoria Street. Mayor Caseley confirmed Mr. Baker has spoken with the owner of the property to address the concerns – no time frame for their removal is currently available.

7. Reports

7.1 Chief Administrative Officer Report

- 7.1.1 *Nil.*

7.2 Fire Department Statistical Report

- 7.2.1 *Moved by Councillor Gallant, seconded by Deputy Mayor Spencer to approve the June 2023 Fire Statistical report as prepared by Fire Chief, Rodney Hickey. Unanimously carried.*

7.3 Police Department Statistical Report

- 7.3.1 *Moved by Councillor Toombs, seconded by Deputy Mayor Spencer to approve the June 2023 Police Statistical Report as prepared by Chief Sutherland. Unanimously carried.*
- 7.3.2 Councillor Gallant noted that the Kensington Police Service is doing a great job enforcing traffic in the Barrett Street area of Town.
- 7.3.3 Councillor Gallant noted an improvement in cyclists using helmets. Chief Sutherland noted that the department has given out 6 helmets and continues to encourage cyclists to wear helmets.

Chief Sutherland excused himself from the Council Chamber at 7:08 pm.

7.4 Development Permit Summary Report

- 7.4.1 *Moved by Deputy Mayor Spencer, seconded by Councillor Doucette to approve the August 2023 Development Permit Summary Report as prepared by Municipal Clerk, Kim Caseley. Unanimously carried.*

7.5 Bills List

- 7.5.1 *Town of Kensington Bills Report – Nil.*
- 7.5.2 *Water & Sewer Utility Bills Report – Nil.*

7.5.3 Capital Expenditures Report – Nil.

7.6 Summary Income Statement

7.6.1 Nil.

7.7 Credit Union Centre Report

7.7.1 Moved by Councillor Toombs, seconded by Councillor Doucette to approve the Credit Union Centre report for the month of June 2023. Unanimously carried.

7.7.2 Councillor Gallant noted the renovation to the Credit Union Centre looks great.

7.7.3 Councillor Doucette inquired if the installation of the new ice plant is still on schedule. Mayor Caseley noted that the unit was due to ship on August 23rd and to date, its installation appears to be on schedule.

7.7.4 Councillor Gallant noted the rear entrance of the Credit Union Centre was not paved in the recent re-surfacing and requested that crushed asphalt be added to the area.

7.7.5 Councillor Gallant noted that some ballfield users continue to drive around the existing barricades that have been installed to ensure the safety of children and users. It was requested that gates be installed to prevent users from accessing the area.

7.8 Mayor’s Report

7.8.1 Moved by Deputy Mayor Spencer, seconded by Councillor MacRae to approve the Mayor’s report for the month of July 2023 as presented by Mayor Caseley. Unanimously carried.

7.8.2 Mayor Caseley requested that Town Council direct the CAO to have preliminary design options and cost estimates developed for the potential development of a parking area on the lands located behind the Credit Union, and a review of the railyard parking lot to determine if additional parking spaces can be created. Town Council unanimously supported having a review done on both properties.

7.9 Federation of PEI Municipalities (FPEIM) Report

7.9.1 Nil.

7.10 Heart of PEI Initiative Report

7.10.1 The Provincial Government has approved the location of the proposed caboose art installation on the corner of Gerlad McCarville Drive and Hwy 2.

7.11 Kensington Area Chamber of Commerce (KACC) Report

7.11.1 *Nil.*

7.12 2023 – 55 Plus Games

7.12.1 Deputy Mayor Spencer confirmed that planning is well underway and the committee has received \$2,500 in donations, gift cards, and prizes.

8. New Business

8.1 Request for Decisions

8.1.1 Credit Union Centre – Rural Growth Initiative (RGI) Funding Program

8.1.1.1 *Moved by Councillor Mann, seconded by Councillor Gallant*

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Kensington Town Council authorize staff to proceed with submitting a Rural Growth Initiative Funding Program application to the Province of PEI to facilitate the Kensington Credit Union Centre and Kensington Fire Department 2023 Capital Projects, as presented and in the amount of \$123,789.00. Town Council understands that they will be responsible for any future operations and maintenance costs associated with and resulting from the project.

Unanimously carried.

8.1.1.2 Councillor Gallant inquired if the installation of heat pumps in room #5 and the Kensington Wild dressing rooms are included in this project. Mayor Caseley confirmed the heat pumps identified in this project are for the Fire Department and noted that the installation of dressing room heat pumps can be looked at through alternative funding.

8.1.2 Guaranteed Basic Income Benefits for Prince Edward Island

8.1.2.1 *Moved by Deputy Mayor Spencer, seconded by Councillor Doucette*

WHEREAS the Town of Kensington recognizes the importance of addressing income inequality;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Kensington recognizes that the downstream impacts of poverty within our community puts unsustainable pressure on our limited resources to deliver necessary public services as we struggle to keep up with downloaded responsibilities;

AND WHEREAS a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income Program has the potential to provide financial stability to our residents, improve our residents physical and mental health, reduce poverty, and stimulate local economic growth;

AND WHEREAS a joint effort between the Provincial and Federal Government is essential to design, implement, and fund a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income program effectively;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Kensington hereby direct the Mayor to draft and send a letter to the Prime Minister of Canada, PEI Members of Parliament, and the Premier of Prince Edward Island urging them to work collaboratively to develop a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to eradicate poverty and homelessness, and to ensure that everyone has sufficient income to meet their basic needs.

Unanimously carried.

8.1.3 2023 Annual Sidewalk Maintenance

8.1.3.1 Moved by Councillor Toombs, seconded by Councillor Gallant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Town Council award a contract to MacAusland's Excavation Services for the Town's Annual 2023 Sidewalk Maintenance as per their quote dated August 1, 2023 in the amount of \$13,500 plus HST.

Unanimously carried.

8.1.3.2 Councillor Gallant noted a section of sidewalk along Victoria Street E. between the Confederation Trail and Russell Street that was not included in the list of sidewalk maintenance and requested it be looked at by the Public Works Department.

8.3 Other Matters

8.3.1 Mayor Caseley noted that the Annual Harvest Festival parade is scheduled for Saturday, August 19 at 2:00 pm – Council members were encouraged to attend.

8.3.2 Mayor Caseley confirmed that Committee of Council will not meet in the month of August.

- 8.3.3** Mayor Caseley and Councillor Gallant discussed the Town of Kensington Harvest Festival Golf Tournament team. Any Council members wishing to play are asked to contact Councillor Gallant.
- 8.3.4** Councillor Toombs inquired about the electrical pole moving project along Broadway St. S. Mayor Caseley confirmed that it is hopeful to have the work completed in 2023 but a date has not been scheduled at this time.
- 8.3.5** Councillor Toombs inquired about the installation of light plugs on poles for the purpose of Christmas lights. Mayor Caseley confirmed that we are still working with Maritime Electric to have the project complete.
- 8.3.6** Councillor Gallant noted the positive feedback he has received regarding the newly installed crosswalk lights.
- 8.3.7** Councillor Gallant expressed his frustration regarding recent negative comments on social media pertaining to crosswalks within the Town. The many positive changes and upgrades that have taken place within the Town are sadly often gone unrecognized.
- 8.3.8** Deputy Mayor Spencer expressed his appreciation to Valley Eye Photography for stopping by the Kensington Fire Department to take photos and spotlight our facility.
- 8.3.9** Deputy Mayor Spencer inquired about the Town's general preparedness for the upcoming hurricane season. Mayor Caseley noted that areas of concern were addressed during the clean-up following Fiona.
- 8.3.10** Deputy Mayor Spencer requested the installation of a bus shelter be re-visited for the Broadway Street S. bus pick-up/drop-off area. Mayor Caseley noted that Mr. Baker plans to have a meeting with T3 Transit regarding a bus shelter following his return.
- 8.3.11** Councillor Gallant expressed support for the installation of a bus shelter. Mayor Caseley also noted that the Town is looking into a park-and-go location.

9. Correspondence

- 9.1** A request from Pat Kelly on behalf of the co-ed softball tournament requesting the Town to waive the ballfield rental fees. The tournament is a fundraiser for the Kensington Minor Hockey Association.

Mayor Caseley noted that the Credit Union Centre must start operating on user fees and cannot afford to donate or waive rental fees. If Town Council agree to waive the fees, then it should come as a donation from the Town.

Councillor Gallant noted that the organizers of the Danny Hughes Memorial Tournament were looking for a canteen operator for their event. It was noted that the canteen would have been an excellent fundraiser for Kensington Minor Hockey Association, as opposed to them coming and asking for the ballfield fees to be waived.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Spencer, seconded by Councillor MacRae to approve a sponsorship towards the co-ed softball tournament - Kensington Minor Hockey Association fundraiser in the amount of up to \$300.00 to cover the ballfield rental fees.

4 for – 2 opposed (Gallant & Toombs). Motion carried.

9.2 A thank you note from Sharon, John Denver & Norma Jean expressing their appreciation for the newly installed lighted crosswalks.

9.3 An email from Elizabeth Hubley requesting the Town consider the re-zoning of a portion of her property located at 33 Victoria Street PID No. 77057 from R1 to R2 for the construction of a duplex.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Spencer, seconded by Councillor Gallant to direct staff to move forward with the evaluation of Elizabeth Hubley’s request to re-zone a portion of her property located at 33 Victoria Street PID No. 77057 from its current zoning of Single Residential Zone (R1) to Low-Density Residential Zone (R2) to facilitate the construction of a duplex.

Unanimously carried.

9.4 Information on Touch a Truck Fundraiser event. – *Received*

9.5 Donation request from Heart & Stroke. – *Received*

Councillor MacRae declared a conflict and excused herself from the Council Chamber at 8:10 pm.

9.6 A request from Councillor Bonnie MacRae requesting the Town’s consideration of the placement of a “Locks of Love” art installation near the Alysha Toombs Memorial Park at an estimated cost of \$3,000.

Town Council discussed the request proposed by Councillor MacRae and determined that more information was required prior to making a final decision. Town Council addressed the following items:

- Who is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep following the installation?
- Preference that a committee is responsible for the project.
- Having more Community sponsors and organizations contributing to the cost would make it more meaningful within the community. Suggestion of the Heart of PEI.

- Requested a clear photo representing what the art piece would look like.
- Concern regarding limited traffic for the proposed location vs. the cost.
- Proposed lands currently owned by the Province of Prince Edward Island.

Town Council invited Councillor MacRae back to the Council Chambers to request who the Group of Individuals that currently support the project includes. It was confirmed that the supporting group is the Chamber of Commerce. Council determined that if the request is a Chamber of Commerce initiative, the request should have been brought forward by them as opposed to Councillor MacRae. It was noted that a cheque has been written to the Town of Kensington/Bonnie MacRae for a project that is not currently approved by the Town.

Town Council determined that their preference is to have a community group take the lead on the project and that fundraising be initiated with an appropriate letter.

- 9.7 A thank-you note from Bjorn Schmidt – recipient of the Town of Kensington Educational Scholarship.
- 9.8 A letter of response from the Department of Transportation regarding the Town’s letter of support to have ATV’s access public roadways.
- 9.9 A donation request from the Canadian Red Cross. – *Received.*
- 9.10 A thank-you letter from Simba Hove for the Town’s contributions to KISH Graduation donations.
- 9.11 A thank-you card from the family of Councillor Doucette for the donation in memory of his late grandfather.
- 9.12 A thank-you card from the family of Marvin Mill for the donation in memory of his late father.

10. In-Camera (Closed session)

10.1 *Nil.*

11. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Toombs, seconded by Councillor Gallant to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. Unanimously carried.

Geoff Baker,
CAO

Rowan Caseley,
Mayor