

Joint Town & County Council Advisory Committee Agenda

Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 6:00 pm

Council Chambers

Municipal Administration Building

285 Beech Hill Road

Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

1. Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Receipt of Notes from Previous Meeting
4. Business Arising from the Meeting Notes
5. Delegations
 - a. Dominic Boyd: Dementia-Friendly Communities
 - b. Jeux L'Acadie Organizing Committee
6. Continuing Business
7. New Business
 - a. New Years Levee
8. In-Camera Items

This subject matter falls within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as that which a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended that a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session. Materials will follow.

9. Additions to the Agenda
10. Adjournment

Joint Town and County Council Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 18, 2019
Antigonish Town Hall
Council Chambers
274 Main Street
Antigonish, NS
B2G 2C4

Present: Warden O. McCarron
Councillor M. MacLellan
Councillor V. Chisholm
Councillor D. MacDonald
Councillor B. MacFarlane
Mayor L. Boucher
Deputy Mayor D. MacInnis
Councillor W. Cormier
Councillor A. Murray
Councillor D. Roberts

Regrets: Councillor N. Corbett
Councillor R. Deveau
Councillor J. Dunbar
Councillor G. Mattie
Deputy Warden H. Stewart
Councillor M. Farrell
Councillor J. MacPherson
S. Scannell, Director of Community
Development, Town of Antigonish

Staff Present: G. Horne, Municipal Clerk-
Treasurer, County of Antigonish
S. Donovan, Strategic
Initiatives, Antigonish County
CAO J. Lawrence, Town of Antigonish
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk, Town of
Antigonish
Kate Gorman, Marketing &
Communications, Town of Antigonish
Lindsay Basinger, Strategic Initiatives,
Town of Antigonish

Also Present: Colleen Cameron - Antigonish Affordable Housing
S. Thompson (& T. Greenlaw) – Re: Film Production
V. MacAulay & G. Fulmer – Re: Physician Recruitment

Call to Order

Mayor L. Boucher called the Joint Council Advisory Committee meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor L. Boucher called for any additions to the agenda.

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda as presented.” Motion carried.

Approval of Joint Council Minutes

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Minutes of the June 19, 2019 Joint Council meeting as presented.” Motion carried.

Delegations

a. Colleen Cameron – Antigonish Affordable Housing (AAH)

C. Cameron, along with R. McCarthy took to the podium to provide a PowerPoint presentation.

It was noted that four (4) homes were opened in 2017, and ten (10) additional homes in 2018. The homes provide tenants with a chance to reduce their heating costs, grow their own food in a community garden, and together, build a strong neighborhood.

C. Cameron and R. MacCarthy provided an overview of their Social, Environmental and Financial pillars and spoke to the positive social benefits to the residents, the foremost being the assistance being provided by their community navigator who helps tenants access services and supports.

Councils were advised on the benefits of their environmental pillar to which residents have provided positive comments on air quality and reduced heating costs

C. Cameron spoke to their financial sustainability, through all levels of government, but most importantly the town and county.

Councils were advised on the energy features of the buildings and appliances, and it was noted that the units feature heat pumps and heat recovery systems.

C. Cameron advised that the group just received funding to install sidewalk from the units to the street, and yesterday received funding from the County for solar panels, with the Antigonish Energy Coop and Efficiency NS also assisting.

Councils were advised that AAH have a commitment from Antigonish County to hold land on Appleseed Drive for their next development, which will be located across from the schools and will be a different development than the current housing and will include electricity with the rent.

Councils applauded the presenters for their presentation.

Mayor L. Boucher praised the presenters for what they have done and continue to do.

It was noted that when the Mayor and Warden are speaking with potential doctors, they do let them know we do have affordable housing. It was further recognized that what they are doing is being copied around the province.

b. Shelley Thompson & Terry Greenlaw Re: Film Production

Mayor L. Boucher welcomed S. Thompson to the meeting. She took to the podium and provided a brief background on her presentation.

S. Thompson presented a short video which was shot in Windsor, Nova Scotia, highlighting the financial benefits to a community when a film is produced there.

S. Thompson advised that they are proposing to bring a feature film here, noting it is her first feature film, and spoke to the financial support they have received. She noted they have put a \$1.5 million budget together (with a small gap to fill). She provided a brief overview of the film.

Councils were advised on the extensive costs to come to Antigonish. S. Thompson noted she would like to bring half of the shoot here (perhaps five days). She further noted that St. FX have come on board with accommodations for their staff for half price.

T. Greenlaw, the film's producer, spoke to their funding partnerships and tax credits.

Councils were advised that filming costs are significant, and that even with the accommodation reduction, costs will still run approximately \$70,000 for the cast and crew only. It was noted they are contemplating one week in Antigonish but would like to do two weeks.

A question and answer session followed with most of the conversation around the economic benefits the community would receive during and after the film shooting.

At 6:52 PM Mayor L. Boucher thanked the delegates and S. Thompson left the meeting.

Councils applauded the presentation, and the delegates were thanked for their attendance.

c. Victoria MacAulay & Grayson Fulmer Re: Physician Recruitment

Mayor L Boucher called on V. MacAulay and G. Fulmer to take to the podium

G. Fulmer introduced himself, his position and introduced V. MacAulay. A PowerPoint presentation was made.

G. Fulmer provided comment on the context of physician recruitment noting it is extremely competitive. He stated key players include the provincial government, Department of Health, Office of Immigration and Community Culture and Heritage.

Councils were advised on the roles of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Doctors Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) and Community – most important, people choosing to work here, want to work here.

An overview of the history since the creation of the Nova Scotia Health Authority (2015) was provided, and it was noted that in 2017/18 a Recruitment Strategy was created. 2018/19 Recruitment Strategy evaluated and enhanced, and the More than Medicine Website was launched.

G. Fulmer spoke to the challenges of no longer having local Health Authorities. He noted there has been a significant increase in recruiters in Nova Scotia (from 3 to 10).

Councils were advised on the number of new staff for this area and the province and noted that 10 doctors will soon be receiving offers. He then spoke to the number of new physicians hired, and the number of site visits both locally and provincially.

G. Fulmer spoke to international recruitment as well as a physician stream through the provincial nominee program.

Councils were advised on ongoing recruitment efforts, the hiring of a recruiter to focus specifically on resident doctors, and training being done on immigration, licensing and candidate experience.

G. Fulmer stated they have improved reporting and tracking and have spent a lot of time and money rebuilding their data base. He spoke to communications, marketing and visibility - a new website with 100,000 views since October, weekly newsletter to physicians and stakeholders, and a monthly recruitment update. He noted they are also doing a targeted digital advertising campaign for high needs specialties in Canada, US and UK.

Councils were advised that the number of recruitment events they attend have doubled and that they are bringing physician ambassadors to events. G. Fulmer spoke to other key initiatives currently being worked on, including a Practice Ready Assessment program being put back into place and a mentorship program is also being worked on.

G. Fulmer stated that there has been increased communities and physician involvement with more physicians involved in recruitment activities and spoke to the need to have one-on-one time between a current physician and potential recruit.

At 7:35 PM Mayor L. Boucher provided closing comments and the delegates left the meeting.

Continuing Business

a. Event & Recreation Facilities Update - Shirlyn Donovan and Jeff Lawrence

S. Donovan took to the podium to provide an update on the 55+ Games, she acknowledged Councillors Roberts and Chisholm for their commitment to the Games success.

Councils were advised that 717 participated in the Games, 22 events were held, with curling yet to be completed due to cos and high risk. It was noted the curling will take place in October, with 80+ participants.

S. Donovan noted 15% of participants were local, that there was a great turnout for both the opening and closing ceremonies. Very positive feedback was received from surveys completed by the participants with many indicating they would want to return to the area and had great experience while here.

It was noted that a lot of locals qualified for the national 55+ Games.

S. Donovan spoke to statistics participants attendance in various categories, with a breakdown of where participants were from and what they participated in.

Councils were advised that a group comprised of K. Gorman, S. Scannell, herself and B. Hale are working on strategy they will be presented to both Councils soon.

Councillor D. Roberts noted that sponsorships were phenomenal, and volunteers were amazing.

Mayor L. Boucher congratulated everyone on a job well done.

J. Lawrence stated that the Sandlot Accessible field had been completed and within budget. He noted work is ongoing for the All Wheels Park, with the expectation of the park being finished in October. St. FX will allow cameras to be installed through their video system and they have agreed to monitor the cameras as well. J. Lawrence noted the Town's Electric Utility will be installing lights, that St. FX has offered to cost-share on the paving across from the Park, (approximately \$10,000. Each), and that New Line is looking after garbage, etc.

a. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility Update

J. Lawrence noted that the previous evening Town Council authorized him to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the HHW facility. G. Horne stated that the storage can has arrived, venting is in and work is going well.

New Business

a. Proposed Amendments to the Joint Police Advisory Board (L. Basinger)

L. Basinger introduced herself and spoke to proposed amendments to the Police Advisory Board noting they changes had been approved by the Police Advisory Committee.

Additions to Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Adjournment

At 7:51 PM it was Moved and Seconded to adjourn the meeting.