ATTENDING
Mayor Jeff Cantwell, Deputy Mayor Carl Oldham, Councillor Mercedes Brian, Councillor Wendy Donovan, Councillor Wendy Elliott, Councillor Jodi MacKay, Councillor Oonagh Proudfoot, Chief Administrative Officer Erin Beaudin, and Recording Secretary Dan Stovel

ALSO ATTENDING
Director Corporate Services Jen Boyd, Director Finance Mike MacLean, Director Public Works & Parks Kevin Kerr, Director Community Development Chrystal Fuller, Manager Economic Development Marianne Gates, and interested members of the public

CALL TO ORDER
Chair, Mayor Cantwell, called the meeting to order at 8:34 am

1. AGENDA APPROVAL
01-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED
Amendments:
• In Camera session moved to immediately following approval of Minutes
THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED WITH THE ABOVE NOTED CHANGES CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
a. 02-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2017 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED
Amendments:
• Pg 3 – 3rd quarter financial update report: Amend “...vetted through the Audi Committee...” to read “...vetted through the Audit Committee...”
• Pg 7 – 2017/18 Budget Report: Amend “Avery term of LTD” to read “Average term of LTD”
THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED WITH THE ABOVE NOTED CHANGES CARRIED

3. ADJOURNED TO IN CAMERA MEETING
03-01-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BE ADJOURNED AT 8:36 AM TO AN IN-CAMERA MEETING UNDER THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT, SECTION 22(2)(C) – PERSONNEL:
a. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS CARRIED

4. IN-CAMERA MEETING ADJOURNED
04-01-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE IN-CAMERA MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BE ADJOURNED AT 8:49 AM CARRIED
5. REGULAR MEETING RECONVENE
05-01-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BE RECONVENE AT 8:50 AM

CARRIED

6. CAO REPORT:
The CAO’s report was presented to Council as part of the Agenda Package

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS
   a. EXTERNAL
      (1). VALLEY WASTE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VWRM), Councillor Wendy Elliott
         • The Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority met on February 15, 2017 in keeping with the normal meeting schedule
         • The next meeting of the VWRM Authority is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2017

      (2). KINGS TRANSIT AUTHORITY (KTA), Councillor Mercedes Brian
         • KTA met on February 22, 2017
         • The following issues were highlighted in the General Manager’s Report for February 2017:
           o Service Interruption
           o Bus Purchases
           o Service Vehicle
           o Full Time Employment
         • The Kings Transit Board received the financial report but did not accept them
         • The Board is actively looking for a replacement for financial services
         • The next regular meeting of the KTA is scheduled for March 22, 2017

      (3). ANNAPOLIS VALLEY TRAILS COALITION (AVTC), Councillor Jodi MacKay
         • AVTC met on February 23, 2017 in Bridgetown
         • Kentville has pulled out of the Trails Coalition

06-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO PREPARE A LETTER TO THE MAYOR OF KENTVILLE TO CONSIDER REMAINING AS A PARTNER IN THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY TRAILS COALITION

CARRIED

(4). VALLEY COMMUNITY FIBRE NETWORK (VCFN), Mayor Jeff Cantwell
    • Nothing significant to report

(5). WOLFVILLE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WBDC)
    • Nothing significant to report
b. INTERNAL
(1). ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE, Councillor Mercedes Brian
• The Environmental Sustainability Committee met on Monday, March 6th
• The Committee reviewed the Draft Operations Plan and is working on developing a Work Plan for the Committee
• The Committee agreed that they would look at meeting formally on a quarterly basis but to meet more often on an informal basis

8. STAFF REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION:
a. RFD 014-2017: COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS
07-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPOINT, EFFECTIVE MARCH 21, 2017, THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO THE SOURCE WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD OF TERMS INDICATED, WITH THE TERM OF SERVICE TO EXPIRE END-DECEMBER OF THE APPLICABLE YEAR:
• JOHN BRZUSTOWSKI – THREE-YEAR APPOINTMENT
• JENNIFER KERSHAW – TWO-YEAR APPOINTMENT

CARRIED
08-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPOINT, EFFECTIVE MARCH 21, 2017, THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY MEMBER TO THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE PERIOD OF TERM INDICATED, WITH THE TERM OF SERVICE TO EXPIRE END-DECEMBER OF THE APPLICABLE YEAR
• ROBERT LUTES – TWO-YEAR APPOINTMENT

CARRIED

b. RFD 015-2017: SOURCE WATER PROTECTION POLICY 910-001 AMENDMENT
09-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AMENDED POLICY 910-001, WHICH AMENDS MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOURCE WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE, EFFECTIVE MARCH 21, 2017

CARRIED

c. RFD 072-2016: COMMUNITY RECREATION ENGAGEMENT GROUP
• The community development model of recreation involves working with the community to help develop recreation initiatives and then work towards implementing an action plan to achieve them
• Under this model, staff acts as a facilitator and support community groups and volunteers to effectively apply their experiences, knowledge, priorities, and general expertise in delivering recreation programs and services

10-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE CREATION OF A COMMUNITY RECREATION ENGAGEMENT GROUP FOR THE TOWN OF WOLFVILLE

CARRIED
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d. RFD 019-2017: DEVOUR! REQUEST
- Council received a presentation from Devour on January 17, 2017 which requested funding in addition to the Strategic Partnership Program

11-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL DENY THE REQUEST TO INCREASE THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM GRANT TO DEVOUR!

CARRIED

e. RFD 020-2017: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – WBDC AND REN

WOLFSVILLE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WBDC)
- In order to guide the relationship with the WBDC, staff is recommending consideration of a policy that outlines key issues such as:
  - The requirement for a funding agreement and what should be included in such an agreement
  - Notice of withdrawal provisions
  - Establishing a range of terms for the funding agreement
  - Reporting requirements

12-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPROVE POLICY 710-004, THE WBDC FUNDING POLICY

CARRIED

13-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO ENTER INTO A TWO-YEAR FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE WBDC ENDING MARCH 31, 2019

CARRIED

14-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE WBDC FUNDING REQUEST FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2017-18 OPERATING BUDGET PROCESS

CARRIED

VALLEY REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK (REN)
- A number of changes impact the evaluation of the Valley REN:
  - Improved opportunities for regional cooperation and discussion with other Kings municipal units
  - The REN hired its full staff complement
  - The REN published its first operation plan
  - The REN is in talks with the province to secure multi-year funding
  - All the other REN’s in the province are up and running, with the exception of one

15-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPROVE EXTENDING THE TOWN OF WOLFVILLE’S NOTICE FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK TO MARCH 31, 2018

CARRIED

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IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO BRING A FULL EVALUATION OF THE TOWN’S MEMBERSHIP WITH THE VALLEY REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK FOR COUNCIL’S CONSIDERATION IN MARCH 2018

MOTION 16-03-17 AMENDED TO READ: THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL REQUEST THAT THE VALLEY REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK (REN) LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING ISSUES IN 2017-2018:

- A REVIEW OF THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE,
- A REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, AND
- A CONSIDERATION OF SUB-REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AND THAT STAFF BRING BACK A FULL EVALUATION OF THE TOWN’S MEMBERSHIP WITH THE VALLEY REN FOR COUNCIL’S CONSIDERATION IN MARCH 2018

CARRIED

9:58am Chair called a break to Committee of the Whole Meeting
10:07am Committee of the Whole Meeting Reconvened

f. RFD 016-2017: ONE-TIME CAPITAL GRANT REQUEST – WOLFVILLE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

• The Wolfville School Playground Improvement Committee is seeking a $100,000 contribution for capital improvement to the Wolfville School playground

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE GRANT FOR THE WOLFVILLE PLAYGROUND IN THE AMOUNT OF $100,000 TO THE 2017/18 OPERATING BUDGET PROCESS

CARRIED

18-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO ALLOCATE FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT OF $100,000 FROM THE 2017/18 OPERATING BUDGET, TO THE SOCCER PITCH FOR THE WOLFVILLE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

CARRIED

g. RFD 018-2017: ONE-TIME CAPITAL GRANT REQUEST – LANDMARK EAST SCHOOL EXTENSION

• Landmark East Association is seeking financial support of $100,000 from the Town of Wolfville as a contribution to a capital campaign to raise 2.4 Million to build a new learning center as an expansion on their current Landmark East School location

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD THE GRANT FOR LANDMARK EAST SCHOOL IN THE AMOUNT OF $100,000 TO THE 2017/18 OPERATING BUDGET PROCESS

20-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TAKE THE LANDMARK EAST SCHOOL EXPANSION MOTION 20-03-17 OFF THE TABLE

CARRIED
22-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FORWARD
THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPROVE FUNDING OF
LANDMARK EAST SCHOOL UNDER THE ONE-TIME CAPITAL GRANT REQUEST
CARRIED

23-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
FORWARD THE GRANT FOR LANDMARK EAST SCHOOL IN THE AMOUNT OF $100,000 TO THE 2017/18
OPERATING BUDGET PROCESS
CARRIED

h. RFD 018-2017: LAND ACQUISITION – WICKWIRE AVENUE SIDEWALK
• The Development Agreement against the property at 30 Wickwire Ave requires the property owner
to transfer a portion of land to the Town for use as a sidewalk. The sidewalk, through negotiations
with the property owner, is proposed to be extended to run further along Wickwire Avenue and a
motion of Council is required to formally accept the additional land
CARRIED

24-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPROVE
ACCEPTING THE LAND ON WICKWIRE AVENUE SHOWN AS PARCEL R ON SURVEY PLAN DWG 14-023-22
BY B. DAVISON SURVEYING AND ENGINEERING, DATED DECEMBER 18, 2016, FOR USE AS A PUBLIC
SIDEWALK FOR THE NOMINAL FEE OF $1.00
CARRIED

i. RFD 021-2017: SPRING 2017 DEBENTURE ISSUE APPROVAL
• Annually the Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC) provides two opportunities for municipalities to
participate in debenture issues to meet their long-term debt funding requirements. There is a spring
and a fall debenture issue. The dollar amounts leveraged through the combined debt requirements
of the provinces municipalities allow participants to obtain borrowing rates not otherwise available
• The Town of Wolfville typically participates in the spring issue to obtain long term debt funding for
capital projects completed in the previous fiscal year (or completed early in current year)
CARRIED

25-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION: THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE
ATTACHED RESOLUTION FOR PRE-APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION IN THE SPRING DEBENTURE ISSUE,
WITH THE FOLLOWING MAXIMUM PARAMETERS:

Street Infrastructure,
   Incl. sidewalks, underground sanitary, storm systems $ 590,000 15 - 20 years
Library Roof 150,000 15 years
Storm Water system – Waterfront Park 110,000 15 years
Sewage Treatment Plant – Dredge Lagoon 125,000 15 years
Comfort Station Generator 75,000 10 years

Water Utility – Distribution lines 317,500 20 years

TOTAL BORROWING $1,367,500

Maximum interest rate set at 5.5%.
CARRIED
j. INFORMATION REPORT: COUNCIL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017/18
- In December 2016 Council approved amendments to the Council Conference & Professional Development Policy, which requires members of Council to submit Conference & Professional Development Planning Forms to build a four-year plan
- The report was prepared for Council to consider options for allocation of Council professional development dollars
- An update of recommended Council Professional Development will be provided in April at the Committee of the Whole meeting

9. REGULAR MEETING ADJOURNED
26-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BE ADJOURNED AT 11:58 AM
CARRIED

10. REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED
27-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BE RECONVENED AT 1:04 PM
CARRIED

k. RFD 022-2017: 2017/18 BUDGET AND OPERATIONAL PLAN
OPERATIONS PLAN
- This is the first time Council has received a four-year Operational Plan and Budget and the Plan will continue to be refined as more information becomes available – it is a “living plan” and a roadmap of where Council might go over the next four years
- The Plan serves to operationalize Council’s one-page Strategic Plan which sets out the high-level strategic direction of Council
- The Operations Plan provides details on what staff expects to complete over the next year, as well as goals for the succeeding three years
- The Operations Plan provides many details on what staff expects to complete over the next year, as well as goals for the succeeding three years. In terms of budget dollars, it is important to recall the following for 2017/18:
  - No change to the residential or commercial tax rate. Approximately 88% of residents will see an increase of 1.4% (CPI) OR less in their tax bill.
  - Enhanced Mill & Pave Program for Main Street included at a cost of $60,000. This focuses on the west end of Town and will be funded by way of Operating Reserves with similar approach projected through to 2020/21.
  - WBDC funding increased to $100,000 to be funded by way of an area rate levy. Proposal is for a single area rate versus the two tier (inside/outside downtown) system used in the past.
  - Sewer rate increase required to correct previous years’ error in setting rate, and to enable the sewer rates to contribute an increased amount to capital reserves.
  - Professional Development dollars maintained at 2016/17 budget levels, i.e. budget cuts from a year ago, have not been built back into upcoming fiscal year.
o Summer recreation programming to be contracted to Acadia University again, assuming mutually agreeable terms can be reached.

o The MPS Review Project has been extended thru the full 2017/18 year with additional resources being funded by way of Operating Reserves.

o Requested one-off MPS amendments (2 identified) have been added at a cost of $25,000 to be funded by way of Operating Reserves.

o Budget for VWRM has been reduced by amount of anticipated share of year end surplus by VWRM for the 2016/17 year.

o Kings Transit budget increase offsets potential savings Town could have realized with the retirement of the 2005 debenture issue incurred for the purchase of buses a decade ago.

o Grants to Organization budget maintained at 2016/17 level. Based on revised SPP recipients approved by Council last May, this effectively reduces the dollars left for CPP recipients to $11,000. This is less than the amount paid out to CPP recipients in ‘16/17 as the CPP portion was over budget for the year.

o Additional $5,000 allocated to Historical Society grant bringing total to $10,000 ($5,000 SPP and $5,000 as requested)

o REN contributions continued in 2017/18, with likely continued review of effectiveness of staying in this regional partnership.

o Budget to assist with the Mona Parsons project included at $15,000, to be funded from Operating Reserves.

o Repairs to the wharf at Waterfront Park included at a cost of $20,000, to be funded from Operating Reserves.

o Capital budget funding increased by just over 1% consistent with long term goal to ensure adequate funding for the 10 Year CIP.

2017/18 BUDGET

• Annually the Town is required to approve a balanced budget for the upcoming fiscal year

• The Town of Wolfville has over the last five years, set a goal to have an approved budget by the regular March Council Meeting which has allowed the organization to start each new fiscal year with direction and spending authority in place before the operational year begins on April 1

• Director Finance highlighted budget changes from Version 2 to Version 3 as presented to Committee of the Whole to bring forward a balanced budget

• The proposed budget includes some estimates and assumptions that have risk associated with them. It will be important to monitor financial results as the new fiscal year progresses to ensure the Town can meet the overall objective of a break-even operation

• Staff highlighted that it was important to note that items not included in the draft budget at this stage include:
  o No allowance yet for Landmark East or Wolfville School requests of $100,000 each. Separate RFD’s will be reviewed at March 7th COW prior to budget RFD.
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- No allowance yet for Devour request for funds in addition to amount provided thru the Grant Policy (SPP’s).
- No funding for Valley Business Leaders Initiative.
- No funding for the iValley Smart Communities ask.
- No funding for the Annapolis Valley Chamber of Commerce Tourism request.
- No specific funding for (although some of these groups may qualify under CPP grants);
  - Annapolis Valley Honour Choir
  - International gathering of Town Criers
- Cost Recovery revenue from WBDC per existing Town Policy not included (was $4,400 prior to cut in WBDC funding two years ago). Town has not billed per Policy over last two years in light of the significant reduction in funding provided to WBDC. With possible return to higher funding levels, as proposed in draft budget, Town could start to bill this again. The fee was intended to recover a reasonable fee for staff time required to administer the area rate and deal with collections as it relates to the area rate. Proposed new WBDC Policy removes the requirement to bill for this service fee.
- No discretionary allowance for the Mayor’s Office. There has been some discussion that an allowance may be appropriate and that perhaps $2,000- $5,000 may be a reasonable amount.
- No allowance for grant to Acadia University in relation to an overall athletics agreement, i.e. facility, public access, one time requests, etc. The goal would be to replace the numerous one off deals, requests, old hand shake agreements into a focused funding agreement. Fiscal 2017/18 focus would be on negotiating terms of an agreement, with eye to implementation for 2018/19. This may mean Council would have to consider one off requests over the next year if Acadia had specific initiatives they were seeking funding assistance on, eg. last year’s CIS Women’s Soccer Championship. Staff have been working on these negotiations during 2016/17 but are unresolved to date.

3:00pm  Chair called a break to Committee of the Whole Meeting
3:06pm  Committee of the Whole Meeting Reconvened

The Town continues to rely on use of Operating Reserves. This can be a risk over the long term as annual operating budgets should develop the ability to absorb some new/unexpected costs in order to adapt to changing conditions. Additionally, as has been noted in each of the last few budget years, the Town still needs to rely on the Operating Reserve funds to supplement the 10 Year CIP requirements.

Funding of both one-time grant requests totaling $200,000 from Operating Reserves within the 2017/18 Budget would significantly drain Operating Reserves.
Version 4 of the 2017/18 Operating Budget will be brought forward to Council at the March 21st Town Council meeting. Committee of the Whole directed staff to put forward a Motion for the 2017/18 Operating Budget that would include the following:

- A one-time grant request to Wolfville School Playground in the amount of $50,000, and
- A one cent ($0.01) tax increase to residential assessments

Committee of the Whole discussed that the one-time grant request for Landmark East School would be deferred until the 2018/19 Operating Budget.

11. QUESTION PERIOD

- No questions put forward to Committee of the Whole

12. REGULAR MEETING ADJOURNED

28-03-17 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BE ADJOURNED AT 3:43 PM

Approved by Committee of the Whole Motion 02-04-17, April 4, 2017

As recorded by Dan Stovel, AA Corporate Services/Town Clerk