

Monthly Council Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2020

Present

Mayor Basil Stewart
Deputy Mayor Norma McColeman
Councillor Bruce MacDougall
Councillor Justin Doiron
Councillor Barb Ramsay
Councillor Cory Snow
Councillor Greg Campbell
Councillor Brian McFeely
Councillor Carrie Adams
Rob Philpott, Chief Administrative Officer
Kristen Dunsford, Director of Financial Services
Brian Hawrylak, HR Officer
Dave Poirier, Chief of Police
Ron Enman, Fire Chief
Aaron MacDonald, Director of Technical Services
Members of the Media
Members of the Public

Call to Order / Approval of Agenda / Any Conflict of Interest Declaration

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stewart at 6:30pm

Motion It was moved and seconded;
That The Agenda be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration – There were no conflicts declared by any Council member with any item on the agenda

Approval of the Minutes

Motion It was moved by and seconded;
That The minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated September 21, 2020 and the minutes of the Special Council Meeting dated September 23, 2020 and October 14, 2020 be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried

Presentation

Mayor Stewart made a presentation for the dedication of the 2019 – 2019 City of Summerside Annual Report to the family of the late Sgt. Carl Newson. City Council offered their congratulations to the family.

Financial Services – Chair, Deputy Mayor McColeman

Report:

“Tonight, we will be presenting a resolution to approve our 2019-20 audited consolidated financial statements and accept the 2019-20 annual report. Our financial statements and annual report will be posted on our website in the next day or so. Here are some of the highlights from our 2019-20 fiscal year, please refer to our annual report for more details:

- *Net debt has decreased by \$2.2 million.*
- *In accordance with Public Sector Accounting standards our consolidated statement of operations is reporting an annual surplus of \$3.4 million. This compares to a budgeted surplus, calculated on the same basis, of \$2.5 million. The additional gas tax allocation received during 2019-20 accounts for most of the variance between budget and actual.*
- *Long term debt has increased but this was planned to allow for infrastructure projects to be accomplished. The City is still well within acceptable debt limits.*
- *Reserves funds continue to be strong.*

Now, for an update on the status of our utility accounts receivable. As of October 14, 2020, the following is being reported:

- *Total overdue balance is \$214,900 compared to \$251,500 at September 15, 2020.*
- *This overdue balance comes from 610 utility customer accounts (of which 30 are commercial accounts and 580 from residential accounts)*
- *Approximately 10% or \$21,600 of the overdue balance is greater than 180 days old (this compares to 20% or \$65,400 at the end of July 2020)*

For those customers who have outstanding balances and did not apply for the COVID-19 Utility Customer Support Program will be subject to our collection process which may include disconnection for non-payment. The collection process has begun with collection notices being generated and sent to customers.

My report today includes our preliminary financial results as of September 30, 2020. These preliminary results show a deficit of \$54,000 which is not unexpected due to expectations of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on operations. We continue to review these results with individual departments and are developing a projection to determine potential operating results for the 2020-21 fiscal year and options available to mitigate against the expected loss of revenue and increase in costs.

We are starting to plan for the preparation of our 2021-22 budget and will provide further details once the schedule has been confirmed.

Resolution COS 20-095 It was moved and seconded:

WHEREAS an application was received from Billy MacKendrick for a Conditional Use Approval to allow a home-based business (car detailing) at 490 North Market St. under the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw*;

AND WHEREAS the conditional use approval was denied by the Development Officer on August 25, 2020, based on the home-based business occupying more than the allowed 25% of the dwelling floor area;

AND WHEREAS under Section 5.14 c of the City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw, an applicant, who is denied a conditional use permit by the Development Officer, either in respect of a new permit for a home based business, or renewal, reassignment or amendment of any existing permit, may request in writing within 21 days of the decision for their application to be reviewed by Council. Council, after hearing the recommendation of the Planning Board, may approve or deny the permit;

AND WHEREAS the Planning Board, reviewed the application and made a recommendation on September 1, 2020;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the application from Billy MacKendrick for a Conditional Use Approval for a home-based business to allow a car detailing business, be approved.

The application did not bear the recommendation of the Planning Board meeting held on September 1, 2020.

Discussion:

Councillor Snow stated that there were issues that maybe caused confusion through the process and while the bylaw will be going to the Bylaw and Policy Review Committee, he looks forward to it and hopes it will make the process easier for applicants.

Resolution defeated 8-0

Resolution COS 20-096 It was moved and seconded:

Whereas an application was received from Duke and Betsy Cormier at 285 All Weather Highway, PID #70730.

And Whereas Section 8.4 of the City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw states that no residential accessory building shall exceed a maximum height of 4.5m (14.5 feet).

And Whereas Section 7.2 of the zoning bylaw allows for a variance to be granted after Council has considered the following tests:

- a. That the hardship is due to unique physical conditions of the lot or property, including small lot size, irregular lot shape, existing building location on the property, or exceptional topographical conditions, which make it impractical to develop in strict conformity with Bylaw standards. Exceptional topographical conditions may include, but are not limited to: trees, slope of the land, etc.

- b. That the proposed variance meets the general intent of the official plan.
- c. That the proposed variance meets the general intent of the zone.
- d. That the proposed variance would not impact negatively on adjacent properties, or on the essential character of the surrounding neighborhood, including taking into consideration any comments from neighbors.

Be It Resolved that Council grant a variance of approximately 15%, to allow the accessory building height of 5.26 meters (17.25 feet), in order to accommodate the same roof slope on the existing residence.

This application bears the recommendation of the Planning Board Meeting of October 6, 2020.

Resolution Carried 8-0

Resolution COS 20-097 It was moved and seconded:

WHEREAS an application was initiated by the City of Summerside (Mike Thususka) for a zoning amendment for a portion of PID # 68742 from Medium Density Residential (R3) zone to High Density Residential (R4) zone under the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw*;

AND WHEREAS zoning bylaw amendment 319, a bylaw to amend the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw* was read and declared as read a first time at the Council meeting held on September 23, 2020;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with section 5.7 of the zoning bylaw, Council shall consider the following general criteria, as applicable:

- Conformity with all requirements of this Bylaw;
- Conformity with the Official Plan;
- Suitability of the site for the proposed development;
- Compatibility of the proposed development with surrounding land uses, including both existing and projected uses;
- Any comments from residents or other interested persons;
- Adequacy of existing water, sewer, road, storm water and electrical services, city parking, and parklands for accommodating the development, and any projected infrastructure requirements;
- Impacts from the development on pedestrian/vehicular access and safety, and on public safety generally;
- Compatibility of the development with environmental, scenic and heritage resources;
- Impacts on City finances and budgets;
- Other matters as specified in this Bylaw;
- Other matters as considered relevant.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT zoning amendment 319, a bylaw to amend the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw* be hereby declared as read a second time.

This bears the recommendation of the Planning Board meeting held on October 6, 2020.

[schedule B is attached]

ZONING AMENDMENT 319

A BYLAW TO AMEND THE CITY OF SUMMERSIDE ZONING BYLAW

The Council of the City of Summerside under authority vested in it by Section 18 and Section 19 of the *Planning Act R.S.P.E.I. 1988 Cap. P-8* hereby enacts as follows:

- I. The zoning for a portion of PID # 68742 shown on Schedule B of the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw*, is designated as High Density Residential (R4) zone, hereby excluding it from its former designation of Medium Density Residential (R3).

Discussion:

Councillor Ramsay asked since the property is currently zoned R3, it is allowed 3 storeys built right now without coming to Council. She asked and received confirmation that if approved R4, an additional level could be added.

Councillor Snow stated that since 3 storeys are currently allowed, going to R4 would allow 1 more storey, but in doing so he stated that he is concerned with possible development going above that. He stated he does not see a big difference going from 3 storeys to 4 storeys, but would have wonder about anything more than that.

Mayor Stewart sought clarification on the number of storeys. Aaron Macdonald, Director of Technical Services stated, that under R4, the standards on that maximum height for that zoning would have to be followed. Anything more would have to follow the process of the bylaw.

Councillor Doiron stated that he wanted to make it clear that he supports the rezoning but he would like to be reassured for the concerns about the type of building, underground parking, impacts to the stream and hopes to be updated on the state of the land before it gets going.

Deputy Mayor McColeman stated that the number of meetings held to hear from the residents within the area along with reports from the staff, the conformity with the bylaw and Official Plan were important factors. An important factor for her was the adequate water, storm water, sewer, road, parking and parklands. Her questions have been satisfied.

Councillor Adams inquired if there are guidelines around density. Aaron MacDonald stated that in R4, there are density requirements. If the re-zoning is approved, the development would have to abide by the density standards. He was unsure of the density difference between R3 and R4.

Councillor McFeely stated that it was suggested to him that he used the words "little stream" when previously speaking about the watercourse on the property and stated that it was a poor choice of words. He stated that the watercourse is important. He stated that the opponents to the project presented in a logical and professional way. He stated if an application comes in for development, it will follow all bylaws and the environmental piece is important to him.

Mayor Stewart inquired if the developer wanted 5 floors, would it have to come back to Council. Aaron MacDonald stated it would as in R4 there is a max height limit. There is one currently built downtown that is 7 storeys, but is in a different zone.

Deputy Mayor McColeman inquired if the building downtown was part of the 25 year vision plan. Aaron MacDonald stated that he believed it could have been up to 10.

Councillor MacDougall stated his concern is the pond behind and that wetland needs to be protected.

Councillor Ramsay stated that this has been hard for her and has asked many questions. She had previously asked what the property would look like if it was zoned R3. She had been provided a graphic to give a visual of what it could look like as R3.

Councillor Snow inquired about the 25 year plan and if the property currently being discussed is in that plan. Aaron MacDonald clarified that the downtown is divided in 4 different zones with different restrictions and heights in the zones, separate than what is being discussed this evening.

Resolution Carried 8-0

Resolution COS 20-098 It was moved and seconded:

WHEREAS an application was initiated by the City of Summerside (Mike Thusuka) for a zoning amendment for a portion of PID # 68742 from Medium Density Residential (R3) zone to High Density Residential (R4) zone under the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw*;

AND WHEREAS zoning bylaw amendment 319, a bylaw to amend the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw*, was read and declared as read at two separate meetings of Council held on different days;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT zoning bylaw amendment 319, a bylaw to amend the *City of Summerside Zoning Bylaw* be hereby formally adopted.

This bears the recommendation of the Planning Board meeting held on October 6, 2020.

Resolution Carried 8-0

Resolution COS 20-100 It was moved and seconded:

WHEREAS the City of Summerside is a Designated Municipality under the Emergency 911 Act:

And Whereas as a Designated Municipality is responsible to name a street, public or private, where the street serves three or more properties:

And Whereas the developer (Abbott and Langille Plumbing Heating & Electrical Inc.) of the public street, wishes to submit the street name Langille, in honor of the family name Langille being the last name of the property co-owner/developer, Brodie Langille;

And Whereas as required by Schedule 'B' – Street Naming Policy of the *City Subdivision & Site Development Bylaw SS-19* Council, shall approve or deny the recommendation or request, by simple resolution, based on:

1. The recommendation of the street naming committee
2. The conformance of the proposed name with this policy
3. Any other considerations that Council considers relevant

Be It Resolved That Council approve the following street name submitted by the developer:

- As per the street name policy, the suffix will be Court, the official street name is **Langille Court**.

This public street is located off Spruce Drive (PID # 70110)

This bears the recommendation of the Planning Board Meeting of October 14, 2020.

Resolution Carried 8-0

Economic Development – Chair, Councillor Brian McFeely

Report:

“Core Block – Just as a quick update for the public, as many now can see the Core Block Project Demolition has begun and is progressing quite nicely. It is hoped in the coming weeks to have all 4 buildings down and the site cleaned up ready for development. As we have all seen online, it is a bit of a bittersweet moment for the community and this project with tons of great memories and great history of these buildings. As with some things, there does come a time when intervention and bold steps have to be taken for the greater good of our Community and downtown and with that we have taken the leadership role to usher in new potential and opportunity for our downtown to grow, to add to its exciting inventory and hopefully to add to our 24 hour population through the next phase. We hope will be a signature multi use building that becomes the new History of Summerside. Unfortunately through this process and in consultation with our engineers and building experts, these buildings were far beyond repair and salvage, contained many hazardous materials and faux features that had to be dealt with by our specialists and contractors for the safety of our contractors and public. Unfortunately given their condition, they could not be salvaged in a meaningful way to be incorporated into the future of the property. We will be working with the development group when plans are announced to ensure that any new development is aligned with the downtown Urban Core Plan vision of 2016

Exciting times ahead for our downtown

Business Directory:

I wanted to provide a quick update on our Business Directory Update Campaign as mentioned last month. We have been conducting this telephone and online survey for the past 8 weeks and are pleased to be 80% through the update. This represents 712 Summerside located business out of a possible 887

On Sept. 10, together with Explorer Solutions, we launched our Business Directory update. Until the end of October, this firm will be soliciting businesses in Summerside primarily by phone to update their information. This is the first major update to the directory in 6 years and will provide the EDO with significant business intelligence, such as our labour force, our space inventory, export markets, and industry codes.

If you have not been contacted yet feel free to reach out to Neil Moore of the Economic Development Office to ensure you are included in this important update

The business directory is more than just a simple business listing service. It is an intelligent multi-functional business, marketing, and economic development planning tool that is used by a diverse user base including: governments, local and international business, tourists, private sector investors, site selectors, job seekers, and the like. For yourself and other business users, whether local or international, the directory is a source to identify networking and marketing opportunities, strategic partners, new markets, industry statistics, potential clients, etc. As a municipality, the information is used for such things as strategic planning, business expansion, attraction and retention, statistic collection, and marketing & promoting Summerside Business. Bottom line, your complimentary business listing provides you with networking, marketing and sales opportunities, whether you operate a home occupation, full or part time business, seasonal or year round enterprise.

Also we did want to highlight the fact that the calls are coming from our marketing consultants Explorer Solutions, so if you get a call from them, they are working on behalf of the Department of Economic Development.

Summerside Business Commons

Summerside Eco Park now referred to as Summerside Business Commons has now finished it necessary infrastructure and lot serving. We are working with our local contractors on some final elements including initial landscaping for the park.

This 14-acre Eco Industrial park is located in the heart of Summerside, close to all amenities and services. It when fully completed offer over 115,000 square feet of leasable space and is designed for optimum energy and cost-effectiveness. It is an integrated light manufacturing/processing hub that maximizes productivity while minimizing resources. Intelligent green features, a wide array of building solutions—including facility sharing, energy and water management

We have been working with various partners and lead generation specialists to grow small to medium size, manufacturing, processing export-based enterprise to call this new park home.

Further we are in the final design stages of our first building which we hope to send to tender in the coming weeks to start construction immediately.

Summerside Accelerator

The office is moving forward to reshape the entrepreneurial landscape in Summerside and to that end is working with a local consultant to finalize the programming details for a new Business Accelerator Program in Summerside, initially coined the Summerside Exchange. Summerside Economic Development realizes the shortcomings of our entrepreneurial services in Summerside and to that end is taking a lead potion to create a better, more structured and programmatic use of the current local resources and infrastructure (like Living Lab). The Exchange will allow Summerside to utilize local resources and attract technologies and capital from abroad as well, which in return will create more jobs, new companies and investment in key infrastructure in the city. In the coming month or two the office will be formally presenting this new concept along with some other very exciting partnerships in the entrepreneurial landscape.

Mr Mayor, there is much more we look forward to sharing in the coming months on some other exciting initiatives that the department has been working on over the past several months. We hope to have a final report later this fall early winter. Our work has been very exciting with many local, national and international partners looking to be part of this new Eco System for helping accelerate business.”

Councillor McFeely stated that discussions are continuing with the APM property on Granville Street.

Councillor Adams stated that it is good to see changes coming with the core block.

Councillor Snow stated that he has people contacting him about the APM property and it has been going on for a long time.

Police/Fire& Emergency – Chair, Councillor Barb Ramsay

Resolution COS 20-101 It was moved and seconded:

Whereas Staff conducted an intersection review at Elm Street and Willow Avenue and determined a 4 way stop is not warranted based on the traffic count and other data

Be it resolved that the intersection of Elm Street and Willow Avenue be made a 4 way stop

Discussion:

Councillor McFeely stated that research shows that 4 way stops work where warranted, but don't work that well and can become more dangerous when not warranted.

Councillor Ramsay stated that this is a school zone and staff are concerned about the safety in the area.

Councillor Doiron stated that it is important to create safe school zones but based on the data on this area, he cannot support this particular 4 way stop.

Councillor Snow stated that he has heard from residents in the area who said a 4 way stop is important to them and he will be supporting the resolution.

Councillor MacDougall stated that he will be supporting this resolution, but not the other two resolutions that are coming.

Councillor Adams stated that she goes through the intersection at least twice a day at the busiest time and there is a need for a 4 way stop.

Deputy Mayor McColeman stated that it is important to listen to the concerns of the residents in the area.

Resolution Carried 5-3 (McFeely, Doiron and Campbell voted nay)

Resolution COS 20-102 It was moved and seconded:

Whereas Staff conducted a review of speeding on Elm Street and excessive speeding does not appear to be problematic

And Whereas Speed bumps should only be considered for a short area requiring a higher level of safety

Be it resolved that speed bumps be placed on Elm Street near Elm Street School

Resolution Carried 5-4 (Campbell, Adams, MacDougall, Doiron voted nay. Mayor Stewart broke tie vote)

Resolution COS 20-103 It was moved and seconded:

Whereas Staff conducted an intersection review at Norman Drive and Highland Avenue and determined a 4 way stop is not warranted based on the traffic count and other data

Be it resolved that the intersection of Norman Drive and Highland Avenue be made a 4 way stop

Discussion:

Councillor Ramsay stated that this area has become busier, with lots of speeding and the message she is getting from residents is that it needs a 4 way stop.

Resolution defeated 1-7 (all councilors with exception of Ramsay voted against)

Resolution COS 20-104 It was moved and seconded:

Whereas Staff conducted an intersection review at Central Street and Maple Avenue and determined a 4 way stop is not warranted based on the traffic count and other data

Be it resolved that the intersection of Central Street and Maple Avenue be made a 4 way stop

Discussion:

Councillor Snow stated that with changes being readied to make at Central and Pope, this may affect traffic at this intersection and should be taken into consideration.

Deputy Mayor McColeman stated that she feels that because there are so many young people and seniors that are in the area, a 4 way stop is warranted. She stated that she has spoken with residents who stated that there are 4 way stop signs being put up that could create bottle necks.

Resolution defeated 3-5 (Councillors Doiron, McFeely, Adams, MacDougall and Campbell voted against)

Police Report:

Committee and Volunteer Work

As a result of the ongoing pandemic, we continued to have meetings during the month with the province, and some of these meetings are now held in person. Several meetings took place during September including: Child Sexual Abuse Advisory Committee, Victims of Family Violence Prevention Committee, Restorative Justice Pilot Planning Session.

Our staff continue to respond to concerns from Public Health for self-isolation, etc.

Training and Service Enhancements

During September members took part in the firearms training with more to be done in October. Members still took some training on-line through CPKN. (Canadian Police Knowledge Network.)

Community Policing Activities

One member took part in the annual Police Officer Memorial Service in Ch*Town. Usually SPS sends several members to this service but we were only allowed to send one member due to the pandemic.

Occurrence Statistics

The following is a list of some of occurrence totals for August 2020

Calls for Service – **621**

Traffic Accidents – **13**

Reported Crimes of Assaults & Threats – **27**

Theft Reports - **32**

Impaired Driving Offences – **4**

Highway Traffic Act Charges **179 (Including 52 Speeding)**

Break & Enter Reports (Business & Residential) - **10**

Drug Enforcement Charges – **11**

Fire Report:

September 2020 Report

There were 13 calls for assistance during the month of September; they are as follows:

1 - Medical First Responder Call

1 - Mutual Aid Call

5 - Alarm Panel Calls

2 - Structure Fires

1 - Outdoor Fire Violation

1 - Grass Fire

1 - Cancelled Call

1 - Miscellaneous Call

During the month of September firefighters trained a total of 277.5 hours. Some of the sessions included:

- ***Course at UPEI***
- ***Company Practices***
- ***Firefighter School Pump Operators Course***

- **JAWS Extrication Course**
- **Water Drafting Exercises**

Notes:

- *The engineers report that is deciding the fate of Station 1 is now in the hands of the city of Summerside committee that will review and make recommendations to either renovate or rebuild.*
- *Annual firefighter appraisals began during the month of September.*
- *The fire department has agreed to organize and host the annual Santa Claus parade. This popular community event will put a lot of smiles on the faces of our children and 100% of the proceeds go to our local Christmas Appeal Campaigns.*
- *Our 2 current training officers have decided to give up the huge responsibility to be training officers as well as firefighters. Thank you to Tony Gallant and Danny Richard for your years of hard work. The two positions will be turned into one, and the new training officer will not have firefighter responsibilities. The competition is now open internally.*

Roster changes for September:

- *32-year veteran Butch Bouchard has submitted his resignation, effective September 30. Thank you for your many years of service Butch.*
- *Jonathan MacDonald has left the department because his family is moving to Cornwall. Jonathan was with the department for 2 years. Thank you for your service.*
- *Myles MacKinnon was granted a one-year leave of absence to pursue an opportunity outside of Summerside. Good Luck Myles.*

Emergency Measures Report

As most residents know, this is the time of the year when significant weather events such as hurricanes and post-tropical storms are more frequent. This serves as a reminder to all residents that we need to be prepared to respond to whatever adverse events come our way.

An example was the recent lead-up to the arrival of Hurricane Teddy in our region. While thankfully our community experienced little in the way of storm impacts, we were ready to respond if need be.

I want all residents to know that our efforts to ensure we are prepared to respond to any emergency, continue on many fronts. We continue to dialogue with various community organizations to establish closer relationships and discuss ways in which we can work together collectively to protect our community. It is part of our commitment to ensuring the safety of all of our residents and the broader community.

Community Services – Chair, Councillor Cory Snow

Report:

“More development news kick started the month of September with the announcement of an active transportation lane that will run from the Pope Road/Greenwood Drive intersection down to Credit Union Place. The active transportation lane will provide residents with a safe and healthy option for commuting in the City.

Summerfun programming came to an end on Labour Day Weekend. Leger Park played host to majority of the programming throughout the Summer months and was very well received with high attendance records. The Splash Pad at Leger Park and Mushroom at Billy Bridges Park provided kids with a fun and active way to cool down in the heat of the summer.

In partnership with the Summerside Western Capitals, staff have been working and in constant communication with the Chief Public Health Office to plan and prepare for the Caps Return to Play. As a result, the Caps season is set to commence in November.

Several upgrades to Credit Union Place continued throughout the month, including the bowling lanes and pool retiling project. The Aquatics Centre announced the anticipated reopening date will be Monday, October 19.

Atlantic Mayor’s Congress was held at Credit Union Place that saw over 30 participants visit Summerside over the three-day congress. Several round table discussions were held that included topics such as, Covid-19 guides and regulations, green energy and physician recruitment.

The Veteran’s Convention Centre (VCC) had a busy September with 13 bookings throughout the month and continue to take bookings into the Fall and Winter months.

As guidelines and regulations continue to evolve surrounding Covid-19, staff continue to stay in constant communication with the Chief Public Health Office in order to get plans and procedures in place to operate the City’s recreation facilities and have them available to residents.”

HR & Legal Affairs, Culture Summerside and Policy & Bylaw Review Committee

Human Resources and Legal Affairs Report:

- The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee as well as department sub-committees continue to meet on a regular monthly basis,

- In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, some staff had training on fire extinguisher usage. There was also a fire drill at City Hall
- We are pleased to congratulate Chris Murphy as the successful applicant for the semi-skilled labourer position, Garrett Webster was the successful applicant for the Distribution Supervisor position and with the upcoming retirement of Rick Morrison, Jeff MacDonald was the successful applicant for the Meter Reader position
- We would like to thank Rick Morrison for over 35.5 years of commitment to Summerside and wish him the best in his retirement
- Competitions are currently underway for a Sport Tourism Coordinator, Part-time Dispatch and part time aquatics staff

Culture Summerside Report:

“The following report captures some highlights of Culture Summerside’s activity from the mid Sept to the mid Oct time period.

- *2020 marks the 20th anniversary of Culture Summerside’s Historic Ghostwalk. Since 2000 the Ghostwalk has brought to life the history of Halloween and the darker side of Summerside and Island history. Volunteer actors assume the role of the spirits who have a story to tell. The anniversary Ghostwalk, which will be a “best of” will be a little different. In order to meet the health regulations in place for Covid 19, it will not be a walk this year. Rather Ghostwalk will be presented on the lawn of the historic Wyatt Heritage Properties with a seated audience to whom the spirits will appear. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at the MacNaught History Centre and Archives. Over 200 tickets are sold with more selling each day. Councillors are invited to attend and experience this popular event.*
- *Despite a quieter tourist season than normal due to COVID 19 Culture Summerside staff have been busy working with Municipal Services in celebrating the 100 anniversary of the Summerside Electric Utility. Staff are working on the writing of a book to mark this milestone.*
- *Culture Summerside is currently engaged in a collections project supported by a Community Museums Association grant. The project focuses primarily on reducing our back log of uncatalogued artifacts.*
- *City of Summerside CAO Rob Philpott, City Councillors Cory Snow and Carrie Adams, Manager of Heritage and Cultural Properties Lori Ellis and Assistant Archivist Jean MacKay met with the Lest We Forget Committee and have heard their concerns about: the military collections in the community, about the long term care of personal military collections, about exhibition opportunities and about their desire to have a military museum established in Summerside. Some have expressed an interest in taking over the entire Armoury for this purpose. The City did share with the committee details about the exhibit opportunities that will exist at the Armoury post renovation and about some the City resources that can be available to help get their Military stories and collections out on exhibit. The meeting allowed citizens the ability to share with city staff their valuable viewpoints and visions.*
- *Renovation work at the armoury is ongoing and progressing well.”*

Policy & Bylaw Review Committee Report:

“Tonight, the BPR Committee is presenting proposed changes to the taxi bylaw. This proposal is the culmination of weeks of research, discussion and consultation with the industry. These proposed changes are intended to

streamline the bylaw and reduce red tape for taxi company operators, while still protecting both the industry and the general public.

Tonight for the information of our residents, we will proceed with the first reading of the resolution. From there, the proposed changes will go to the November committee meetings for further discussion and input from the general public, and then to the November monthly Council meeting for final approval. Once again, we thank the members of the industry for their input, feedback and contributions to this process.

The Committee's work also continues on other fronts. The first is the issue of short-term property rentals and of how this may impact the availability of housing in general. We will be looking to engage some external consulting support to research this issue and provide recommendations to Council.

Of note as well is that the City has started to craft a preliminary terms of reference on a model for services to seniors, which follows up on a commitment made by Council earlier this year. This new framework has added significance in that approximately 20% of our City's population identifies as seniors, so we will look to ensure that our services and programs are tailored to meet the needs of this demographic. We will be engaging the community in the weeks ahead as this new model takes shape.

This concludes my report for the month of October. I or the CAO would be pleased to answer any questions you may have."

Resolution COS 20-105 It was moved and seconded:

Whereas The City has consulted with local Taxi companies regarding the updating of CS-25, Taxi Bylaw, that has resulted in a number of recommend changes

Whereas the City of Summerside Bylaw CS-25 was presented at the Monthly Meeting on October 19, 2020 for a first reading

Be it resolved That the City of Summerside Bylaw CS-25 be hereby declared read a first time and be referred back to committee for review and recommendation

Resolution Carried 8-0

Municipal Services – Chair, Councillor Bruce MacDougall

Report:

- Staff performed annual maintenance on reads corner, Eustane street and Northmarket street lift stations this month.
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency conducted biosolids testing and the plant is within compliance.
- The sewer treatment plant had a busy month with maintenance items being repaired:
 - primary Sludge mixer repairs
 - Hoist gearbox in uv room
 - Unplugging the air pol this month
 - biosolids dryer repairs
 - air extraction fan on biofilter
 - Waste sludge piping plug to blend tank was freed up.

- Fire Hydrant flushing has been completed for the year. They have also been given a fresh coat of paint.
- Some miscellaneous potholes were repaired that were identified from heavy rain washouts. (33 greenwood drive).
- Two municipal water supply wells were put back online at heritage court well and #4 wilmot well field. Offline due to repairs required.
- All small sewer lift stations were cleaned and serviced for the year.
- Storm Catch Basins were repaired on Marion and Reihl and Schurman and Central Streets.
- Renovations to the exterior cladding at 95 Ottawa Street has started this month. The project is expected to be complete by end of November.
- Traffic and line painting are completed for the year with only those areas under construction not completed. (Sewer, water, and storm systems capital projects yet to be finished)
- the following upgraded water lines have passed water quality testing and have been commissioned:
 - Highland Avenue
 - Acadian Drive

GENERAL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS:

Water and Sewer Utilities:

- 24 water samples were taken with clear of bacteria.
- 12 chlorination samples taken all within parameters.
- 3 water main taps were conducted for water main upgrades.
- 4 water service connections were completed for new developments.
- 18 water turn on and offs for the month.
- 1 sewer lateral was replaced this month.
- 8 sewer calls this month.
- Sewer effluent to harbor all within regulated parameters. (227,046 cubic meters treated)
- 181,336 gallons of septage received to the plant from outlying areas. (servicing the county).
- 347 Tons of Bio fertilizer were created this month at the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Electric Services – Chair, Councillor Greg Campbell

Report:

Work Tasks Highlights:

- Summerside Sunbank project has awarded the engineering to develop the Engineering, procurement and Construction specification packages to CIMA plus.
- Staff installed 32 meters at the new Frank Mellish Drive apartment building.
- Staff checked and repaired Christmas Lights this month for the installation in November.
- Staff repaired Granville and Water Street traffic loops
- Staff removed falling crosswalk lights at Water and Autumn Street and Water and Small Avenues.
- Power plant had the yearly tour with the Holland College students in the course for power engineering.
- Lights were repaired on Granville and Victoria road for flashing amber light.
- Contractor have arrived and have commenced with the substation project upgrades to the 94 Ottawa Street substation. It is expected to be complete by end of year. This new expansion will support new load growth in the city for many years to come.

