

**TOWN OF WINDSOR**  
**SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

May 01, 2017 - Immediately followed the COTW/Budget Meeting 9:10 – 9:53 PM  
Council Chambers, 100 King St, Windsor, NS



**Attendance:**

Anna Allen	Mayor, Chair
Laurie Murley	Deputy Mayor
John Bregante	Councillor
Shelley Bibby	Councillor
Jim Ivey	Councillor
Louis Coutinho	CAO
Shelleena Thornton	Municipal Clerk
Doug Armstrong	Director of Finance
Vanessa Roberts	Director of Community Development, Tourism & Recreation
Todd Richard	Director of Public Works
Scott Burgess	Fire Chief, WFD

**Public:**

7	Members of the Public
Colin Chisholm	Reporter, Valley Journal Advertiser

- 1. CALL TO ORDER THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL** – Mayor Allen called the special meeting of council to order at 9:11pm.
- 2. INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WEST HANTS & WINDSOR RE. HOCKEY HERITAGE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION RE. PROPOSED HOCKEY HERITAGE CENTRE**

**MOVED BY MURLEY/BREGANTE THAT THE TOWN OF WINDSOR RATIFY THE “INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT TO CREATE A MUNICIPAL BODY CORPORATE KNOWN AS THE HOCKEY HERITAGE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION” MADE EFFECTIVE APRIL 26, 2017 BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WINDSOR AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS. MOTION CARRIED**

It was noted the draft Agreement was briefly discussed when included with the staff report (February 14, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting and February 28, 2017 Town Council Meeting). One partner has pulled away from the project and this Inter-Municipal Agreement still references them. It was further asked why this Agreement was signed (April 26, 2017), before council formally approved it (tonight, May 1, 2017). It is understood that Agreements can be amended/changed after the fact; however, it’s typically not as easy as that. Members of the community have expressed wanting to be consulted with and now, apparently, a feasibility study is required (requested by the Federal Government). All of this, yet this Agreement has been signed prior to council approval. It was again noted that one partner has written advising they are no longer contributing their one million dollars; therefore, the Agreement is not accurate.

CAO Coutinho said the Agreement can be amended once signed. The Agreement is to establish a Municipal Corporation. Both West Hants and Windsor council have requested the CAOs act on their behalf until this point; which has been followed. A Business Plan was submitted; before an alternate proposal was brought forward. At that time, this project was the only project proposal submitted. The next step is posting for a Board of Directors. Will learn more next week of what is entailed for the study. The alternate proposal is a different model. The economic feasibility study will examine both proposals. He added, Windsor council approved the Agreement in principle but didn’t approve it until West Hants council was able to review it. West Hants has reviewed and approved it without any changes to what Windsor agreed to. Once the federal

government advises what they are doing and what they are looking for with respect to the study, it will go out as information to the public.

When asked why it was felt necessary to establish a Corporation if this project doesn't move forward, it was said it could be dissolved if that were to be the case.

Discussion was held with respect to the purchasing and development of the proposed land (including suitability), and the Town's Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS). It was suggested the Town MPS be looked at and followed. CAO Coutinho said the Town does meet its requirements and it has been discussed with the Planning Department. CAO Coutinho said he will forward the information to Council from Planner Devin Lake. It was further noted the Town is not purchasing the property; the corporation is. CAO Coutinho assured council that the Town is not violating any rules as was implied. This project has been in the works for three years. The alternate proposal has nothing in the way of detail and people are accepting it without questions.

Citizen, Mr. Willard Wood – perhaps this project has been on-going for three years; however, the meetings have always told the public what was happening; never asking for public input. The Town wants this; the Town does not need it. Everything that has been done to this point, the public has been told; the citizens/tax-payers have never been asked; and should have a chance to vote on an arena/rink (whether it is something citizens want). Mayor Allen said the economic feasibility study will help determine that. Mr. Wood said, citizens elected the Mayor and Council and citizens should be asked and also in the know. CAO Coutinho said there were 13 public consultation sessions and the project kept changing because of public input. King's-Edgehill School wanted to build a rink for their students but approached the Town asking if the Town wanted to be involved in a community complex – out of goodwill and for the benefit of the entire community. It was the only proposal on the table and the Province committed funding toward the project. Now the Town and West Hants are involved and both want a sustainable project; both municipal units are being responsible.

Further discussion was held and references of some council members included that mistakes were made in this process that perhaps not everyone wants to admit; however, there is a need to move forward and the need to listen to citizens. It was further noted that public information sessions are not enough; council should be consultative and listen to what citizens have to say and have them weigh-in; their feedback is important. CAO Coutinho said that occurred with the initial proposal; there is no information on the other proposed location. An economic feasibility study has been requested; so should proceed with that.

Mr. Willard Wood asked why not consult with the public on whether citizens want a rink or not (before doing an economic feasibility study). It was noted this proposed project is not just a rink, it is a Hockey Heritage Centre to celebrate being the Birthplace of Hockey. Mr. Wood said he (and council) should know if citizens are willing to spend their tax dollars on it. Mayor Allen said they can once information can be provided after the study.

**3. PROPOSED HOCKEY HERITAGE CENTRE AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION** – Included in Item #2 discussion.

**4. RELAY FOR LIFE, NOISE BYLAW EXEMPTION REQUEST (APRIL 19, 2017)** – Annual request.

**MOVED BY BREGANTE/MURLEY THAT THE CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY'S RELAY FOR LIFE EVENT ON JUNE 3, 2017 IN WINDSOR BE EXEMPT FROM THE TOWN OF WINDSOR'S NOISE BYLAW. MOTION CARRIED**

**5. ADJOURNMENT** – With no further matters to discuss, at 9:53pm, it was

**MOVED BY MURLEY/BIBBY THAT THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING BE ADJOURNED. MOTION CARRIED**

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Municipal Clerk

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Chair