



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES**

**Monday, May 15, 2017  
7:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers  
360 Dibble St. W.  
Prescott, Ontario**

Present Mayor Brett Todd, Councillors Leanne Burton, Teresa Jansman, Fraser Laschinger, Lee McConnell, Mike Ostrander, and Ray Young.

Staff Pierre Mercier, CAO, Matthew Armstrong, Treasurer, Dan Beattie, Director of Public Works & Infrastructure, Kimberley Casselman, Director of Administration/Clerk, and Lindsey Veltkamp, Corporate Services Executive Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Todd at 7:01 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: McConnell, Burton  
That the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Young declared a conflict of interest in regard to Item 7.2 - Staff Report 29-2017 – Commercial/Industrial Vacancy Rebate Program.

### **4. PRESENTATIONS - None**

### **5. DELEGATIONS**

#### **5.1 Dennis Van Luit - Jr. C Hockey**

Dennis Van Luit provided Committee with an overview of the Jr. C proposal. He spoke to the importance of having Junior C Hockey in the community, creating a partnership with the Town, and the team's budget.

Lucas Stitt, former Prescott Flyers player, spoke to his experience playing hockey locally and the role the town and community have in local hockey.

Discussion was held regarding the number of teams in the league, upcoming promotional events, the cost of ice time rentals, sponsorship, and how many hours of ice time would be needed for games and practices. Pierre Mercier, CAO, stated that staff would bring back a report in June on the proposal.

### **6. COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

Councillor Burton spoke to Prescott P.R.O.U.D being held from June 12 – 16, 2017.

### **7. FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES**

#### **7.1 Staff Report 28-2017 - Significant Commercial Assessment Appeals**

Motion: Young, Ostrander

That Committee of the Whole receive this report on significant commercial assessment appeals for information purposes.

Carried

Matthew Armstrong, Treasurer, provided an overview of the report.

Discussion was held regarding inconsistent assessments, future appeals, and the allowance in the budget to deal with these appeals.

## **7.2 Staff Report 29-2017 - Commercial / Industrial Vacancy Rebate Program**

Motion: Ostrander, Burton

That Committee of the Whole provide guidance to staff as to the intended form of the commercial and industrial vacancy rebate program for the Town of Prescott.

The following amendment to the main motion was put forward:

Motion: Todd, Burton

That the main motion be amended by directing staff to proceed with the phased elimination option and that staff conduct public consultation on the matter and report back to Council with the results.

Carried

Councillor Young vacated his seat and did not take part in the discussion or vote on the item.

Matthew Armstrong, Treasurer, reviewed the program options outlined in the staff report. He spoke to the options, process, financial impact, and holding a public engagement by June 14, 2017.

Discussion was held regarding the number of vacancies downtown, the various options, public engagement, and proceeding with a phased elimination approach.

**8. TOURISM & HERITAGE - None**

**9. TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - None**

**10. PLANNING**

Councillor Ostrander spoke to an upcoming Planning Advisory Committee meeting being held on May 24, 2017.

**11. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - None**

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

**12.1 Action Item List**

Councillor Jansman requested the shed for the St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival, and the RiverWalk Park lights be added to the action item list.

**13. PERIOD FOR MEDIA QUESTIONS**

Wayne Lowrie, Brockville Recorder & Times, asked if the property names in Staff Report 28-2017 could be publicly released. Matthew Armstrong, Treasurer, stated that MPAC had advised against releasing the names.

**14. CLOSED SESSION - None**

**15. RISE AND REPORT - None**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Young, Ostrander

That the meeting be adjourned. (Time 8:13 p.m.)

Carried