

Steering Committee Meeting Notes January 25, 2022 via Zoom

Attendance: Warden Owen McCarron, Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart, Mayor Laurie Boucher, Deputy Mayor Willie Cormier, Jeff Lawrence, Shirlyn Donovan, Kate Gorman, and Glenn Horne. **Regrets:**

Welcome by Mayor Boucher at 8:02am

Debrief on Joint Council Workshop

- The Committee felt the workshop went very well overall. Very complementary to the facilitators.
- Main takeaway was that the larger questions raised by councillors need to be addressed, at least in broad strokes where possible. Residents often go to councillors with questions, and they should be able to appropriately respond.
- Facilitators identified value in developing fact sheets for council and the public on the most important issues like boundaries, emergency services, taxation, etc...
- Guiding principles and fact sheets, which are among the immediate next steps, will be helpful in answering questions.

Next Steps

- Staff engagement, very likely with small in-person groups facilitated by Zoom, are being planned for the coming weeks.
- Hopeful to have the next Council session in-person in February with appropriate public health measures in place.
- Engagement and Communications Plan are being developed by Brighter Communities; wanting these approved by Council by the end of February.
- Website antigonish.ca (HowSpace) will be launched this week. Circulating to Councils the day prior to public launch.
- Staff and Brighter Communities are still working on the FAQs based on Steering Committee feedback.

RCMP Contract Update

In-camera discussion

Meeting adjourned at 8:32