

MAY 2, 2016
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council 1 was held on Monday, May 2, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Deputy Mayor J. MacLellan, Couns. K. Francis, D. Taylor, and S. Lawand. Also present was the Town Clerk J. Eaton.

AGENDA

The Agenda was approved on motion by Coun. D. Taylor, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from March 7, 2016 were approved on motion by Coun. K. Francis, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

PCRAS – PARKING LOT EXPANSION REQUEST - \$38,000

Deputy Mayor J. MacLellan presented request from PCRAS for the parking lot expansion; request has been made to the other municipal units; no reply from other units. Coun. D. Taylor asked if Mayor J. Gennoe brought this issue to the PCSSA. Town Clerk J. Eaton reported that she presented this request to all the elected Mayors and Warden of the other units; they said they would bring it back to their Council meetings; only the County responded that their decision will come after June 8. Discussion commenced and it was decided to get information from Town Accountant, and to defer until May 9th meeting.

PLANNING DIRECTOR:

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

UNSIGHTLY & DANGEROUS MONTHLY REPORT

Planning Director R. Burek presented Reports to Council (attached).

Questions:

Coun. K. Francis re 25/27 Emmanuel Street, concerns regarding fence on premises. Planning Director R. Burek visited property and spoke to owner; has until May 12 to remove vehicles as per 30 day order.

Coun. S. Lawand re 50 Poole Avenue; final order posted April 13, 2016; what happens if property not cleaned by the 30 days? R. Burek replied that Council can send in their own crews or hire a crew to clean up the site; recommends to have Police presence; or could get a court order.

Coun. J. MacLellan asked about procedures with orders. Planning Director R. Burek provided information; unfortunately he has no staff to assist with follow-ups.

Coun. K. Francis inquired if numbers had increased. R. Burek replied that he has not noticed any change; some re-offenders.

Coun. D. Taylor motioned to receive the Planning Director's Monthly Activity Report and Unsightly & Dangerous Properties for the month of May 2016, seconded by Coun. K. Francis. **Motion Carried.**

FIRE CHIEF MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

Fire Chief D. Campbell read the monthly activity report for April, 2016, attached.

Coun. D. Taylor moved to receive the Fire Department's Monthly Activity Report for April 2016, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

RECREATION DIRECTOR MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

Recreation Director P. Corbin presented the Monthly Activity Report, May 2016, (attached), highlighting:

- Recreation Facilities; Albion Ball Field; met with SAAA
- Dorrington Complex; bathrooms; request for funding
- Trans Canada Trail; information attached; grant applications
- Website updated
- Volunteer Reception
- Homecoming
- Job Occupational Health and Safety Committee
- MORE Relay and Run
- Go Green Get Clean
- Davis Day Plaque replacement; quotes requested

Questions/Comments:

Coun. D. Taylor comments: thanked Recreation Director on the Volunteer Reception; requested copy of the text for the Davis Day Plaque; Go Green Get Clean involvement; voiced concerns re Dorrington Complex expenses.

Coun. S. Lawand re questions received from the Website. P. Corbin directs to appropriate departments.

Coun. K. Francis made motion for the Mayor and Town Clerk sign the Land Use Agreement for the Trans Canada Trail, seconded by Coun. D. Taylor. **Motion Carried.**

Coun. D. Taylor made motion to receive the Recreation Director's Report for the month of April 2016, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

Discussion on the Trans Canada Trail Plan; construction timelines.

TOWN ENGINEER: MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – PUBLIC WORKS

Town Engineer B. Funke read the Town Engineer Monthly Activity Report, Transportation and Property, for April 2016, attached.

Questions/Comments:

Coun. D. Taylor re sidewalk repairs, costs to fix all sidewalks. Town Engineer B. Funke replied that repairs would be very costly; spoke on priorities; need to be included in budgets; list of sidewalks that need work.

Coun. D. Taylor reported that garbage is accumulating in areas of the business park. Town Engineer will investigate.

Coun. S. Lawand asked how Stellarton's sidewalks compared to other units. B. Funke replied about sidewalk programs; no worse than the other towns.

Coun. S. Lawand reported that there is money available for the gazebo roof and asked Town Engineer to take a look. B. Funke agreed.

Coun. K. Francis also commented on the garbage issue.

Coun. D. Taylor reminded Town Engineer of the need for crosswalk on MacGregor.

Coun. S. Lawand re plowing new sidewalk on Pleasant; not plowed this past winter; will it be plowed next year. B. Funke responded that the sidewalk will definitely be plowed in future.

Council agreed to have a line amount included in budget deliberations for sidewalks.

Deputy Mayor J. MacLellan has concerns re crosswalk on Lawrence Boulevard / down Heritage. Town Engineer indicated that this crosswalk will be included.

Coun. K. Francis made motion to receive the Town Engineer's Monthly Activity Report for April 2016, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

TOWN ENGINEER: MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – WATER DEPARTMENT

Town Engineer B. Funke presented the Monthly Activity Report for the Water Utility for April, attached.

Comments / Questions:

Coun. D. Taylor positive comments; Capital communications update. Town Engineer B. Funke stated that report is late; equipment delays.

Coun. K. Francis re Canadian Water Standards. B. Funke provided relevant information pertaining to safe drinking water; guidelines; highly regulated.

Coun. S. Lawand made a motion to receive the Town Engineer's Monthly Activity Report for the Water Utility for April 2016 as presented, seconded by Coun. K. Francis.

Motion Carried.

TOWN ENGINEER: TRACKLESS QUOTATION UPDATE

Town Engineer B. Funke commented on fire at Town Barn where one of the machines was lost; 1998 sidewalk plow; new machines approx. \$115,000 (without attachments); reconditioned machines cost approx. \$75,000 as well as demo models; need to purchase prior to next year's snow season. Insurance indicated a salvage value of \$6,500 on the loss. Discussion commenced.

Town Engineer will put together specifications and pricing on the various options for Council's consideration for May 9, 2016 meeting.

TOWN ENGINEER: WATER TREATMENT PLANT: SHOWER

Town Engineer B. Funke stated that a request for shower at the WTP came from the Occupational Health and Safety Committee; the shower is needed in the chemical receiving area of the water treatment plant; cost for installation is \$7,500.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve \$7,500 to install shower at the Water Treatment Plant, seconded by Coun. D. Taylor. **Motion Carried.**

COUN. S. LAWAND: KIOSK PROJECT

Coun. S. Lawand in contact with DEANS to complete KIOSK; read email to Council; need color and panel information; design template is ready.

Deputy Mayor J. MacLellan asked Recreation Director for input. P. Corbin has some photos, but not professional. Discussion commenced re current vs. historic photos; target market; residents / visitors; map of area; collaborate with Cindy MacKinnon from DEANS for suggestions; include flower pots / benches; paint color ideas. Coun. D. Taylor recommends burgundy and cream, similar to the Allan Park – Council agreed. Other aspects will be decided after input from Cindy MacKinnon.

COUN. D. TAYLOR: MOU UPDATE

Coun. D. Taylor provided an update on the MOU, highlights included:

- Report received from the NS Utility Review Board
- Detailed report
- Preliminary conclusion of the Board states, "amalgamation is in the best interest of residents of the area comprised by the applicant Municipalities and Town..."
- Full report on the Board's website
- Several public information meetings held

ASSET MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP – UPDATE

Coun. D. Taylor attended Workshop on April 1; gave report on information gathered; asset management for municipalities; future needs of infrastructure; responsibilities of staff and Council.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of Stellarton Town Council I will be June 6, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

OPEN FORUM

Town Clerk J. Eaton shared with Council responses to questions presented at previous meeting, April 4, 2016, copy attached.

- What is the debt of the Town of Stellarton, less the debt of the business Park?
- What is the debt of the Town of New Glasgow, less the debt of the new Industrial Business Park and debt for the Library?
- What is the debt of the Town of Pictou, less the debt of the Water Treatment Plant?
- What is the cumulated surplus of the County of Pictou plus reserves of both Capital and Operating?

These questions were presented to the Project Manager of the MOU in order to get the collective response. His response is the majority of information is available on the URB and onepictoucounty.ca website. The base year that was used was 2014/15 and the following does not include the 15/16 transactions. The information presented to the URB is municipal non-consolidated, therefore does not include information on water utilities. With reference to the debt associated with the new Business Industrial Park, this relates to expanding an existing Park. This work was not completed during the 14/15 fiscal year; therefore there is no debt recorded in that year (pertaining to the Town of New Glasgow). In the financial statements of new Municipality an allowance has been made for annual debt payments. The following table provides the balance of the information requested.

- The outstanding long-term debt for the Town of Pictou is \$2,815,059
- The long-term debt for New Glasgow (there is no Library debt) is \$8,226,695
- The long-term debt for Stellarton is \$4,096,324 less the Albion Business Park of \$3,740,000 giving a balance debt for Stellarton of \$356,324
- The interim alone debt for the Municipality of Pictou County is \$800,000; and their reserves are \$3,974,480

Coun. S. Lawand comments:

- Meeting at NSCC; information stated for Stellarton's debt was over 10 million; which includes our Water Utility; misleading
- Not all employees were interviewed for the MOU study

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK