

**MAY 13, 2019**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

**MEETING**

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT**

Mayor D. MacGillivray, Couns. B. Knight, S. Lawand, S. Campbell and G. Pentz. Also present was the Town Clerk S. Higdon and Town Accountant Brenda MacKay.

**1. AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved as amended to include phone booths on Foord Street (item #13); Public Hearing Minutes from April 8, 2019 and Active Pictou County Sally O'Neil (item 7.g) on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from April 8, 2019 Regular Council and Public Hearing were approved on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**3. PROCLAMATION: World Lupus Day, May 10, 2019**

Mayor D. MacGillivray read proclamation designating May 10, 2019 as World Lupus Day, accepted on motion by Coun. B. Knight, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**4. PROCLAMATION: Lyme Disease Awareness Month**

Mayor D. MacGillivray read proclamation designating May 2019 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month, accepted on motion by Coun. S. Lawand, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

**5. PRESENTATION: 2019-2020 Operations Budget  
2019-2020 Capital Budget**

Town Accountant Brenda MacKay presented to Council the 2019-2020 Operations and Capital Budgets providing details and comments; copies attached; no change to the tax rates.

Comments/Questions:

Mayor D. MacGillivray re timeline of budget preparedness; some growth seen; tax rates unchanged; debt reduction in the Water Utility.

Coun. S. Lawand re Public Works Building, \$600,000.00 very costly but necessary; excellent planning re purchasing new equipment.

Mayor D. MacGillivray read Resolution for the record (signed and sealed copy attached):

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Town of Stellarton that the assessment for 2019-2020 is confirmed at \$82,639,000 for commercial;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the assessment for residential is confirmed at \$182,318.500;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the tax rates for 2019-2020 be approved at **\$1.82** per \$100 of residential assessment and **\$4.15** per \$100 commercial assessment;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that on and after the due date, interest at the rate of prime +5% will be charged monthly on all unpaid amounts;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the Operating Budget for 2019-2020 is approved at \$7,984,331;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the Capital Budget for 2019-2020 is approved at \$1,747,100.

Motion made Coun. G. Pentz to approve Budget Resolution for 2019-2020, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

## 6. REPORTS FROM THE ELECTED

Submitted; available on Website and attached; except for Mayor D.

MacGillivray's report which was read highlighting:

- Pictou County Wellness Centre meeting; best fiscal year to date; budget was passed.
- Pictou County Shared Services meeting; operations within budget parameters
- Mayors and Wardens meeting; Mental Health Committee
- Transit – final report from Consultant and submitted to CHAD Transit
- Viola's Place at full capacity; fundraising efforts
- Congratulated Stellarton Police Officer Nancy MacCulloch for receiving long service medal award; 15 years of policing.

Coun. S. Lawand re memo attached to his report concerning the Library Board

Motion made by Coun. B. Knight to accept the Reports from the Elected, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

## 7. REPORTS FROM STAFF - for information; reports attached.

- a. Police Service – included in Council's package for information purposes, passed at the Police Commission meeting.
- b. Emily Jones – Building Official; Fire Inspector  
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept the Police Service report and Building Official / Fire Inspector's report, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Rachael McLean, Planner, Development Officer's Report.  
Coun. B. Knight made motion to accept the Planner / Development Officer's report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- d. Chief Dwight Campbell (absent) – Fire Department; Mayor D. MacGillivray comments re Emergency Responders Awareness Day on May 16, 2019; event to be held in Town Parking lot behind Town Hall.  
Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department for April 2019, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**
- e. Paul Corbin – Community Development & Recreation Report  
P. Corbin added to his report information re a sunscreen dispenser (\$885.50 per dispenser plus \$150 per bag of sunscreen) as well as water dispenser options.  
Coun. S. Lawand re this year's budget or put in next year. P. Corbin replied that the water dispenser could be included in the Town Square budget item. Coun. G. Pentz recommended having the Recreation Committee look into it.  
Coun. S. Lawand made motion to accept Community Development & Recreation report, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**
- f. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer  
Looking to ratify the hiring of new mechanic, Brian Coffin.  
Comments/Questions:  
Coun. G. Pentz inquired about the shared street sweeper truck. B. Murray stated that it was in need of repair, so a contractor was hired to clean some Town streets, i.e. Foord Street, Acadia Avenue. Coun. B. Knight questioned re storing

vehicle in Stellarton during the off-season as well as have our mechanic properly winterize it. B. Murray stated that Trenton insures the vehicle and has the required space to store it. Town Clerk S. Higdon commented that she will get a full report on this truck for next meeting.

Mayor D. MacGillivray acknowledged and thanked Engineering Student Kyle MacKenzie for his work with the Town, and welcomed new Engineering Student Alan Fiddes.

Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept the Town Engineer's Report and Water Utility Report, and to hire Brian Coffin, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

g. Sally O'Neill – Active Pictou County

Town Clerk S. Higdon commented that Sally O'Neill is the Active Pictou County Coordinator and will be included in monthly reports from staff.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to accept the Active Pictou County report, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

Karl Sorensen Re: Beautifying Stellarton with message of Equal Opportunity – Town Clerk S. Higdon re email sent to all Council requesting contribution for painting / mural on the side of his apartment building facing Foord Street; for information at this time; can discuss at another time.

Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept correspondence from Karl Sorensen, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

36<sup>th</sup> Annual Donald Keddy Memorial Hockey Tournament Re: Thank you letter to Council for the donation towards this tournament.

## 9. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT – APRIL 23, 2019

Town Clerk S. Higdon read the following recommendation for Council's consideration from the Committee of the Whole meeting held April 23, 2019:

Recommendation #1 – On the recommendation of Committee of the Whole, Council approve the tender received from S. W. Weeks Construction Ltd. for the patching tender in the amount of \$40,048.75 including HST.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approved recommendation from the Committee of the Whole meeting held April 23, 2019, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

## 10. SIDEWALK – HEMLOCK STREET

Coun. S. Lawand provided comments re Hemlock Street; background information on sidewalk requests; safety concerns for pedestrians; recommends having a sidewalk on the south of the street, less disruption to home owners.

Coun. S. Lawand put forward a motion to build a sidewalk on Hemlock Street, no seconder, motion died.

## 11. CUPE LOCAL 281 COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

Town Clerk S. Higdon re Public Works Union Contract expired March 31, 2016; negotiations complete and ready for ratification from Council; some major changes include a separation of classifications – a Water Department and a Public Works Department; this current contract will expire March 31, 2022; increases for the years are: 2% for 2017; 1.5% increase for 2018; 1.5% increase for 2019; 2% for 2020; and 2% for 2021.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept CUPE Local 281 Collective Agreement, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

## 12. POLICY – HR-061 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND WELLNESS (7 DAY NOTICE)

Town Clerk S. Higdon for Council's consideration; 7 Day Notice presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting; a Workplace Health and Wellness Policy for Staff and

Council; the objective is to improve the understanding of workplace issues that impact the health and wellbeing of municipal employees and elected officials. Policy attached. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept the Workplace Health and Wellness Policy, seconded Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**13. PHONE BOOTHS**

Coun. G. Pentz received call regarding the Bell Aliant phone booth on Foord Street (near Bridge Avenue); they are in poor shape; no phones in them. Coun. G. Pentz recommends by motion, writing Bell Aliant a letter requesting the removal of the structure, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

**14. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

Next Council meeting will be June 10, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

**15. OPEN FORUM**

Brian Atkinson comments:

- Grant available for Green initiatives

**16. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz at 6:30 p.m.

**MAYOR**

**TOWN CLERK**