

**FEBRUARY 10, 2020**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

**MEETING**

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, February 10, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT**

Mayor D. MacGillivray, Couns. S. Lawand, S. Campbell and G. Pentz. Also present was the Town Clerk S. Higdon.

Regrets: Coun. B. Knight.

**1. AGENDA**

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

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from January 13, 2020 Council were approved on motion by Coun. S. Campbell seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**4. REPORTS FROM STAFF - for information; reports attached.**

- a. Police Service – Chief Hobeck presented report; highlighting Traffic Report for George Street; attended Police Ball in Truro representing Stellarton Police Services; upcoming Critical Incident Debrief with Stellarton Fire Department.  
Questions/Comments:  
Coun. S. Lawand commented on positive relations between Police and Fire Services.  
Coun. S. Lawand made motion to accept Police Service Report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- b. Emily Jones – Building Official; Fire Inspector presented report.  
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept report, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Rachael McLean Planner, Development Officer – on leave; No report.
- d. Fire Chief Mike O’Sullivan – Fire Department, presented monthly report.  
Coun. G. Pentz asked if all fire hydrants are marked, especially during winter storm. Town Engineer B. Murray confirmed that they are marked.  
Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department’s report for January 2020, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**
- e. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer  
Town Engineer B. Murray presented his reports; commenting on continued capital work.  
Questions/Comments:  
Mayor D. MacGillivray re Town Hall accessibility; future capital work.  
Coun. S. Lawand re Streets and Properties; upcoming project pertaining to signage policy in Town; signage will be branded.  
Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept the Town Engineer’s Report and Water Utility Report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Chief of Protocol, Glennie Langille Re: Order of Nova Scotia – Town Clerk S. Higdon informed Council of this correspondence which is sent out annually;

posters and brochures in the Administration Office; for citizens who wish to nominate someone for this award. Coun. S. Lawand recommended including the information on the Town's website and social media.

b. MLA Karla MacFarlane Re: Caucus Release – Town Clerk S. Higdon reported that MLA MacFarlane forwarded this to Council; where Pictou wants to know why they are not represented on "Forestry Transition Team". Mayor D. MacGillivray stated that Stellarton Council also sent a letter requesting local representation on this matter.

## **6. MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS COODINATOR**

Mayor D. MacGillivray introduced the Town's new Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Paige Clarke; a one-year term position, funded 50% by the Province; position will be reviewed after one year to determine if it will become a permanent position.

## **7. CITIZEN APPOINTMENT UPDATES**

Town Clerk S. Higdon update for Council's information; as per policy; citizens can be asked to stay on for second 3-year term; if they wish not to, then it would be advertised. She reported that under the Planning Advisory Committee, there are 3 citizens: Jack Langlois, Gary Stewart and Don Taylor. Jack and Gary accepted a second term which will expire in 2023; and Don Taylor's first term expires in 2021. Under the Recreation Committee, there are 3 citizens: Peggy Williams has accepted a second term which expires in 2023, Patty Lloyd has accepted a second term, expiring in 2023, and a vacant position which has been advertised and applications are due February 21. There is also an Audit Committee, still currently vacant; Town has advertised four times, no applications submitted.

Coun. S. Lawand re Audit Committee; Town Clerk S. Higdon stated that under the Provincial Regulations, the Town has to advertise every six months; until that time, the Audit Committee consists of Council members.

## **8. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

Town Clerk S. Higdon read the following recommendations are for Council's consideration from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 27, 2020:  
Recommendation #1:

On recommendation of the Committee of the Whole Council approve the Request for Proposal for Audit Services for a five-year term from Grant and Thornton in the amount of \$19,000.00.

Town Clerk S. Hidgon added for Council's information that there were three Request for Proposal submitted; MGM in the amount of \$15,000.00; and MacDonald & Murphy for \$16,800.00; noting that because this is not a tender, the Town does not have to accept the lowest bid; the Financial Advisor, Brenda MacKay, and herself, reviewed each RFP thoroughly.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve the Request for Proposal for Audit Services from Grant and Thornton, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand.

On the Question:

Coun. S. Lawand re the extensive review, analysis and reasoning for their recommendation.

Coun. S. Higdon reported that the recording of the presentation is available on You Tube from January 27, 2020.

Mayor D. MacGillivray pointed out that the \$19,000.00 is annually.

**Motion Carried.**

## **9. BYLAW – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – Noise Control Bylaw (with amendments)**

Town Clerk S. Higdon, for Council's clarification, the Noise Control Bylaw was presented as a 1<sup>st</sup> Reading in January; but after speaking with the Town Solicitor, it has been moved back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. Town Solicitor reviewed bylaw and provided some feedback and highlighted areas; the context did not change; but because more information is added, going back to a first reading was appropriate.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to pass the first reading of the amended Noise Control Bylaw, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

**10. BYLAW – 1<sup>st</sup> READING – Outdoor Cafes and Eating**

Town Clerk S. Higdon re recommendation made from the Planning Advisory Committee, and any business that is potentially affected will be advised, as well as the required advertisements.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to pass the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Outdoor Cafés and Eating Bylaw, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand.

On the Question:

Mayor D. MacGillivray re confirmation that bylaw was reviewed at the Committee of the Whole.

**Motion Carried.**

**11. BYLAW – 2<sup>nd</sup> READING – East River Low Flow Contingency Bylaw**

Town Clerk S. Higdon reported that this is the second reading and if approved, it will go into effect.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve the second reading of the East River Low Flow Contingency Bylaw, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell.

On the Question:

Mayor D. MacGillivray commented that this bylaw is in response to the threat to the East River water levels; asking for the public's cooperation; for the record, Mayor MacGillivray read part of the policy; "This contingency procedure requires the support and stewardship of all citizens of the Town of Stellarton. It is a civic duty to be a responsible citizen and respect the environmental impact of water conservation."

**Motion Carried.**

**12. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

Next Council meeting will be Monday, March 9, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

**13. OPEN FORUM**

Darren Stroud, representing the Stellarton Memorial Rink Citizens Group, comments:

- The Citizens Group will be making presentation to Council on February 24 at the Committee of the Whole
- Working hard the last year; public meetings; information sharing
- Much interest in rink; over 1200 signatures
- Looking for a feasible way forward
- Reaching out to Councillors; fears a "disinterest"
- Financial items addressed
- Volunteer response
- Promotes an open dialogue with Council, staff and the Group

Patty Lloyd comments:

- Not pleased with attending the meeting of the Stellarton Memorial Rink Citizens Group
- Felt intimidated
- Felt she could not ask questions as someone who did ask contrary question was thrown out

John MacLeod comments:

- Citizen and volunteer for the Town for many years
- Coached at rink

- Concerns re support from the Town; may prevent fundraising efforts from other governments or organizations
- Finances; tax rate increase for rink but not other capital projects
- Glace Bay Rink as an example; closed for 3 three years; fundraising efforts were successful
- Ice surfaces in the County are decreasing

**14. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

**MAYOR**

**TOWN CLERK**