

**MARCH 8, 2021**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

**MEETING**

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, March 8, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT**

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

**1. Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved as amended to include under Correspondence 5.b. Community Spirit Plaque, on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from February 9, 2021, Council meeting were approved on motion by Coun. G. Pentz seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**4. Acknowledgement – International Women's Day**

Mayor D. MacGillivray acknowledged today March 8, International Women's Day.

**5. Proclamation – Proclamation of Purple Day (Epilepsy Awareness)**

Mayor D. MacGillivray read Proclamation of Purple Day in recognition of Epilepsy awareness, designating March 26 as Purple Day in Stellarton. Coun. S. Campbell made motion to proclaim March 26 as Purple Day, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**6. Presentation – Deborah Searle, Pictou County Solid Waste**

Deborah Searle, from Pictou County Solid Waste made presentation to Council highlighting:

- Waste management program
- Past practices; changes over the years
- Sorting waste
- Recycling
- Local facility; operations
- Transfer station, not a landfill – our garbage gets transferred to the Guysborough landfill
- Second-generation landfill liner; treatment; environmental safeguards
- Recyclables are transferred to the Colchester Materials Recovery Facility in Kemptown
- Recyclables are hand-sorted; cleaning and sorting is important
- Hazardous materials / medical materials; proper disposal
- Compost facility on site; processes
- Statistics
- Environmental regulations in place; air and water quality issues; litter
- Budgets; Waste reduction; EPR
- Free Resources include website, sorting guide, apartment kits, educators for businesses, social media, and an app
- Community Outreach; webinars

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- Household Hazardous Waste disposal; community paper shedding event in June free of charge
- Litter clean-ups; Pictou County Go Clean Get Green April 19 – 24; Adopt a Highway
- Compliance Officer for enforcement
- Reduce Reuse Recycle
- Positive changes

Coun. S. Lawand re EPR cost clarity. Deborah Searle stated the EPR is collected; an industry association; already built in the price of product; not every province has the EPR; hoping that Nova Scotia will utilize the program.

Mayor D. MacGillivray re common markets for paper and plastic products. D. Searle replied that it depends on the specific types/numbers; a lot of paper will go to Thermal Cell in Debert; plastics go various places, some local.

**7. Reports from Staff - for information; reports attached.**

- a. Chief Mark Hobeck – Stellarton Police Service  
Coun. B. Knight made motion to accept Police Service Report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- b. Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan – Fire Department  
Coun. B. Knight motioned to accept Fire Department's report for February 2021, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. Mayor D. MacGillivray commented on February being a quiet month. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Paige Clarke – Marketing & Communications  
P. Clarke presented report  
Questions/Comments:  
Mayor D. MacGillivray re the Buy and Exchange Sign. P. Clarke reported that many municipalities are designating a well-lit, video-monitored area for people who use on-line buy and sells (i.e. Kijiji); a safer place to meet. She stated that the sign will be posted on the back of the Town Hall, multiple cameras, parking spots.  
Mayor D. MacGillivray re the NSCC Achieve Class.  
Mayor D. MacGillivray re upcoming Tax Sale.  
Coun. S. Lawand re the Buy and Sell; any update on the Business Advisory Committee. P. Clarke reported that the business owners she met with were very receptive; lots of potential; next meeting is March 15, small group of 5.  
Coun. S. Lawand re expectations and limited budget; other ways help.  
Coun. S. Lawand re Water Testing – Geosmin/Microcystin sampling in June; suggested including this information on the website to update public. P. Clarke will also include information in next month's Newsletter.  
Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve the Marketing & Communications report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer  
Town Engineer B. Murray presented his reports,  
Questions/Comments:  
Mayor D. MacGillivray re PRV 1. B. Murray stated that it is a "pressure reducing valve".  
Coun. G. Pentz re expensive repairs to equipment; are they wearing out. B. Murray confirmed that the oldest sidewalk plow would need to be replaced in the near future.  
Coun. G. Pentz re ice build-up at the corner of Rutherford and Kirk Avenue. B. Murray will look into it and report back.  
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Town Engineer's Reports, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**
- e. Sally O'Neill – Active Pictou County Report

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Active Pictou County Report, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**8. Correspondence**

a. Letter from Mayors & Warden of Pictou County to Premier Rankin Re: Mental Health. Town Clerk S. Higdon stated that letter was sent to Premier Rankin on March 1, and signed by all Mayors and Warden of Pictou County; to address the needs for improved mental health and addiction services in our area; recently met with Central Nova MP Sean Fraser who mentioned he will make himself available for a meeting with the Premier, the Minister of Health and Wellness, and Municipal officials to discuss the issue.

Coun. G. Pentz re the County sent letter about COVID 19 and their concern with vaccines; no clinic in Pictou County.

Coun. G. Pentz motioned to send letter of concern and support the County's position regarding a vaccine clinic in Pictou County, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

Coun. B. Knight voiced concern that Pictou County is being left out in many health-related areas; lack of doctors.

Coun. B. Knight made motion to send letter to Nicole LeBlanc requesting a report on the recruitment of doctors to the area, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

b. Community Spirit Plaque: Town Clerk S. Higdon read letter received from the Hon. Arthur J. LeBlanc regarding a Community Spirit Plaque; in recognition of those who contributed to aiding their fellow citizens during the 2020 pandemic; Town Clerk S. Higdon stated that the plaque will be displayed in the main foyer of the Town Hall.

**9. Committee of the Whole Report**

The following recommendation is for Council's consideration from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on February 22, 2021:

Recommendation #1 – On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the donation of \$100.00 to Big Brothers Big Sisters Pictou County for lane sponsorship for Bowl for Kids 2021.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Committee of the Whole recommendation, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**10. Ratification of Superintendent Position Jamie MacDonald**

Town Clerk S. Higdon reported that Jamie MacDonald has been hired effective March 1, 2021, and needs ratification from Council.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to ratify the superintendent position, Jamie MacDonald, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

**11. Dangerous & Unsightly Motion Re: 127 & 129 Hudson Street**

Town Clerk S. Higdon reported that a Public Hearing was held at 5:00 p.m. today; Council approved an Order by motion where 127 & 129 Hudson Street will have to prepare a structural engineer report for the Building Inspector by April 8, 2021; and to be corrected within 60 days of the Order; if that does not take place, Council has moved to demolish after April 8.

**12. Open Forum**

Brian Atkinson comments:

- Vaccines; limited numbers available; follow the recommended advice

David Pettipas comments:

- Problems on Marie Street; thanked all for their efforts

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**13. Next Council Meeting**

Next Council meeting will be Monday, April 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

**14. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

**MAYOR**

**TOWN CLERK**