

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2021
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, September 13, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Mayor D. MacGillivray, Couns. S. Lawand, S. Campbell, B. Knight and G. Pentz. Also present was the Chief Administrative Officer S. Higdon.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended to include #10. Ad hoc Committee Mental Health, on motion by Coun. S. Lawand, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from July 12, 2021 Public Hearing and July 12, 2021 Regular Council meeting were approved on motion by Coun. B. Knight, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Memorial to Rachael McLean – CAO S. Higdon informed Council that she spoke with Rachael's husband; he will come up with a plan and get back to the Town.

4. Presentation – Northumberland Shore Emergency Scene Rehabilitation Society, Bill Muirhead presented Council with information on the Northumberland Shore Emergency Scene Rehabilitation Society; consists of Fire Fighters, First Responders, Nurses and Paramedics. Highlighting:

- Dangers and conditions for Fire Fighters
- Subsequent health issues
- Donations received from community groups and businesses
- Purchased transport trailer, medical equipment, specialized cooling fans, hot and warming tent, and monitoring equipment
- Their mission is to be a support system for first responders at fire and police scenes when necessary
- Their needs include: recognition by municipality for grant opportunities; storage for trailer with 24 hour access; and dispatch services

Questions/Comments:

Coun. S. Lawand re recent fire in New Glasgow, how many members attended?

Bill Muirhead responded that eight (8) members attended.

Coun. S. Lawand re recognition by a municipality.

CAO S. Higdon replied in order to qualify for the Emergency Service Providers Fund, they need to be sponsored by a municipality; which they are requesting from the Town of Stellarton.

Coun. G. Pentz recommends sponsoring this group. Coun. B. Knight agrees and feels that they are a necessity.

Coun. S. Campbell asked if they were all volunteers. B. Muirhead confirmed that all members were volunteers

Coun. B. Knight made motion for the use of the Town's dispatch service, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz.

On the question:

Coun. S. Lawand re their request for storage. CAO S. Higdon stated that the Town doesn't have storage available.

Motion Carried.

5. Proclamation – Right to Know Week

Mayor D. MacGillivray read Proclamation (attached), September 27 – October 3 as Right to Know Week. This proclamation supports the principles of openness, transparency and accountability. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Right to Know Week, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

6. Reports from Staff - for information; reports attached.

a. Chief Mark Hobeck – Stellarton Police Service

CAO S. Higdon added that the report includes “Safe Communities Initiative” monthly reports.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to accept Police Service Report, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

b. Fire Chief Mike O’Sullivan – Fire Department

Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department’s report for July and August 2021, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

c. Paige Clarke – Marketing and Communications

CAO S. Higdon commented since the Town moved to a Chief Administrator Officer system, the staff will not be attending Council meetings unless requested. CAO S. Higdon provided some highlights:

- The 100 Year Anniversary of the Stellarton Miners’ Monument takes place Friday, September 17 beginning at 2 p.m. at the Miners’ Monument on Foord Street. All are welcome
- Heritage Committee
- Historian Laureate applications due on September 30
- The App is going well
- Updating the athlete interpretive panels at the Allan Park
- Volunteer Reception, same as last year

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve the Marketing and Communications report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer

Coun. B. Knight commented on the good job done on Coll Avenue and sidewalk on Acadia Avenue by the Allan Park.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Town Engineer’s Report, seconded by Coun. B. Knight.

On the Question:

Coun. S. Lawand re the Geosmin and MIB; water sampling, quality and treatment options.

CAO S. Higdon stated that the Town Engineer will present a report to Council this fall with findings.

Mayor D. MacGillivray commented re the Parking Plan.

CAO S. Higdon replied that the Parking Plan wasn’t put in place because of the shortage of paint.

Mayor D. MacGillivray asked about the capital sidewalk projects.

CAO S. Higdon stated that they are behind, but the plan is to complete work this year.

Motion Carried.

e. Noah Delorey – Active Community Living Coordinator Report

CAO S. Higdon highlight report:

- Summer Day Camp was a huge success
- Facilitating use of recreation spaces, fields, etc.

Coun. G. Pentz and Coun. S. Lawand re Pleasant Street playground.

Coun. S. Lawand further comments re water fountain in Allan Park, Summer Day Camp, Albion Ball Field lights, provide to Council attendance number for programs, Northern Grit Fitness equipment, and the Active Transportation Plan and Blue Route Hub.

Coun. B. Knight noted that the Day Camp was held at the Indoor Soccer Complex free of charge.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Active Community Living Report, seconded by Coun. B. Knight.

On the Question:

Mayor D. MacGillivray acknowledged the Day Camp staff Jenna Rorison, Madison Sample, Nicholas MacInnis, Krista Cameron and Lacie Sutherland.

Motion Carried.

7. Correspondence

a. **Pictou County 4 H Re:** Thank you to Council for donation.

b. **Aberdeen Palliative Care Society Re:** Thank you to Council for donation

c. **NSCC Foundation Re:** 2020/21 Annual Report (available in the administration office); CAO S. Higdon commented on the challenges faced by the NCSS for the past year and highlighted the hard work put forth by the NSCC students.

d. **Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board Re:** Financial Statements March 31, 2021 (available in Administration Office); for information.

e. **Pictou County Firefighters Association Re:** Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Cascade System – CAO S. Higdon read letter and stated that all Municipalities in the County received this letter of request to upgrade the cascade system. She added that the CAO's in the County have a meeting on September 23, and that letter is on the agenda. S. Higdon reported that our fire department has its own cascade system.

Coun. S. Campbell asked if our cascade system does the 4500 psi. CAO S. Higdon will ask Fire Chief.

Coun. S. Lawand re if any other departments use our system.

8. Committee of the Whole Report

The following recommendation is for Council's consideration from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on July 26, 2021:

Recommendation #1 – On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the quote from Webster Bros Paving and Concrete in the amount of \$24,750.00 plus HST as it is the lowest quote for the paving of a portion of Old Foxbrook Road.

The following recommendation is for the Council's consideration from email dated August 23, 2021:

Recommendation #1 – On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the donation of \$500.00 to the NSCC Student Association Pictou Campus for their Welcome to NSCC BBQ for new and returning students.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Committee of the Whole recommendations, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

9. Reports from Regional Organizations/Committees

Mayor D. MacGillivray stated that this is a new addition to the agenda; the CAO's reports are included in Council's package.

a. Pictou County Wellness Centre

b. Pictou County Shared Services Authority

10. Ad Hoc Mental Health Committee

Coun. B. Knight updated Council on the Committee that deals with the mental health crises here in Pictou County; the Committee has representatives from each town. Coun. B. Knight joined Committee and provided information on their future plans and goals of getting a mental health unit in Pictou County.

11. Open Forum

Brian Atkinson comments re:

- Ball field maintenance is excellent
- Suggested putting in seating for safety reasons

Scott Langille comments re:

- Resident of the Park Street apartments
- Concern re the notice of discontinuing the elevator in the building
- New owners in 2018; wants to know if they are complying to all fire regulations and such

CAO S. Higdon stated that the Town can look into the fire regulations concern; the elevator would be a provincial matter, but can contact the MLA.

12. Next Council Meeting

Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

13. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER