

SEPTEMBER 12, 2022
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

PRESENT

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

Regrets: Coun. B. Knight.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended to include under Correspondence (g) Cape Breton Railway re Rail Safety September 19th to 23rd, #9 Park Street Paving Tender recommendation from Town Engineer, #13 Town Flowers, and #14 Town Clock, on motion by Coun. S. Lawand, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

Mayor D. MacGillivray asked for a moment of silence in memory of Queen Elizabeth II.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from July 11, 2022 Council Meeting were approved on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Proclamation – Right to Know Week

Mayor D. MacGillivray read Proclamation for Right To Know Week as September 26 to October 2, 2022 in the Town of Stellarton, attached. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve proclamation, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

5. Presentation – DEANS – Cindy MacKinnon

Cindy MacKinnon provided update on the past year and what they are working on now; highlighting:

- Large geographic region
- Annual planning session last October; facilitated plan created and approved
- Focusing on tourism and entry areas
- Events; Regional Events Strategy; Partnership with Events Nova Scotia
- Destination Marketing
- Pictou County Map work planned to be completed next spring
- Digital Marketing and Newsletters
- Visitor Services
- Partnerships
- Funding announcements for events
- New signage planned for Pictou County sign on Highway
- 55 Plus Games in 2023
- A county-wide branding initiative for Events Pictou County
- Revenue and budget information

Coun. S. Lawand re calendar of events. Cindy reported that information is on their website and they are working on method for people to add their own information on events.

Coun. S. Lawand re annual schedule of events and any low periods. Cindy commented that the slower months have a lot of sporting and school activities.

Mayor D. MacGillivray re the Kiosk at the Museum of Industry. Cindy reported that the location is very good, traffic could be better. She feels that better signage would help and had to apply to the Dept. of Transportation for approval.

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

- a. Chief Mark Hobeck – Stellarton Police Service
Coun. S. Lawand acknowledged Officers G. Vandergrift and C. Irving and read statement from a business owner complimenting both officers.
Coun. S. Lawand made motion to accept Police Service Report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- b. Fire Chief Mike O’Sullivan – Fire Department
Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department’s report for July and August 2022, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Paige Clarke – Marketing and Communications
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve the Marketing and Communications report, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**
- d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer
Coun. S. Lawand commented on the amount of work done on the water and thanked department.
Mayor D. MacGillivray commented that Neptune will be commencing water meter installation in October; information will be sent out to residents. CAO S. Higdon added that there will be a Public Open House with Neptune at the Stellarton Fire Hall on September 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for residents to ask questions and learn more about the project.
Mayor D. MacGillivray re development options for the mine site.
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Town Engineer’s Reports, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- e. Noah Delorey – Active Community Living Coordinator Report
CAO S. Higdon stated that Noah wanted to provide an update regarding the signs for the recreational fields and the splash pad have been installed.
Mayor D. MacGillivray commented on the Summer Day Camp staff, the successful Homecoming Festival, and the Active Living Strategic Plan being developed for the Town of Stellarton.
Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve Active Community Living Coordinator Report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- f. Roland Burek – Senior Planner
No report.

7. Correspondence

- a. **Pictou County Volunteer Ground Search and Rescue** CAO S. Higdon re thank you to Council for donation under the annual grants in the amount of \$862.
- b. **Viola’s Place** CAO S. Higdon re letter of introduction of services and staff and their role to offer support to tenants, landlords, and those experiencing or at risk for homelessness.
- c. **Property Valuation Services Corporation** Re: 2021-22 Annual Report, CAO S. Higdon reported that a copy is available in the Administration Office.
- d. **Property Valuation Services Corporation** Re: PVSC Municipal Consultations – CAO S. Higdon reported that Mayor D. MacGillivray and she will be meeting with Jimmy MacAlpine to go over the services provided by PVSC.
- e. **Andrew Fraser** Re: Thank you note received from Andrew Fraser as recipient of the Oulton Award.
- f. **Paula Cunningham-Merrigan** Re: Thanked Council for donation towards their High Scholl Reunion during Homecoming.
- g. **Cape Breton Railway** – CAO S. Higdon received letter from Cape Breton NS Railway asking for permission from the Town to supply and install two “Look, Listen and Live” decals on the sidewalks at the Acadia Avenue Crossing; no cost

to the Town; they are also doing an event, Rail Safety Week September 19 – 23, more details to come. CAO S. Higdon stated that the Town Engineer had no issues with the decal on the sidewalk. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to permit Cape Breton NS Railway to install decals on the sidewalk at the Acadia Avenue rail crossing, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell.

On the Question:

Coun. S. Lawand asked for clarity. CAO S. Higdon replied that the focus is on rail safety.

Motion Carried.

8. Committee of the Whole Report

The following recommendation is for Council's consideration from correspondence received since the last Committee meeting.

Recommendation #1

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve \$150.00 to the U13AA Albions who are attending the Atlantic Championships in NL in September.

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

9. Park Street Paving Tender Recommendation

CAO S. Higdon received memo from Town Engineer re Park Street Paving Tender Recommendation; two quotes were submitted (excluding HST):

S. W. Weeks Construction Ltd. at tender price of \$69,365.50

Dexter Construction Company Ltd. at tender price of \$96,720.00

Town Engineer B. Murry recommends awarding the tender to the low bidder, S. W. Weeks Construction Ltd.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept recommendation from the Town Engineer, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

10. NS UARB Decision – Boundary Review CAO S. Higdon informed Council that it has been approved by the NS Utility and Review Board to keep the status quo on number of Councillors for the next general election in 2024 – 4 Councillors and 1 Mayor, and status quo on the ward system.

11. Code of Conduct Survey - CAO S. Higdon reminded Council that NSFM is doing the Code of Conduct Survey which closes on September 23; and encourages Council to fill out survey.

12. Planning Advisory Strategic Plan Recommendation – CAO S. Higdon reported that the Planning Advisory Committee came up with three strategic goals and needs Council's approval to move forward:

1. Mine Reclamation
2. Downtown Revitalization
3. Park Plan for Pleasant Street Playground

Details can be found on the Town's website.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve the strategic goals from the Planning Advisory Committee, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

13. Flowers – Coun. G. Pentz commented on the beautiful flowers in Town and acknowledged Deonie's excellent work and recommended sending her a letter of appreciation.

14. Town Clock – CAO S. Higdon stated that this was discussed during budget deliberations; Town Engineer obtained a quote to perform repairs to Town Clock of

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\$42,000 to fix the clock face for Council's consideration at 2023 budget. Coun. G. Pentz strongly recommends giving great consideration at the next budget deliberations.

15. Open Forum

No one spoke at the Open Forum

16. Next Council Meeting: October 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

17. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER