

APRIL 11, 2023
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

PRESENT

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

1. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended to remove #6 DEANS Presentation, on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from March 13, 2023 Regular Council meeting were approved on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Proclamation – Proclamation of Lyme Disease Awareness Month – Mayor D. MacGillivray read Proclamation of Lyme Disease Awareness Month. Coun. S. Lawand made motion to recognize May 2023 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

5. Presentation (Virtual) – AIM Network Matt Delorme

Matt Delorme introduced himself and provided information about the company AIM Network; gave presentation – Town of Stellarton Asset Management Program highlights:

- Asset Management in a Municipal context; Sustainable Service Delivery
- Asset Management Policy Guides; Principles; Decisions; Accountability
- Infrastructure nearing end of life and needs attention and planning
- Service delivery to customers
- Long-term sustainability
- Fiscal responsibility and decision making; comprehensive approach
- Continuous improvement
- Service areas; asset inventory; condition assessments
- Stellarton's infrastructure report; average condition rates; performing better than other municipalities
- 20-year projections and anticipated spending/funding
- Level of service assessments; identifying sustainability gaps
- Investment in infrastructure; current and future investment levels
- Targeted asset management for Capital spending
- Life-cycle costs for assets
- Natural assets i.e. water supply options
- Risk assessments and reviews
- Long-term capital plan and continuous improvement plan

Council thanked Matt for presentation which will be put on the Town's website.

Coun. S. Lawand question re \$2.5 million per year capital investment; does that include inflation impacts? Matt replied that it does include some inflation this year.

Coun. S. Lawand question re water withdrawal limitations from the river and three other options. Matt provided information on regulatory guidelines, jurisdictional issues, and cost impacts.

Coun. B. Knight question re any other municipalities facing similar water supply issue. Matt has nothing to compare with our situation.

6. 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. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department’s report for March 2023, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Paige Draper – Marketing and Communications
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. G. Pentz made motion to approve Town Engineer’s March 2023 Water Utility Report, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**
Coun. B. Knight made motion to approve Town Engineer’s March 2023 Engineering & Public Works Report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- e. Noah Delorey – Active Community Living Coordinator Report
CAO S. Higdon noted that Summer Student applications are due on April 14 for Maintenance, Beautification and Day Camp; information is on Town’s website.
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Active Community Living Coordinator Report, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

7. Correspondence

- a. Gaelic Council of NS Re: Gaelic Flag Raising, May 2023 – CAO S. Higdon received request from Gaelic Council of Nova Scotia to raise the Gaelic flag in May. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to raise the Gaelic Flag in May, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. Coun. S. Lawand voted Nay. **Motion Carried.**
- b. Pictou County Community Health Centre Re: Annual General Meeting – CAO S. Higdon reported that the Pictou County Community Health Centre is hosting their first Annual General Meeting on April 19th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the New Glasgow Library Multi-Purpose Room; Lorraine Birch will be special speaker, Executive Director of our Health Centre in Chester. For Council’s information.
- c. Municipal Affairs and Housing Re: Sustainable Services Growth – CAO S. Higdon received a notice on March 31, that the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved a grant of \$477,659.00 to support infrastructure investments in the Town of Stellarton and it’s called the New Sustainable Services Growth Fund; money has to be spent by 2025; examples of eligible projects include expansion of renewal of water and wastewater treatment, storage and distribution; solid waste management; infrastructure; active transportation; trails and sidewalks; or accessibility retrofits to municipal buildings. For Council’s information at this time. Coun. S. Lawand re send of letter of appreciation to provincial government. Coun. S. Lawand made motion to receive letter, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**
- d. Town of New Glasgow Re: Inter Municipal Planning Strategy & Common Land Use Bylaw – C AO S. Higdon stated that Mayor MacGillivray received

correspondence from Mayor N. Dicks, of New Glasgow, regarding the Inter Municipal Planning Strategy & Common Land Use Bylaw Review; advising that New Glasgow is removing itself from this group; Council should note that the Towns of Westville, Pictou, Trenton and Stellarton have come together and reviewed the bylaw and plan to continue.

8. Committee of the Whole Report

The following recommendation is for Council's consideration from correspondence received via email on March 20, 2023.

1. On recommendation of the Committee of the Whole Council approve \$200 to the Pictou County Crushers U13 Triple A hockey team who attended the Atlantic Championship in Newfoundland.

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

9. Policy Public Participation and Engagement (7 day notice)

CAO S. Higdon stated this was introduced to Council previous; section 204 of the Municipal Government Act requires Municipal Councils to adopt a Public Participation Program before undertaking the preparation or amendment of development agreements or planning documents; section 204 A requires that Municipal Councils engage with abutting municipalities when adopting or amending a municipal strategy. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Public Participation and Engagement Policy, 7 day notice, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

10. Pictou County Age Friendly Community Plan

CAO S. Higdon re the Pictou County Age Friendly Community Plan consists of representatives from all the municipalities; Paige Draper is Stellarton's representative; asking Council to adopt the Plan. Coun. B. Knight made motion to adopt the Pictou County Age Friendly Community Plan, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.** CAO S. Higdon will put Plan on website for public information.

11. Open Forum

Kyle Thompson, 49 Weir Avenue comments:

- Clean up from Hurricane Fiona
- Not happy with some of the clear cutting of trees
- Ill effects to the ecosystem
- What plans are there to repair affected areas

Mayor D. MacGillivray commented that the Town has a plan to look into the situation; they are doing some clean-up currently; also looking at a reforestation plan; reasons for cutting trees was to prevent future damages; liabilities; Town staff can provide additional information.

12. Next Council Meeting: Monday, May 8, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

13. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.