

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, September 8, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Mayor Darren Stroud, Couns. Sandra Eis, Mark Fortune, Susan Campbell and Garry Pentz. Also present was CAO Alanna Grover, Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan, Town Engineer Blaine Murray and Marketing and Communications Paige Draper.

1. AGENDA

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

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from July 14, 2025 Regular Council were approved on motion by Coun. S. Eis seconded by Coun. M. Fortune. **Motion Carried.**

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Reports from Staff: July and August (Attached and available online)

- a. Chief Mark Hobeck – Stellarton Police Service
CAO A. Grover highlighted: July Calls for Service was 217; August Calls for Service was 198; Events included – Chief Hobeck and Cst Wheeler attended the Special Olympics Torch Run followed by the Opening Ceremony at St. F.X.; Officers attended various Homecoming events.
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept Police Service Report, seconded by Coun. S. Eis. **Motion Carried.**
- b. Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan – Fire Department
Fire Chief M. O'Sullivan presented Monthly Reports for July and August.
Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department's report for July and August 2025, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Paige Draper – Marketing and Communications
Paige Draper presented the July and August Reports; noting that there are fire restrictions in place; and the Water Contingency program is still in effect in Stage 2.
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve the Marketing and Communications report, seconded by Coun. S. Eis.
Coun. G. Pentz congratulated Paige for the winning photo she took for Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities. Mayor D. Stroud also commended her for her hard work during the Homecoming Festival. **Motion Carried.**
- d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer
B. Murray presented reports to Council; highlighting the South Foord project, waiting for approval from CBCNS Railway; Water restrictions are being followed by the residents.
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Town Engineer's Reports, seconded by Coun. M. Fortune.
Coun. S. Eis re Town Engineer's communications with Council and residents, very much appreciated.
Mayor D. Stroud re water breaks. Town Engineer B. Murray replied that Public Works does the repair work.

Mayor D. Stroud commented on the flowers around Town; positive feedback from the public.

Coun. G. Pentz re update on the Rutherford Project. B. Murray reported that the sewer is active and water connections are in process; street rehabilitation will be ongoing until end of November early December. **Motion Carried.**

5. Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program (GRID) Funding Application

CAO A. Grover updated Council; approved last December; used toward the ongoing project on Rutherford Street. The province announced a second round of funding for 50% of eligible project costs; application due by October 9; needs a Council Resolution to move forward with the application. It is recommended by staff to apply for the GRID funding; project cost of \$372,000 approved previously by Council for the South Foord street project. CAO A. Grover read resolution:

“Be it Resolved by the Town Council of the Town of Stellarton, that the Chief Administrator Officer and Town Engineer be authorized to submit an application for a project under the Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program (GRID) for the following prioritized project for the fiscal year 2025-2026: South Foord Street Sewer Line Project. Total project costs \$372,000.00.”

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Resolution and apply for GRID funding, seconded by Coun. S. Eis.

CAO A. Grover commented that nothing has changed in the scope of the work or cost, it's a funding opportunity.

Motion Carried.

6. Correspondence

a. Pictou County Partnership Re: Activity Report for Q1 – CAO A. Grover provided information re Pictou County Partnership Activity Report for the first Quarter; highlighting immigration, community integration; for Council's information. Mayor D. Stroud provided some positive comments on the Pictou County Partnership group.

b. Provincial Capital Assistance Program Re: Funding – CAO A. Grover re letter from the Department of Municipal Affairs informing the Town that our Provincial Capital Assistance Program application towards the South Foord Street Sewer Line Project was denied.

c. Healthy Pictou County Re: July and August 2025 Report – Nicol LeBlance, Project Navigator with Healthy Pictou County, forwarded their Reports for July and August; noting that North Nova Family Medicine welcomed 11 new medical residents and 4 are in Pictou County. For Council's information.

d. People First Disability Re: Thank you – CAO A. Grover re Thank You note from People First Nova Scotia, for the Disability Flag Raising by the Town.

e. Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs Re: Letter, NS Firefighters School – CAO A. Grover stated that on August 5, the Town received letter from Hon. John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs, re audit of the NS Firefighters' School; the province is ending their relationship with the school; a Steering Committee will be established for long term plan. For Council's information. Fire Chief M. O'Sullivan had no further details on the issue. Coun. M. Brophy commented re minimal impact on Stellarton's Fire Department; they do in-house training.

f. Nova Scotia Emergency Management Re: Letter, Homeless Encampments and Wildfires – CAO A. Grover re letter received from Sandra MacKenzie, Deputy Minister of Emergency Management; the Province has banned travel in the woods and put restrictions and offered guidance for farming and industrial activities until the drought ends; there are still homeless encampments in dry

wooded areas; asking municipalities to relocate these individuals to a safe location. For Council's information.

g. Department of Natural Resources and the Office of the Fire Marshall Re: Restriction of travel and activities in the woods – CAO A. Grover re notice received from the Department of Natural Resources and Office of the Fire Marshall regarding restrictions of travel and activities in the woods.

h. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library Re: Library Funding – CAO A. Grover re email received from Erick Stackhouse, Chief Librarian for Pictou Antigonish Regional Library with an update on the library funding situation; thanking Council for their support and advocacy.

i. Greg MacDonald, Patterson Law Re: Thank You – CAO A. Grover re a thank you from retired lawyer Greg MacDonald.

7. Pictou County Prostate Cancer Support Association – Mayor D. Stroud re correspondence from Pictou County Prostate Cancer Support Association; requesting for Blue Lights shining for the month of September for awareness; the Town Hall is lit blue for the month of September.

8. Open Forum

No one spoke during the Open Forum.

9. Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

MAYOR

CAO