



TOWN OF STELLARTON

Council

October 15, 2024

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

1. **Approval of Agenda**
2. **Approval of Minutes:** September 9, 2024 Regular Council
3. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
4. **Reports from Staff: July & August**
 - a. Chief Mark Hobeck- Stellarton Police Service
 - b. Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan – Fire Department
 - c. Paige Draper- Marketing & Communications
 - d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer
5. **Correspondence**
 - a. **4H Club** Re: Thank you for donation
 - b. **Municipal Affairs and Housing** Re: Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development
6. **Committee of the Whole Report**
7. **Second and Final Reading** – Proposed Inter- Municipal Planning Strategy
8. **Second and Final Reading-** Donation of Land- SMCCA PID # 00943407
9. **Open Forum**
10. **Next Council Meeting:** Tuesday, November 12, 2024 @5:30 PM
11. **Adjourn**

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Mayor D. MacGillivray, Couns. S. Campbell, S. Lawand, 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 under Correspondence 7.d. The Legion Flag Raising, on motion by Coun. B. Knight, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz.

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from July 8, 2024 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 – Right to Know Week – September 23 – 29, 2024

Mayor D. MacGillivray read proclamation: attached, for the record. Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve Right to Know Week, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

5. Proclamation – National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month

Mayor D. MacGillivray read proclamation, attached, for the record. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

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

a. Chief Mark Hobeck – Stellarton Police Service

Coun. S. Lawand commented re speeding on South Foord Street, and asked for the radar be installed at that location. CAO S. Higdon stated that the radar sign is scheduled to be erected at that location next. Coun. B. Knight added that there are plans on installing a permanent speed sign on South Foord Street. Coun. B. Knight noted that two new officers were hired.

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

b. Fire Chief Mike O’Sullivan – Fire Department

Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department’s reports for July and August 2024, 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.** Mayor and Council commented re the Homecoming Festival and amount of work Paige did to ensure its success. Mayor D. MacGillivray also thanked summer student Olivia Fitt for all her hard work this season.

d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer

Coun. S. Lawand suggested including more street lights for next budget; perform a study to determine where lights are needed.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve Town Engineer’s Reports, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

7. Correspondence

a. Mariposa East Skating Centre Re: Request for Donation – CAO S. Higdon stated that a donation request has been received from the Mariposa East Skating Centre for an advertisement; she reported that there is no money left in the Annual Grants Budget. Council denied request and letter will be sent informing them of the Annual Grants policy.

b. Property Valuation Services Corporation Re: New CEO – CAO S. Higdon for Council’s information, the Board of Directors for the Property Valuation Services Corporation has a new CEO Scott Farmer.

c. Healthy Pictou County Re: August Report for Council’s information.

d. The Legion Flag Raising – CAO S. Higdon stated that Legion Week is taking place from September 15 to 21st, they are having an Open House at the Legion on September 15 from 2:00 to 5:00; they are asking if the Town will raise the Legion flag during Legion Week. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to raise the Legion flag from September 15 to September 21, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

8. Committee of the Whole Report

The following recommendation is for Council’s consideration from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on July 22, 2024.

Recommendation #1

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the donation of land 00943407 to the Stellarton Memorial Community Centre Association. The Town will follow the proper procedure as per the Municipal Government Act.

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

9. Public Hearing Notice – Proposed Inter-Municipal Planning Strategy Land Donation – CAO S. Higdon commented as part of the land donation, the Town has to advertise that the Town is giving this land away; there will be Public Hearing to deal with the land donation on October 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Also at that Public Hearing, Council will be hearing any concerns, questions or any of the sort regarding the Proposed Intermunicipal Planning Strategy that has been updated.

10. First Reading – Municipal Planning Inter-Municipal Planning Strategy – Mayor D. MacGillivray gave the First Reading for the Municipal Planning Inter-Municipal Planning Strategy:

“BE IT RESOLVED that Stellarton Town Council grants first reading for the adoption of the Inter-municipal Planning Strategy, Town of Stellarton Secondary Planning Strategy, and Common (Uniform) Land Use By-law, as outlined under the Municipal Government Act of Nova Scotia, for the Towns of Pictou, Stellarton and Trenton. Be it further resolved that a public hearing will be held at 5:00 p.m., October 15, 2024, at the Stellarton Town Council Chambers, to consider any comments, objections or submissions with respect to this application.”

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve First Reading, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

11. First Reading - Donation of Land - SMCCA PID # 00943407 – Mayor D. MacGillivray gave the First Reading for the Donation of Land, Stellarton Memorial Community Centre PID #00943407:

“BE IT RESOLVED that Stellarton Town Council grants first reading for the donation of Land PID # 00943407 to the Stellarton Memorial Community Centre Association as outlined under the Municipal Government Act of Nova Scotia. Be it further resolved that a public hearing will be held at 5:00 p.m., October 15, 2024, at the Stellarton Town Council Chambers, to consider any comments, objections or submissions with respect to this donation.”

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve First Reading, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

12. Municipal Affairs and Housing Re: Code of Conduct – CAO S. Higdon read letter from John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to all Nova Scotia elected officials and CAO’s providing an update on the Municipal and Village Codes of Conduct; the new Code of Conduct will come into effect following the October municipal election; the Legislative Provisions require municipalities and villages to adopt a Code

of Conduct consisting of the model Code of Conduct as outlined in the regulations; must adopt model of Code of Conduct within 60 days following the October election and provide confirmation of their Notice of Adoption; training will be ready in early 2025. CAO S. Higdon noted that this is for Council's information and will be approving the Code of Conduct with the new Council.

13. Open Forum

No one spoke at the Open Forum.

- 14. Next Council Meeting:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

15. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. S. Lawand

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



STELLARTON POLICE SERVICE

Report for Month End September, 2024

Calls for Service : 259 (2023 calls : 227)

Calls	Type
1	911 Act-Other Activities
3	Animal calls
11	Assaults
13	Assist s to the General Public
17	Assist other Police Agency
8	Assist non-Government Agency
1	Being unlawfully in a dwelling
3	Breach of Peace
1	Break and Enter
1	Cannabis Act
1	Coroner Act
2	Crime Prevention
4	Criminal Harassment
4	Causing a disturbance
3	Dog Act- Other Activities
1	Driving while disqualified
7	Fail to comply with conditions
2	Fail to remain MVA

1	Fail to comply with demand (alcohol)
2	Family Relations Act
10	False Alarms
1	Fire prevention Act
1	Firearms Act
6	Fraud under \$5,000
5	Harassing Communications
9	Information Files
7	Item Lost/Found
1	Liquor Act
19	Mental Health Act
9	Mischief
32	Motor Vehicle Act Violations
2	Municipal Bylaw
2	No pursuit flight from police
2	Offender Management
2	Operation while impaired (alcohol)
9	Thefts
1	Theft of Vehicle
3	Parking Offences
1	Person reported missing
1	Possession of stolen property
1	Possession of a Weapon for dangerous purpose
4	Property check
1	Protest/demonstration
2	Public Mischief
1	Sexual Assault
4	S.T.E.P.
15	Suspicious Persons/person/vehicle

1	Taking motor vehicle without consent
1	Traffic Collision Fatal
7	Traffic Collision non-fatal
2	Trespass Act
6	Uttering Threats -person
10	Well-Being Checks
1	Youth Criminal Justice Act

Charges

Criminal Code - 22

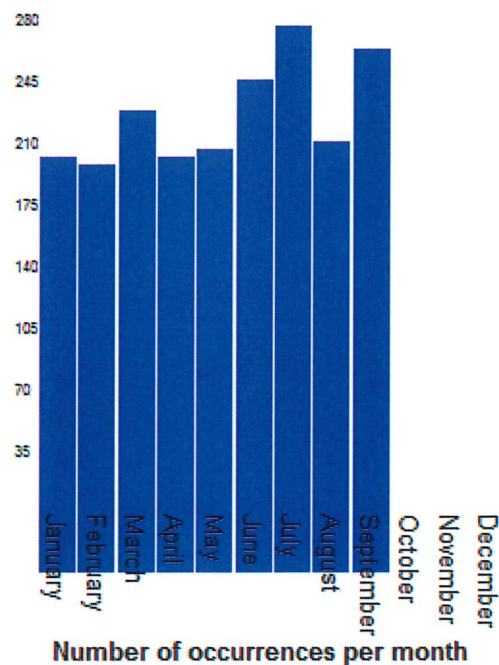
Motor Vehicle Act - 5

Bylaw - 1

Warnings - 47

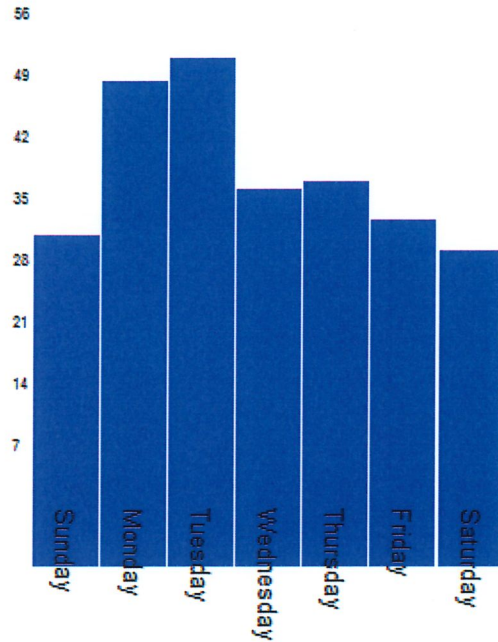
Breakdown by month:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
January	197	9.8%
February	196	9.8%
March	224	11.2%
April	201	10.0%
May	204	10.2%
June	241	12.0%
July	274	13.7%
August	206	10.3%
September	259	12.9%
October	1	0.0%
November	0	0.0%
December	0	0.0%
Unknown	0	0.0%
Total	2003	100%



Breakdown by day of the week:

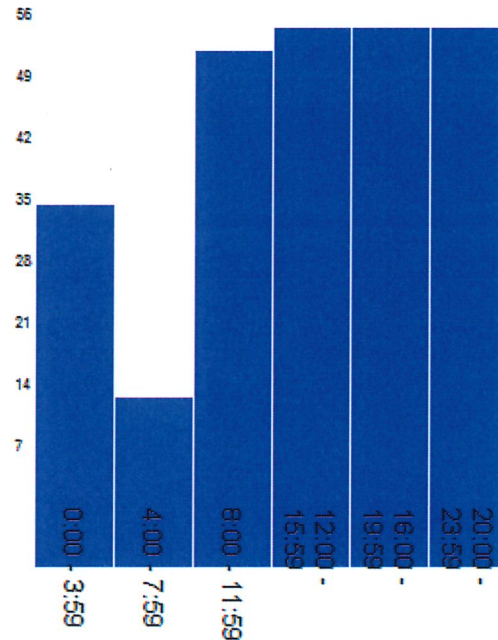
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
Sunday	30	11.6%
Monday	48	18.5%
Tuesday	50	19.3%
Wednesday	35	13.5%
Thursday	36	13.9%
Friday	32	12.4%
Saturday	28	10.8%
Unknown	0	0.0%
Total	259	100%



Number of occurrences per weekday

Breakdown by time of day:

<i>Time</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
0:00 - 3:59	34	13.1%
4:00 - 7:59	12	4.6%
8:00 - 11:59	51	19.7%
12:00 - 15:59	54	20.8%
16:00 - 19:59	54	20.8%
20:00 - 23:59	54	20.8%
Unknown	0	0.0%
Total	259	100%



Number of occurrences per time of day

Events

- Chief Hobeck and Insp Pond attended the NS Chiefs fall conference
- Chief Hobeck and Insp Pond attended Battle of Britain
- Chief Hobeck attended take back the night at the Stellarton town Square
- Chief Hobeck attended the Special Olympics Truck Convoy in Halifax

Other Activities

Foot/Bike Patrol - 34 hrs

Traffic Enforcement -71 hrs

Community Relations -29 hrs



Stellarton Fire Department
Monthly Report – Sept., 2024

CALLS:

The Stellarton Fire Department responded to 9 calls during the month of September. We responded to 2 fire alarms, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 2 medical calls and 1 structure fire. On average, 13 members responded to each call.

PRACTICES:

With the start of September official practices resumed on Thursday nights. We have held 4 organized practices with an average of 14 members in attendance.

CLEAN-UP/GEAR CHECK:

We continue to complete weekly equipment checks/clean ups. This is done by an assigned crew so each week we have 4-5 people complete this task.

We also participated in the Battle of Britain Parade.

Respectfully submitted by Mark Fortune

Secretary for SFD

September Council Report
Marketing, Communications, Recreation

Playground Equipment

The two Fire Engine Digi-Riders and the seesaw that were ordered back in the spring have arrived and are with Public Works for installation. These pieces of equipment are set to be installed at the River Street Park and the Pleasant Street Park (PSP).

The volleyball/badminton/multi-use net that had been ordered over the summer has also been delivered and is with Public Works for installation. This is set to be installed at the Pleasant Street Park. Since it will need to be removed for the winter months for safety and ease of access for snow removal, this likely will not be installed this year.

The three replacement parts for the damaged park equipment have been ordered. These three pieces will improve the swing set longevity at the PSP, and will make the slide at Allan Park and the spring rider at the PSP to be functional once again. I do not have an anticipated delivery date at this time.

Equipment Loan Program

The equipment loan program continues to be in use and will likely be open for residents to borrow from until the snow falls. The e-bikes continue to be the most borrowed item, and the borrowing program has resulted in at least two individuals buying their own e-bikes. At this time, the e-bikes are booked until after the Thanksgiving weekend and have been continuously booked for the last month. This has been with a slow roll-out of the program and I anticipate the spring will bring even more desire for borrowing.

Albion Ball Field

The Albion continues to be in use until the end of October/beginning of November for high school ball and the odd exhibition game. With the early notice of the lighting being a factor, teams were able to adjust their field times and have been making use of the field without requiring the lighting system.

I have been continuing to investigate the historical significance of the Albion and am working with the Nova Scotia Archives to be able to confirm that it is the oldest ball field in the province. I am hopeful that with this information confirmed, we may be able to utilize it for grant funding to improve the field in the future.

Newsletter

The Fall Edition of the Stellar News has been created and is available in hard copy as well as online. This edition features information on the election, Fire Prevention Week, the TownApp, and updates from the Police Department. The newsletter has been included with residents' water bills and has been mailed out to all who receive these.

Provincial Volunteer Awards

On September 18, Mayor MacGillivray and I attended the 50th Annual Nova Scotia Provincial Volunteer Awards. This reception was held in Truro to honour the many representatives across

Nova Scotia who have been designated as their area's Volunteer of the Year, as well as to award several special awards to volunteer groups, individuals, and families. Sandra Eis, who was recognized as our Volunteer of the Year back in the spring, was recognized at this provincial reception.

Social Media Highlights

There are several items that were shared via our social media platforms over the last month that are important to highlight for residents:

Sunday Fundays: For the month of October, Stellarton residents are able to take part in family swims at the YMCA for free. These swims take place on Sunday afternoons from 3-4pm and do require pre-registration for individuals and families to take part. People can register to take part in one of these swims here: <https://t.ly/-Syp1>

Heating Assistance Rebate: Nova Scotia's Heating Assistance Rebate Program is now open for applications. Eligible Nova Scotians can receive a \$600 rebate on their home heating bills. To determine eligibility or to apply, residents can follow this link: <https://t.ly/SDyNB>

Elections: The voting period has officially begun for the 2024 municipal election. Residents can learn who their candidates are, as well as find important information on Help Kiosks and how to vote online. (*This important information has been pinned to the top of our Facebook page for quick access.)

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Draper
Marketing & Communications Coordinator

Town Engineers Report September 2024 Engineering & Public Works Report

Engineering

1. See Capital Projects Update table below:



**Town of Stellarton
Capital Projects Update Sheet**

CAPITAL	Project Description	Status
Equipment	Sidewalk Plow & attachment	Received
	Public Works Trucks (2)	Ordered
	One Ton Truck	awarded
	GPS Equipment	
Infrastructure	Curb-Oxford St	Complete
	Curb-Crescent	Complete
	Curb-Poplar St North Ext	Complete
	Culvert Headwall South Foord	Complete
	Claremont	Final lift of asphalt required
	Kirk Ave	Water near completion
Paving	Kirk Ave East	Complete
	Scott Ave	Complete
	Water Treatment Plant Hill	Complete
	Community Centre Parking Lot	Complete
Sidewalks	St Bernard St	75% complete
	Scotiabank - Acadia Ave side	

2. Public Works staff are busy with the St. Bernard sidewalk project. The final section and landscaping is still outstanding.

Streets/Properties

3. Public Works fixed several sidewalk hazards throughout Town.
4. Public Works repaired several small sidewalk sections around the Town.
5. GPF Tree Services was in to address several damaged trees in Town.

**Blaine Murray, P.Eng.,
Town Engineer**

Town of Stellarton Town Engineers Report September 2024 Water Utility Report

Water Distribution

1. Annual hydrant flushing will begin on October 28th.
2. There were several water breaks on Kirk during the replacement of the old water main. The existing pipe proved to be at the end of it's service life.

WTP

3. Average treated water Production for September 2024 (1,855,301 LPD) compared to September 2023 (1,859,061 LPD) was ~0.2% Higher.
4. The East River water levels were low in the month of September. However, it did not reach the flow rate value which triggers water conservation measures. The Town weather station recorded 77 mm of rain in the month of September.

**Blaine Murray, P. Eng.
Town Engineer**