

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2015
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Stellarton Town Council II was held on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Mayor J. Gennoe, Couns. K. Francis, J. MacLellan, S. Lawand and D. Taylor.
Also present Town Clerk J. Eaton.

AGENDA

The Agenda was approved on motion by Coun. D. Taylor, seconded by Coun. K. Francis. **Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

The minutes of June 8 and July 27, 2015 were approved on motion by Coun. J. MacLellan, seconded by Coun. K. Francis. **Motion Carried.**

FOR THE RECORD

Council met In-Camera prior to the meeting.

PRESENTATION: DEANS

No Presentation tonight; DEANS will do it next month.

BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. **Draft Policy for consideration: Citizen Committee Appointments:**
Town Clerk J. Eaton stated that all Council was provided with a copy; looking for feedback.
Coun. D. Taylor's position: after the term, the position should be advertised, anyone can apply or re-apply.
Coun. S. Lawand comments: referred to previous motion.
Coun. J. MacLellan comments: everyone should be able to apply; a set Policy makes it more transparent; applicants should list qualifications or letter explaining their interest in the position.
Town Clerk J. Eaton referred to the Elections Act and the Municipal Government Act where the qualifications for Councillor: 18 years of age, Canadian Citizen, and living in Town for 6 months; not to scrutinize volunteers for their qualifications (unfair).
Coun. D. Taylor suggested looking at other Municipal Units re their citizen appointments.
Discussion commenced.
Issue tabled until future meeting, gather more information.

- b. **Second Amending Agreement to MOU** – discussion about the public information sessions re the MOU; Steering Committee gathering information, some feedback.
Town Clerk J. Eaton reported that there are three different changes; the Draft deals with bringing the MOU in line with the decisions of fire departments and the 60 day notice of withdrawal, and it's an application under an amalgamation and not a regional government approach; Stellarton will need to give their position in order to sign the Amendment.
Coun. D. Taylor motioned that the Town of Stellarton sign the second Amendment to the MOU Agreement, seconded by Coun. J. MacLellan.
Comments/Questions/Discussion:
Discussion commenced.
Coun. S. Lawand questioned re amalgamation component expressing concerns.
Town Clerk J. Eaton referred to page 2 regarding amalgamation for the participating municipal units.

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Coun. D. Taylor reiterated that Council still has the option to proceed or not following the plebiscite; if the citizens of Stellarton vote against the amalgamation, Council can vote against joining. This amendment is to ensure things are filed correctly.

Coun. J. MacLellan commented on the amount of work involved with this process; staff work.

Mayor J. Gennoe commented re his position and the betterment of the Town in his opinion; democracy.

On the motion, Mayor J. Gennoe and Coun. S. Lawand voted nay. **Motion Carried.**

REPORTS

Mayor J. Gennoe:

MOU – attended Steering Committee meetings.

The Pictou County Shared Services Agreement – next meeting will be September 28, 2015.

The Pictou County Wellness Centre – no meeting.

144 CEF will be holding next meeting on September 17, 2015.

Coun. S. Lawand reported on the following:

Communities in Bloom – attended August 11 meeting; flower baskets.

DEANS – no update.

Pictou Council Sports Hall of Fame – update on 55 Plus Games

Sobey Soccer Complex – lots of activities; looking for more storage space

Pictou County Economic Development – several meetings; circulated mandate that has to be approved by all participating units:

Coun. S. Lawand read *Mandate of Municipal Economic Working Group*, (attached).

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to adopt the Mandate of Municipal Economic Working Group, seconded by Coun. K. Francis. **Motion Carried.**

Next meeting will be October 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the County Council Chambers, Town of Stellarton representatives will be Couns. Ken Francis and Simon Lawand.

Coun. J. MacLellan reported on the following:

Library – Met with Library Board September 10; website; program information; upcoming reading at the NSCC (One Book Nova Scotia).

Mine Liaison Pioneer Coal – received no complaints; spoke with Paul White.

Heritage – nothing to report; asked how Council would like to proceed with making more Plaques for the Town. Some discussion commenced regarding the Birch Hill Receiving Home plaque and possible future sites / plaques for other heritage attractions.

Coun. K. Francis reported on the following:

Glen Haven Manor – meeting next week.

Homecoming – budget issues; further discussions recommended.

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School Advisory Council, Northumberland Regional High School – no meeting to date for the current school year.

Municipal Alcohol Project – update on project; very active in the County; proposed changes to Liquor Licenses in eating establishments; Service Nova Scotia looking for the support from municipalities. Coun. K. Francis made motion for the Town of Stellarton write letter of support to Service Nova Scotia in favour of changes to the Liquor Licenses, seconded by Coun. J. MacLellan. **Motion Carried.**

Coun. D. Taylor reported on the following:

Riverview Home – no meetings in August; next meeting is this week.

G. R. Saunders School Liaison – no meeting yet in September.

MOU - next Public Meeting is September 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the NSCC dealing with the revised boundaries and the number of elected in each boundary, reducing the size of Council from 31 down to 10 plus one mayor; and the remuneration. Council received large document re the Amendments that was sent to the Public Utility Board with the conditional application for voluntary amalgamation along with other documents relating to that. Coun. D. Taylor commented on the tremendous amount of work and information gathered by the staff. She added that electronic voting information is being looked at.

INVITATION: 55 PLUS 2015 PROVINCIAL GAMES

Mayor J. Gennoe stated that all Council was invited.

NOTIFICATION

Mayor J. Gennoe reported that Municipal Affairs Minister, Zach Churchill will be visiting in the future.

MUNICIPAL AWARENESS WEEK

Mayor J. Gennoe reported that Municipal Awareness Week is November 16 to 22, 2015. Some discussion for generating more awareness of municipal government.

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 19, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

OPEN FORUM

Nil.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK