

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2017
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Stellarton Town Council II was held on Monday, September 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Mayor D. MacGillivray, Couns. S. Lawand, B. Knight, S. Campbell and G. Pentz.
Also present Town Clerk J. Eaton.

AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as amended to include the Proposed Small Business Tax change which the Federal Government is suggesting, on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

DECLARATION: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

MINUTES

Coun. B. Knight motioned to approve minutes from June 12, June 21, June 30, July 25, July 31, and August 24, 2017, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Street Name – Off Auburn Avenue

Mayor D. MacGillivray asked for Council feedback.

Coun. B. Knight made motion to name the Street “Taits Lane”, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

Police Study Group – Town of Stellarton / Town of Westville

Town Clerk J. Eaton reported that this item was addressed In Camera; needs to be public. Mayor D. MacGillivray stated the focus of the Group is long term sustainability of the two small police forces; the Committee has been formed, consisting of Town Clerk Joyce Eaton, CAO Kelly Rice from Westville, Dorothy Lane Hale Chair of the Police Commission in Westville, Roger MacKay Westville Mayor, Stellarton Mayor Danny MacGillivray, Don Taylor Stellarton’s Police Commission Chair, and the Chief of Police Don Hussher.

Town Clerk J. Eaton will distribute police department financial information from the past five years for Council’s review.

Coun. B. Knight noted that Committee members are not being paid; nothing decided; it’s a discussion and fact-finding; the general public will be involved in the final decision.

Mayor D. MacGillivray reiterated that it will be an open and transparent process with public consultation if there is any significant structural changes.

Acadia Avenue – Clarification – Town Engineer re Paving Tender

Town Engineer B. Murray reviewed the Acadia Avenue paving with the contractor; proposing to pave in full from Foord Street to Brown Row; patching the utility cuts from Brown Row up, and letting it sit for a year; then put the full thickness down next year.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to take the recommendations of the Town Engineer, seconded by Coun. B. Knight.

Discussion:

Coun. S. Lawand supports Town Engineer.

Coun. S. Campbell question re the area by the railway crossing. Town Engineer B. Murray stated that the area has settled for a year and should be OK; guaranteed by pipe contractor.

Motion Carried.

Geophysical Assessments / Results and Recommendations

Fencing – Estimate \$130,000.00

Mayor D. MacGillivray gave some background; regarding some areas close to the river, and trail by the Dorrington Ball Field; geophysical assessment reports re sink hole concerns; results / recommendations came back to fence certain area; cost estimate is \$130,000.00.

Town Engineer B. Murray confirmed that the consultants recommended fencing those areas.

Coun. B. Knight comments re Provincial Government's mining royalties; unwilling to help with such issues.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve \$130,000 to erect fencing around the potential subsidence, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATION: DEANS

Cindy MacKinnon, Managing Director of DEANS and Heidi Sponagle, Regional Sales Manager of Holloway Lodging made presentation to Council, attached. Requesting Municipal support.

Questions/Comments:

Coun. S. Lawand commends DEANS for their work; Visitors Centre; Website, linked to municipalities; coordination of events; Cruise Ships, promotions, opportunities.

Coun. B. Knight comments; benefits of tournaments.

Mayor D. MacGillivray re financial commitments; budget approved \$4601.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED

Brenda MacKay – Financial Update – 3 moths: General, Water, Rink; Attached.

Town Accountant B. MacKay, Financial Update presented to Council; will be posted on Website.

Questions/Comments:

Coun. S. Lawand re Rink, Bingo revenue, as estimated. B. MacKay replied that it is difficult to be exact; numbers could vary.

Town Account B. MacKay presented the Council Expenses, attached and will be posted on the Town's Website.

Mayor D. MacGillivray reported on the following:

- Pictou County Wellness Centre; working on reducing deficit
- Pictou County Shared Services Authority, next meeting October 2 followed by a Mayors and Warden meeting
- Habitat for Humanity Project – update; first meeting set for September 21; Committee to consist of Mayor; Dave Freckleton NSCC; Vernon Parker retired Planning Commission; Albert MacCallum retired surveyor; Cathy Covey Real Estate Agent; Dale Bigney Manager East Coast Credit Union; Harvey Bate retired supervisor Children's Aid; Jane MacMaster Eastern Mainland Housing Authority; Alex Martell Engineer at Pioneer Coal; and RBC Employee to be announced; Corporate sponsors; "Revise" project, where an old house is completed renovated.
- Website – launching new one this fall; videos included

Coun. B. Knight reported on the following:

- June 30 attended Police Committee meeting; interviewed candidates for Inspector position; interviewed candidates for Term Officer
- Attended Special Council meeting re Budget; and other Council, In Camera and Police Commission meetings
- Attended Pride Flag raising in New Glasgow
- Toured Police Departments in Stellarton and Westville
- Attended Canada Day Flag raising, Seniors Tea
- Homecoming meetings and events
- Met with Minister of Municipal Affairs
- Inspected mining shaft with Pioneer Coal

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- Attended Municipal Advisory Committee meetings
- Met with Westville Council re Policing
- Attended session at the NSCC re Solar Energy
- Participated in archeological dig at the Museum of Industry
- Battle of Britain ceremony
- Upcoming meeting re recreational canvas; open forum for public

Coun. S. Lawand reported on the following:

- DEANS presentation
- Nothing to report on Glen Haven Board
- AGM for Communities in Bloom tomorrow
- Homecoming
- Planning Advisory Committee meeting September 20; mine site; survey
- Police Commission Meeting; new Inspector
- Library
- Pictou County Economic Development Working Group; funding formula; request submitted to other municipalities re the PRDA surplus.

Recommendations to Council, attached.

Motion made by Coun. S. Lawand, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz to establish a Regional Enterprise Network. **Motion Carried.**

Motion made by Coun. S. Lawand to adopt the funding formula for REN based on 50% of the municipal contribution being shared equally and the remaining 50% being shared based on population, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

Motion made by Coun. S. Lawand to approve the use of PRDA surplus for the municipal contribution in year one of the newly formed REN, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz.

Motion Carried.

Coun. S. Campbell reported on the following:

- Budget meeting June 13
- PAC meetings on June 20 and July 19
- Attended Special Council II meetings
- Riverview Corp meeting June 29
- Canada Day Seniors Tea; Flag Raising
- Met the Hon. Derek Momberquet July 20
- Attended several Homecoming events
- Information session at NSCC re Solar Panels
- Attended Official Opening of the Old Foster Trail
- Attended Battle of Britain service

Coun. G. Pentz reported on the following:

- Attended several events; Homecoming, Battle of Britain, Council meetings

MAYOR D. MACGILLIVRAY: TOWN BANNER / FLAG

Mayor D. MacGillivray presented the Town Banner; recommends it be the Official Town Flag as well.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion that the Town of Stellarton go from a Town Banner to a Town Flag as presented by Mayor Danny MacGillivray, seconded by Coun. B. Knight.

Motion Carried.

PROCLAMATION: FULL HEARTS EMPTY ARMS – OCTOBER 15TH

Mayor D. MacGillivray was contacted by society concerned about Pregnancy and Infant Loss; there will be a ceremony on October 15 at the Town Square; International event, candles; Proclamation, attached, read by Mayor MacGillivray.

Coun. S. Campbell made motion to accept resolution declaring October 15th as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

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COUN. B. KNIGHT: BIRCH HILL ORPHANAGE PLAQUE – OFFICIAL UNVEILING

Coun. B. Knight re Birch Hill Orphanage; plaque is in place; recommends an Official Unveiling.

Coun. B. Knight motioned to have an Official Unveiling of the Birch Hill Orphanage Plaque, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

Date of unveiling to be determined; Town Clerk J. Eaton reported that some former residents willing to assist with the preparations.

COUN. S. LAWAND – FEDERAL SMALL BUSINESS TAX

Coun. S. Lawand re proposed new small business tax by the federal government; gave remarks on subject; feels new tax would make it more difficult for new businesses, or entrepreneurs; already have enough concerns; referred to other companies not abiding by current laws and why wouldn't the federal government act on those companies instead of doing a blanket law that would affect every body, especially our community when trying to attract small businesses.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to send a letter to the federal government expressing our concerns on the potential impact of this proposal change would have on our community, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

NEXT MEETING:

October 16, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

OPEN FORUM

Mayor D. MacGillivray comments:

- Announced the retirement of the Town Clerk Joyce Eaton after 48 years of service; no strict timeline associated with her departure; Council intends to find a permanent replacement as soon as possible. Congratulated and thanked Joyce Eaton for her years of service.

Brian Atkinson comments:

- Wellness Centre deficit; happy that the expenses are being lowered

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK