

JANUARY 16, 2017
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Stellarton Town Council II was held on Monday, January 16, 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 under Presentations from the Highland District Soccer Association, and #13 Next Meeting Date as February 13, 2017, on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

DECLARATION: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

MINUTES

Coun. G. Pentz motioned to approve minutes from December 12, 2016, seconded by B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATIONS:

Highland District Soccer Association: Andy Kenny, Chief Executive Officer of the Highland District Soccer Association and Gary Matheson, Facility Manager of the Indoor Sobey Sports Complex.

Andy Kenny addressed Council, requesting an operating grant on an annual basis; provided background on the William M. Sobey Sports Complex; multi-sports complex; Town contributed \$200,000 to the construction; funding from grants has now ceased; management information; operations; representation from the Town, Coun. B. Knight and Recreation Director P. Corbin. Information on the facility; revenue sources – grants, rentals, soccer fees, signage, etc.; requesting continuation of grant funding from all municipalities. Council was provided with an Economic Impact Study.

Questions/Comments:

Coun. B. Knight commented on the following: financial impacts; very positive; multi-purpose facility; very clean; manager does a great job; scheduling is near at full capacity; walking program very popular; dog shows; family fun nights; etc.; spinoffs for other businesses; promotes healthy lifestyles; Strategic Plan identifies sports complexes as assets to the Town.

Mayor D. MacGillivray thanked presenters; financial request will be dealt with during budget deliberations.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED

Mayor D. MacGillivray reported:

- December 17, attended staff Christmas Party
- December 18, attended Seniors' Complex Christmas socials
- December 19, attended the Pictou County Wellness Centre Board Meeting
- Went to various Town Businesses with letters welcoming them
- Met with Pioneer Coal
- January 5, Public Works tour of facilities
- January 5, Police Commission meeting
- January 9, Council I meeting
- January 12, met with Municipal Affairs
- January 16, Pictou County Wellness Centre Board meeting; Facility Management Review Team from community – any suggestions; lower deficit anticipated for this year. Positive remarks about the Wellness Centre; being well utilized.
- Invitation to the Coldest Night of the Year Walk, February 25, 5 p.m.
- January 20, Curling Bonspiel at the Bluenose Curling Club
- In contact with the Habitat for Humanity rep in Dartmouth

**JANUARY 16, 2017
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA
CONTINUED**

Coun. B. Knight reported:

- Attended the Fire Hall Staff Christmas Party
- December 18, attended Seniors Christmas Socials at Maple Crest and Birchhill
- December 21, visited some businesses with the Mayor
- Visited and presented Charlie Stewart with retirement gift
- Met with Pioneer Coal re future developments
- Dropped in the rink several times
- January 5, toured the rink, the Water Treatment Plant and the Town Public Works barn
- Attended the Police Commission meeting; foot patrol on Foord Street
- Met with Municipal Affairs
- Municipal Alcohol Program, couldn't attend meeting

Coun. S. Lawand:

- Attended several meetings
- Glen Haven Board meeting will meet January 25
- Community in Bloom will meet tomorrow
- Homecoming meeting on January 26
- Pictou County Business Development, date to be determined; looking at Strategic Plan that the County had from 2011; needs updating
- Library Board will meet February 9; attending a Family Literacy Day on January 26 at the Stellarton Library
- Comments re the Seniors Christmas Socials; very pleased with the response from the seniors.
- Looking at rat problems; contact was made with the Housing Authority; Mayor D. MacGillivray re Town write a letter to the Housing Authority.

Coun. S. Lawand motioned that a letter be sent to the Housing Authority expressing the concerns at the Seniors Complexes, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

Coun. S. Campbell reported on the following:

- Attended the Christmas Socials at the Seniors Complexes and Fire Hall
- Met with Pioneer Coal on December 21
- Attended monthly meeting of Riverview Home Corporation December 22
- Toured the Town Barn, the Water Treatment Plant, and the Memorial Rink
- Attended the Board Orientation at Riverview Home Corp.; visited some of the homes
- Attended the presentation from Municipal Affairs on January 12

Coun. G. Pentz reported on the following:

- Economic Development for Pictou County with Coun. Lawand
- Met with Pioneer Coal
- No new meetings with other Boards to report

COUN. S. CAMPBELL:

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL – EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

Coun. S. Campbell made a motion for the Town Council to form a Committee to bring back a policy for consideration pertaining to employee service awards, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand.

Coun. S. Campbell stated she would like to sit on this Committee along with two other members of Council. Coun. B. Knight and Coun. G. Pentz volunteered as well.

Motion Carried.

COUN. S. LAWAND:

MGA – SECTION 69 – LOW INCOME TAX EXEMPTION:

Coun. S. Lawand made a motion to increase the qualifying amount from \$20,000 to \$30,000, applicable the next fiscal year.

Discussion commenced.

**JANUARY 16, 2017
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA
CONTINUED**

Town Clerk J. Eaton suggested looking at different factors such as exemption amount; budget deliberations; poverty lines; etc.

Council agreed to address this issue during budget deliberations.

Coun. S. Lawand withdrew motion.

**COUN. S. LAWAND:
CANADA'S 150 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

Coun. S. Lawand would like to see something happen in Stellarton for Canada's 150.

Coun. B. Knight agreed. Discussion and ideas; Senior's Tea, more flags/banners, collaborate with Town of Westville, Community in Bloom having more red and white floral arrangements, house/business challenges, etc. Request the Recreation Director be involved with event planning.

CUPE LOCAL 281 – NOTICE TO BARGAIN

Town Clerk J. Eaton reported that Council has a copy; Notice to Bargain between CUPE Local 281 and the Town of Stellarton; she read, "On behalf of CUPE as per the requirements of current collective agreement, I am hereby serving notice that we wish to seek amendment to the collective agreement expiring on March 31, 2017. Would you kindly contact the undersigned to set a mutually agreed date to commence collective bargaining. Thank you for your early response." Signed by Betty Jean Sutherland, National Representative. Town Clerk J. Eaton advised Council that they would need a Negotiating Committee of Council and some tentative dates; Committee members could consist of the Mayor, one Councillor and Town Solicitor. Discussion commenced.

HIGHLAND DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION – FINANCIAL REQUEST

Dealt with above; Presentation.

114 ACADIA AVENUE – MOTION OF SUPPORT

Mayor D. MacGillivray met with a party interested in having this business in operation and are looking for support from the Town Council through a resolution – which was distributed, attached.

Coun. S. Lawand read attached Resolution, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

AMANS – WEBSITE PROPOSAL

Mayor D. MacGillivray re municipal websites; AMANS proposal to create new website at cost of \$3,000 per year for three years; includes everything you need to launch a new website; support packages available; recommends Town go ahead with this proposal.

Coun. B. Knight motioned that the Town buy into this program, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz.

Question:

Coun. S. Lawand asked about what happens after the three years; does the support packages come into effect? Mayor D. MacGillivray stated that support packages would be immediate; the \$3000 would be to get the site up and running; the support packages would be to maintain it.

Coun. S. Lawand asked if Town could take it on internally after the three years; Mayor D. MacGillivray replied yes and there's opportunities before the three years; training is available for in-house.

Motion Carried.

NEXT MEETING:

February 13, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

OPEN FORUM

Brian Atkinson comments:

- Very pleased with the new Council's progress

**JANUARY 16, 2017
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA
CONTINUED**

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK