

## **MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Stellarton Memorial Rink Commission was held on Monday, May 15, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

## **PRESENT**

Chair Mayor D. MacGillivray, Comms. S. Campbell, M. MacDonald, G. Pentz, B. Knight, S. Mayich and D. Davidson. Also present Town Clerk J. Eaton, Recreation Director, P. Corbin and Town Engineer, B. Funke.

## **AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved on motion by Comm. G. Pentz and seconded by Comm.

S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 30, 2017**

Comm. G. Pentz moved the Approval of the January 30, 2017 Minutes as received, seconded by Comm. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

## **FINANCE: UPDATE ON 2017-2018 PROJECTIONS**

Financial Advisor, B. MacKay reported there were no projections for 2017-2018 to report on at tonight's meeting.

## **FINANCE : UPDATE ON 2016-2017 YEAR END**

B. MacKay, Contract Finance, presented a detailed explanation on individual budget line items for 2016-2017 Budget/Actual Statements to March 1, 2017. Overall Revenue has decreased over the prior year \$34,000.00 which could all be attributed to Bingo. Revenue is down \$27,000.00 from budget – all attributed to Bingo. Overall Expenses are 2.3% higher than prior year. Expenditures are down \$11,000.00 as compared to budget. Overall year-to-date, the most significant impact coming from Bingo revenue being lower than prior year. Balance year to date is a deficit of \$108,000.00 as compared to budgeted deficit of \$91,000.00.

B. MacKay was thanked for her presentation.

Comm. D. MacGillivray asked what the long term prognosis was for Bingo. Town Engineer, B. Funke said he does not think Bingo would expand much with the competition that is out there. Lower revenue is the new normal for Bingo.

## **ICE RENTAL RATES: 2017-2018 ICE SEASON**

Recreation Coordinator P. Corbin presented a Memorandum showing the different ice rental rates across the County for 2017-2018. With the Amalgamation of the Pictou County Minor Hockey Association, some rinks have stopped offering a Minor Hockey rate and just offer a Prime Time rate. Recreation Coordinator P. Corbin recommended that Stellarton follow this practice.

Comm. D. MacGillivray commented that Stellarton is definitely on the low-end on pricing. He asked what the feelings were of the Commission.

Comm. B. Knight does not agree with increasing the rate unless it is going to generate a substantial increase in revenue. He also felt the rate increase might chase away patrons.

Comm. D. MacGillivray felt the idea behind the increase would be to shift some of the burden of the deficit from the taxpayers to the user groups. He suggested matching some of the other rinks' rates.

Comm. D. Davidson asked if we are looking at increasing our rates to be equal with Westville and the other Towns at a Prime rate of \$161?

Comm. D. MacGillivray noted that the rate increase would not generate a significant increase in revenue but felt it would make sense to remove the Minor Hockey rate like the other Towns and just have Non-Prime and Prime rates.

Comm M. MacDonald does not want to chase patrons away because they produce revenue for the rink. He felt a lot of these Associations struggle to pay referees, time-keepers etc.

Comm. G. Pentz suggested eliminating Non-Prime and stay with Prime time at \$158.

P. Corbin gave some background information on rink usage.

After some discussion, Comm. G. Pentz moved that we go with a Prime rate of \$161, and a School and Non-Profit rate of \$100/hr., eliminating the Minor Hockey rate, seconded by Comm. B. Knight. **Motion Carried**

### **TOWN ENGINEER: UPDATE – RINK MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS UPDATE – 2017 BINGO SEASON**

Town Engineer, B. Funke presented the Town Engineer's Report dated May 15, 2017 which he reviewed in detail. A copy of the report is attached to form part of the Minutes.

B. Funke reported that mechanically the rink is functioning well. Public Works crew performed monthly inspections on the building and repaired all safety issues in the building.

Bingo season has started. The Bingo equipment has been modernized with the purchase of \$4,200.00 worth of newer used equipment.

Staff has proposed a significant number of Capital items for this year. These projects consist of:

- The Zamboni Door opener, allows staff to better clear ice buildup in front of the door (\$6,500.00)
- Replace plywood over net areas with Plexiglas as wood is now falling on the ice from puck damage (\$8,000.00)
- Replace flooring in four dressing rooms which are highly stained, wore out and smell (\$16,500.00)
- Replace flooring in Lounge area. (\$5,000.00)
- Heat Recovery unit (\$8,500.00)

Town Engineer B. Funke said any of these items would be of great benefit to improving the rink.

Various items were discussed.

Comm. B. Knight suggested replacing the current heating unit in the employee staff room with a heat pump as a way of saving money. Some discussion also took place on the replacement of the recovery unit listed in the Engineer's report. B. Funke is not sure what direction the Commission wants to go with heat revitalization in the rink but with direction from the Commission he could put a cost together.

Comm. D. Davidson felt dressing room #4 needs a lot of work. He questioned why the Town hasn't applied for grants like other rinks in the County have done in the past. He was also of the opinion that if Town Council doesn't start putting money into the rink patrons will not want to use it.

Comm. S. Mayich made the comment that the lounge room is disgusting. It was agreed that the flooring was in bad shape and in desperate need of replacement. Comm. B. Knight asked if another type of flooring could be put down in the lounge area other than carpet. Staff is looking at replacing the flooring with commercial vinyl.

Comm. D. MacGillivray was in agreement that if the Town was to put money into the rink it should be towards the building itself.

Comm. S. Campbell suggested having staff paint the entrance doors and the handrails outside. She also mentioned that the pop machine in the rink is now in operation.

#### **RECREATION DIRECTOR: UPDATE 2016-2017 ICE RENTAL SEASON**

Reaction Coordinator, P. Corbin reported that the Ice Rental Season had a pretty decent year. A few tournaments were missed at the start of the season because of mechanical problems but one or two tournaments were gained later in the season. With this being the first year for Minor Hockey being amalgamated, two events, normally hosted by Stellarton did not take place – the Stella Cup and the Jamboree. Comm. D. Davidson said the reason we lost the Jamboree event was because the Wellness Centre put a Jamboree on a month before and brought teams in. He said this year was the first year in 30 years that Stellarton did not have a jamboree in our rink.

On a positive note, P. Corbin reported that the Pictou County Minor Hockey Association, for this upcoming season, is looking at running more Minor Hockey weekly events at our rink. Comm. D. Davidson felt this would be a good incentive to do improvements to the rink.

P. Corbin also reported that the Club President for the Association suggested Stellarton can improve schedule-wise by trying to hit for a Thanksgiving weekend start time because that is when the Association will be starting up and close just after March Break.

Private rentals have increased this year especially with birthday party rentals.

Comm. D. MacGillivray felt it might be a good idea to start advertising private rentals on our Facebook page. Comm. S. Campbell felt making improvements to the lounge area could draw more rentals.

Recreation Coordinator P. Corbin reported receiving complaints about the front entrance not being accessible – the main doors are narrow and not power operated.

STELLARTON RINK COMMISSION  
MAY 15, 2017

**ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m on motion Comm. G. Pentz.

**CHAIRMAN**

**TOWN CLERK**