

MARCH 22, 2021
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Chair Deputy Mayor S. Lawand, Mayor D. MacGillivray, Coun. B. Knight, Coun. G. Pentz, and Coun. S. Campbell. Also present was the Town Clerk S. Higdon.

1. Deputy Mayor S. Lawand called meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended to include under correspondence 5.c. Nova Scotia Justice Executive Director David MacLean to Police Chief Cecchetto and 5.d. letter from CARMA, on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell.

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of February 22, 2021 were approved on motion by Coun. B. Knight, seconded by Mayor D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no Business arising from the Minutes.

5. Correspondence

- a. Letter from Minister Brendan Maguire, Municipal Affairs Re: Introduction – Town Clerk S. Higdon read letter addressed to Mayor D. MacGillivray from the new Minister of Municipal Affairs, Brendan Macguire.
- b. Aberdeen Health Foundation Re: AGM Invitation – Town Clerk S. Higdon re invitation sent to all Council for their Annual General Meeting, March 25; virtual meeting.
- c. Letter from Executive Director of the Department of Justice to Chief Cecchetto Re: Provincial Police Study – Town Clerk S. Higdon re ongoing issue between the province and the Chiefs of Police; this letter was from the Executive Director of the Department of Justice David MacLean and sent to Bridgewater Police Chief Cecchetto as President of the NS Association of Chiefs of Police; Town Clerk S. Higdon read letter for the record re Internal Committee review of policing services across Nova Scotia. Coun. B. Knight comments re not effective if the police departments are not on board; need feedback and input from police departments. Chair Deputy Mayor S. Lawand asked if Town sent letter stating our concerns. Coun. B. Knight made motion as Chair of Police Commission to write letter voicing the concerns of Stellarton Council, seconded Mayor D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**
- d. CARMA – Town Clerk S. Higdon read letter from CARMA re seeking a location for cat facility; not a permanent place for cats; temporary assessment, pre-op and post-op place. Mayor D. MacGillivray comments re the great work that CARMA does, but feels the Town does not have the available space. Coun. B. Knight comments re the support for the SPCA. Town Clerk S. Higdon will respond to CARMA stating that support is given to the SPCA and they in turn may assist CARMA with this request.

6. Heritage Plan Draft Presentation

Paige Clarke, Communications and Marketing, made presentation to Council re a Heritage Plan for Stellarton, highlighting:

- Retained WSP and Architecture 49 to help develop plan
- Scope of project was to make recommendations on recognizing and celebrating the Town of Stellarton's history
- Three categories; Built Heritage, Cultural Heritage and Natural Heritage
- Benefits; Community Pride, Community Development, Economic Development
- WSP held Workshop with the Heritage Committee, helped to identify a vision and initiatives for the plan
- Community Survey was circulated
- Vision Statement: To inspire pride in Stellarton's collective heritage and invite residents and tourists to learn about and experience Stellarton's history so the Town can grow and thrive and keeping with its heritage character and unique cultural history.
- Five initiatives identified: Develop framework for a Heritage Tour; Enhance Foord Street as a Heritage Streetscape; Protect and enhance existing built Heritage resources; Incorporate celebration of Heritage into Town promotions, events and places; and to build partnerships to help the Town educate about, promote and conserve Heritage in the Town.
- Several recommendations reviewed and considered
- Implementation strategy; timelines; participants; and monitor success

Questions/Comments:

Coun. B. Knight acknowledged and thanked Town Clerk S. Higdon and Paige Clarke for their work assisting with the plan along with Committee members; supports the Heritage Committee and their plan.

Mayor D. MacGillivray comments re a great plan; start with lower cost items; \$2,500 budgeted this year.

Coun. G. Pentz comments that it's a beginning to educate people on the Town's important heritage.

Chair Deputy Mayor S. Lawand commented on a very detailed and well-done plan; some concern re costs; façade program; volunteer retention; "Heritage District" concerns; Foord Street sidewalks, old benches.

Coun. B. Knight re Heritage properties.

Town Clerk S. Higdon stated that plan can be recommended to Council to approve in principle. Coun. B. Knight made motion to recommend to Council to approve Heritage Plan as presented, seconded by Mayor D. MacGillivray.

On the question: Mayor D. MacGillivray re what would be the next steps. Town Clerk S. Higdon responded that the Plan will be ratified at Council in April and then the Heritage Committee will dissect the plan and look at what can be done within budget.

Motion Carried.

7. Open Forum

Brian Atkinson comments:

- Incorporate Heritage in schools
- Police Commission meeting re strategy planning for police went very well.

8. Next Meeting Date: April 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.