

June 28, 2021

STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Stellarton Town Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 5:30 PM in the large Committee Room.

PRESENT

Mayor D. MacGillivray, Couns.B. Knight, S. Campbell (acting chair) and G. Pentz.

Also present, Town Clerk S. Higdon, B. Murray, Town Engineer, and N. Delorey, Active Community Living Coordinator

REGRETS

Deputy Mayor Lawand

AGENDA

Councillor G. Pentz approved the Agenda, seconded by Councillor B. Knight with the following additions:

- # 9 Crosswalk at Foord & Allan
- #10 June 30, Reflection Ceremony
- #11 Committee of the Whole – new structure.
- #12 Crosswalk at Foord & Union
- #13 ACOA Application Opportunity
- #14 Underpass at Exit 24
- #15 Recreation Committee
- #16 Water Shutoffs

Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councillor B. Knight made a motion to accept the May 25, 2021 minutes seconded by Mayor D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Infrastructure and Housing Minister Geoff MacLellan Re: Response to EMHA letter regarding sidewalks at Maple St. property. EMHA will received funding to replace concrete sidewalks this year.
- b. Canada Post RE: Response to letter regarding condition of stairs and ramp. They plan to repair and repaint the stairs and repair concrete on the vertical walls. The longer-term plan is to demolish and rebuild the stairs and ramp entirely in 2022.
- c. Aberdeen Palliative Care Society Re: request for donation.

STELLARTON TOWN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
June 28, 2021
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

Moved by Councillor Pentz, seconded by Councillor Knight, "To donate the amount that was given in 2020 which was \$100.00". Motion carried. Mayor MacGillivray asked that the letter regarding the deadline for requests be included with the donation.

- d. NRHS Grad Parent Committee Re; request for donation.

Moved by Councillor Knight, seconded by Mayor MacGillivray, "To donate the amount that was given in 2020 which was \$250.00." Motion carried.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Town Engineer Blaine Murray requested that council consider continuing with AIM Network to continue with the asset management program. If approved, there will be an application made for funding through FCM which would cover 90% of the funding for this exercise which leaved the Town contributing \$5,500. This is a great opportunity to move the asset management imitative a long way.

Moved by Councillor Pentz, seconded by Councillor Knight, "To recommend to Council to approve the investment of \$5,500 to the AIM network to continue with the Asset Management Program as it is very valuable." Motion carried.

HISTORIAN LAUREATE

Town Clerk Higdon reported that the Heritage Committee, in keeping with the priorities outlined in the Heritage Plan, have drafted a job description for a Historian Laureate. The \$2000.00 honouriam is part of their \$5000.00 budget which council previously approved.

Moved by Councillor B. Knight, seconded by Councillor G. Pentz, "To recommend to council to approve the job description as presented." Motion carried.

POTENTIAL CANOE RENTALS

Active Community Living Coordinator Noah Delorey provided the Committee with an oppportunity for canoe rentals on the East River. Councillor Knight was approached by a resident who has eight canoes that he would like to donate to the Town. There are legal, insurance and storage considerations. Councillor Knight it was in the Strategic Plan to make more use of the East River so this would align. There was consensus from the committee for Noah to investigate the potential legal and insurance issues as well as provide a budget for Council's consideration for 2022-2023. This will be a good fall project.

CROSWALK AT FOORD

Councillor Pentz provided a letter from Ed Allard who is concerned about the safety issue at Foord and Allan. He is requesting a light similar to A & W and the post office be considered. This will be discussed during budget deliberations for 2022-2023.

JUNE 30 – RELECTION CEREMONY

Pictou Landing First Nation requested via Facebook that all munic8ipalotiuies in Pictou county "cancel" their Canada Day celebrations. Mayor MacGillivray reached out to Chief Paul and asked that she come to the Town Square to say a few words and to raise the Mi'kmaq flag. She

STELLARTON TOWN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
June 28, 2021
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

is available on June 30, therefore the ceremony will be taking place on June 30 at 12:45 at Town Square.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – NEW STRUCTURE

Mayor MacGillivray apologized to Council for not specifically speaking with them regarding the new structure which would mean the meetings would no longer be livestreamed. Since the donation of the new furniture from Sobeys, the Town Clerk and the Mayor spoke about having the meetings there in a less formal setting so staff can be more comfortable talking about recommendations and direction from council. The committee felt comfortable with the new format and if there is a lot of public backlash it will be reconsidered. It was noted that all recommendations made at the Committee level have to be approved at the Council table which will continue to be livestreamed.

CROSSWALK AT FOORD AND UNION

There was discussion regarding the patio at Andre Seats and how pedestrians cross the street at Foord and Union without a crosswalk. Blaine and Chief Hobeck have been speaking about this and there does not seem to be an issue. He has to verify the measurements at the stop sign to ensure it is ok to do so.

It was also noted that the patio should have been erected after the Town was able to post the signs that the sidewalk is being detoured. The patio is only a trial and if it does not work and people continue to walk along the patio on the yellow hashmarks, this will have to be reconsidered.

ACOA APPLCIATION OPPORTUNITY

The Town Clerk noted the ACOA application has broad parameters so she outlined the priorities the town has approved in principal to see where Council wishes to apply. She is asking that if councillors have a priority they wish to move forward through this application to let her know by the end of the week. She did note the Enabling Accessibility Funding is being used to renovate the Town Hall, so ACOA could be used for another priority.

UNDERPASS AST EXIT 24

Mayor MacGillivray had been speaking with the Town Engineer and the Town Clerk asking how the weeds under the overpass at Exit 24 can be cleaned up. It is the responsibility of the Province, but they won't touch it as it would require the lanes to be shut down. The Town workers refuse to do it due to safety concerns. The Mayor is appreciative the Town does do the area across from Jungle Jim's and the roundabout even though it is the responsibility of the Province.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Councillor Knight had been speaking with the Town Clerk about reinstating the Recreation Committee now that Noah is on staff. She noted that it is important to keep the lines of communication open with the stakeholders in the Town, such as Pioneer Track, minor baseball,

STELLARTON TOWN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
June 28, 2021
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

soccer, etc. The Committee thought this was important and asked that it be reinstated. Noah suggested a representative for the Trails as well, Bob Boardway. It was also suggested to update the name of the Committee to Active Community Living Committee.

WATER SHUT OFFS

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that water shut offs were delayed in 2020 and May 2021 due to COVID lockdowns, but they will commence via the policy and timelines in August 2021.

DRAFT POLICY – STELLARTON SOCIAL MEDIA ADVISORIES

The Town Clerk presented the draft policy for Stellarton Social Media Advisories to indicate that any scams or alerts that citizens need to be updated on are to be recommended by the Chief of Police., also any fundraisers or benefits will not be posted unless they are organized by a recognized non- profit organization.

Moved by Councillor Pentz, seconded by Councillor Knight, “To recommend to Council to approve the Policy regarding Stellarton Social Media Advisories.” Motion carried.

DRAFT POLICY – CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Mayor presented the draft policy on the Chief Administrative Officer as it was the same policy used by the County of Antigonish. It was highlighted that the “CAO” must recommend to council the appointment, employment, suspension, or dismissal of Department Heads, as well as all employees with notification to council. Under clause 8. (k) it will also add, “with notification given to Council prior to sale”.

Moved by Councillor Knight, seconded by Councillor Pentz, “To recommend to Council to approve the Policy regarding Chief Administrative Officer .” Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is scheduled for Monday, July 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councillor G. Pentz the meeting adjourned.

DEPUTY MAYOR

TOWN CLERK