

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2021**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

**MEETING**

A meeting of the Stellarton Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in large Committee Room.

**PRESENT**

Chair Deputy Mayor S. Lawand, Mayor D. MacGillivray, Coun. B. Knight, Coun. G. Pentz, and Coun. S. Campbell. Also present was CAO Susan Higdon, Town Engineer Blain Murray, Marketing and Communications Coordinator Paige Clarke and Active Living Coordinator Noah Delorey.

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

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved on motion by Coun. B. Knight, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

**3. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The Minutes of July 26, 2021 were approved on motion by Coun. B. Knight, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

Coun. B. Knight asked about the status of paving Old Foxbrook Road. Town Engineer B. Murray reported that work is scheduled for October.

Coun. B. Knight re price of lights for the Albion Ball Field. CAO S. Higdon stated that they will have costs for budget deliberations.

**5. Correspondence**

- a. Pictou County Community Health Centre Working Group Re: CHC Model of Care. CAO S. Higdon read letter for Council's information; they are requesting meeting with Council. CAO S. Higdon will set up a presentation for October's meeting.
- b. Nova Scotia Gaming Re: Update. CAO S. Higdon read the annual correspondence for Council's information. Active Living Coordinator N. Delorey will look at funding opportunities from the NS Gaming.
- c. United Way of Pictou County Re: Request for Donation – Coun. G. Pentz made motion to donate \$200 to the United Way of Pictou County, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

**6. Tenders Re: WTP Pump Tender**

Deputy Mayor S. Lawand stated that tender recommendation from Blaine were emailed to Council.

Four bids were submitted for the Water Treatment Plant Raw Water Pump #2 as follows:

B.J. Electric Motor Control \$35,379.42  
Sansom Equipment \$61,697.50  
MacGregors Industrial Group \$54,855.00  
MacGregors Industrial Group \$63,077.50

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept the Town Engineer's recommendation and award tender to the lowest bidder, B. J. Electric Motor Control, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

**7. Dispatch Service Re: Rehab Group**

CAO S. Higdon referred to the presentation from the Rehab Group that Council approved to sponsor, looking for clarification regarding the Dispatch Service. Coun. B. Knight made motion that the Rehab Group will be not charged for Dispatch Service, seconded by Mayor D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

**8. Street Lighting – Oxford to High Street**

Coun. B. Knight reported that he spoke to the Town Engineer regarding the lighting in this area. Town Engineer B. Murray stated that he contacted NS Power and submitted a request to trim back trees around the lights, he will follow up with NS Power and report back to Council.

Deputy Mayor S. Lawand commented on a complaint received about cars speeding on Weir Avenue. Coun. B. Knight re lowering the speed limits in these residential areas. Mayor D. MacGillivray re possible setting up the digital speed sign. Some discussion commenced re illegal mufflers and excessive noise on vehicles; Coun. B. Knight spoke with Police Chief M. Hobeck and reported that they are bringing in equipment to deal with the issue.

**9. Pictou County Common Land Use Bylaw Review**

CAO S. Higdon stated that the Planning Advisory Committee has reviewed this bylaw and are okay with the proposed changes. S. Higdon reported that the CAOs of Pictou County will be discussing the Common Land Use Bylaw; if Council wanted anything else added, let her know. Following the CAO's review, it will come back for Council's approval.

**10. Public Works Update**

- a. **Water Fountain – Allan Park** – Town Engineer B. Murray re pump issues, obsolete parts and has no water hook up; his feedback from Communities in Bloom is that they do not want a fountain. Committee agreed.
- b. **Water Study** – Town Engineer B. Murray re the water study and samples taken throughout the summer, and found that the 2Mib compound is causing the taste and odor issue; treatment solutions are being looked at i.e. powder-activated carbon. B. Murray commented on the challenges of treatment; he explained how this works; a pilot project will commence next June. Deputy Mayor S. Lawand recommended that when things are implemented, education and information be posted on the Town's website and social media.
- c. **Library Fence** – CAO S. Higdon asked for Council's position on the Library fence. Coun. B. Knight made motion to take down the fence at the Library, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**
- d. **Flooding Issues** – Town Engineer B. Murray reported that there are flooding issues on upper Coll Avenue and gave reasons for flooding; culvert cannot handle excessive rainfall that happen every couple of years. Town Engineer B. Murray addressed another area with flooding concerns, by the Marie Street apartments, and provided reasons for flooding; their catch basin keeps getting plugged. CAO S. Higdon stated that these issues will impact budget decisions. B. Murray re the need for upgrading some infrastructure. Discussion commenced re flooding issues. Blaine will get more information for Council's consideration

## 11. Active Community Living Update

- a. **Blue Hub Program** – Active Living Coordinator Noah Delorey commented on partnership with “Bikes for Kids”; suggested collaborating with Bike Nova Scotia. He provided information on the Blue Route Project, a provincial-wide project to create a continuous network of bicycling infrastructure by developing safe, well-connected bicycle routes; the goal for the Project is to assist municipalities locate “hubs” along the Blue Route. He outlined the phases of the Project: Network Planning, Route Selection and Concept Design. CAO S. Higdon stated that there was discussion in the Active Transportation Plan to install bike lanes. Deputy Mayor S. Lawand asked Town Engineer about streets that could accommodate a bike lane. B. Murray replied that currently there is no room on the major streets i.e. Foord or Acadia; Lawrence Boulevard would be wide enough. CAO S. Higdon re “Share the Road” concept. Discussion re other municipalities that implemented designated bike lanes. CAO S. Higdon re something that the Active Living Committee can investigate through the subcommittee of the Active Transportation. Coun. B. Knight re tire embedded on trail from Valley Woods to soccer field path; Town Engineer will look into it.
- b. **Outdoor Drinking Water Fountain** – N. Delorey re outdoor drinking water fountain, similar to the one on the Sampson Trail in New Glasgow; looking at installing one on Stellarton’s trail; after consulting with Town Engineer, there is a need for a water connection and a sewer line. CAO S. Higdon commented on the idea of having a water fountain behind Big 8 building on the trail. N. Delorey contacted Big 8, but it wasn’t something they were interested in doing. Town Engineer stated that there would be a lot of aspects to consider at a cost. Deputy Mayor S. Lawand will touch base with Big 8 as well. Discussion commenced re locations that would be more feasible; that would already have waterlines. Issue tabled until budget deliberations.

## 12. Bylaws

- a. **Election Signage** – CAO S. Higdon re potential bylaw pertaining to election signage. Coun. B. Knight comments that one sign in an area should be sufficient, not a row of signs. Deputy Mayor S. Lawand re designating areas for signs. CAO S. Higdon stated that it could be done. Discussion re number of signs per locations. CAO S. Higdon will draft a policy in the future for Council’s consideration.
- b. **Fireworks** – CAO S. Higdon reported that many complaints were received this summer regarding people setting off fireworks frequently; this was discussed at the CAO’s meeting to have a unified policy. Deputy S. Lawand has no issue with fireworks. Coun. B. Knight re disruptive to animals and residents because of the frequency this past year. Coun. G. Pentz and Deputy Mayor S. Lawand disagree with any fireworks restrictions; Mayor D. MacGillivray, Coun. B. Knight and Coun. S. Campbell agree for the CAO to look further into issue.

## 13. Marketing and Communications Update

- a. **Interpretive Panels** – Paige Clarke updated Council on the three athlete panels that were taken down from Allan Park and will be rebuilt by Public Works; the Advocate no longer does this type of work; P. Clarke has been working on transcribing. She needs to have a new location to install the panels. Discussion commenced; Council agreed to install panels back in the Allan Park. P. Clarke stated that work will be completed next spring. Coun. S. Campbell re the panel at the Miners’ Monument should be replaced.

CAO S. Higdon re Campaign Thermometer for the Town of Stellarton; the United Way is looking at putting one up in Stellarton; locations were discussed; Council agreed that the best location for it would be on the corner of Foord Street and Bridge Avenue.

CAO S. Higdon, from Warden Parker, re next month is National Disability Awareness Month; Councillor Debbie Wadden brought forward that October 21 is being recognized with a "Light it Up" campaign; they are asking municipal leaders to promote this month by lighting up our buildings or anywhere else with a blue and or purple light on October 21. Council agreed to do this at the Town Hall building; information will be included on social media explaining about the lighting.

Deputy Mayor S. Lawand re the Town entry signs. Town Engineer B. Murray reported that the signs will be installed soon.

**14. Next Meeting Date: October 25, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.**

**15. Adjournment** on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.