

MARCH 28, 2022
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Large Committee Room, Stellarton Town Hall.

PRESENT

Chair Deputy Mayor G. Pentz, Mayor D. MacGillivray, Coun. S. Lawand and Coun. S. Campbell. Also present was CAO Susan Higdon, and Active Living Coordinator Noah Delorey.

Regrets – Coun. B. Knight.

1. Deputy Mayor G. Pentz called meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended to include 10. Community Advisory Board for the Pictou County Wellness Centre, 11. Development Agreement for 101 Maple Avenue, and 12. Nova Scotia Community College Social Services Class, on motion by Coun. S. Lawand, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of February 28, 2022 were approved on motion by Mayor D. MacGillivray, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

5. Correspondence

There was no Correspondence

6. Memorial Bench Request

CAO S. Higdon informed Council that Mr. Harvey MacLeod is requesting to put in a Memorial Bench for his late wife; he wants to build the bench himself; he submitted pictures of the bench to CAO; the Town will still have to install the pad; normally as per the bylaw, a Memorial Bench costs \$1,000. However, since he is building bench himself and incurring that cost, he will reimburse Town for the pad.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve Mr. MacLeod's request, seconded by Mayor D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

7. Draft Event Flag Policy

CAO S. Higdon stated that Coun. B. Knight asked about this issue; when to lower the flags; CAO S. Higdon reported that there is protocol for some, and Council's decision for others. She asked if Council wanted a formal policy or to amend the current policy for Flag Raising to include this.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to amend the current policy to include "Event Flags", seconded by Mayor D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

8. Draft Council Videoconferencing

CAO S. Higdon re the Province's rule that Councils can no longer hold videoconferencing meetings as of March 21, 2022; S. Higdon presented Council with a Draft Policy for their consideration.

Mayor D. MacGillivray made motion to recommend the Draft Council Videoconferencing Policy for Council's approval, seconded Coun. S. Campbell. Coun. S. Lawand voted nay. **Motion Carried.**

9. Mayor's Meeting with Minister Lohr update

CAO S. Higdon updated Council on meeting with herself and the Mayor with Minister Lohr, and Municipal Advisor Ross MacDonald, and Peter Harrison Special Advisor to the Minister; addressed some major issues for the Town of Stellarton:

- the closure of Hexo Corp which resulted in a decline in the commercial assessment
- the Mine Reclamation; the current status looks unacceptable; too much of an incline; and lake is too deep
- Effects of Northern Pulp
- Affordable housing
- Student residency for NSCC
- Renovations to the Seniors' Complexes
- Code of Conduct for Municipalities
- CAP
- MOU between the Province and Municipalities

For Council's information

10. Community Advisory Board to the Pictou County Wellness Centre

Mayor D. MacGillivray commented on this; trying to make the administration for the Wellness Centre more oriented towards skillsets; develop a board of governors which will consist of the five elected municipal representatives; and below that would be a community advisory board. He outlined the roles each board would have and potential board members. The consensus of Council is to support the new board structures.

11. Approval for 101 Maple Street Development Agreement

CAO S. Higdon reported that this was brought up at the Planning Advisory Committee; Greg MacDonald, representing the purchaser, requested that a previous Development Agreement be discharged prior to the closure of the sale; since the next Council meeting is April 11, and the closing date is April 4, Council needs to approve. She added that Roland Burek, Planner, recommended that this would be fine.

Coun. S. Lawand made motion to discharge any previous development agreements for 101 Maple Street, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

12. Nova Scotia Community College Social Services Class

Active Living Coordinator Noah Delorey reported that he and Paige Clarke met with the Social Services class regarding them doing some community projects during the time period April 25 to May 27; provide the students with a list of projects by April 1. Staff would assist the organizers with the planning. N. Delorey suggested ideas – Painting or repainting fire hydrants; building a community garden at the horse shoe pits; building and installing new flower beds / boxes. Noah added that the NSCC will incur all costs. Discussion re care and maintenance of flower boxes and possible locations.

Coun. S. Lawand inquired about asking NSCC for future projects such as building a gazebo for the Pleasant Street Park area. Council agreed for Noah to present project list to the Social Services Class.

13. Next Meeting Date: April 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

14. Adjournment on motion by Coun. S. Lawand.