

APRIL 25, 2022
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, April 25, 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.

Coun. B. Knight via zoom.

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

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

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

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

5. Correspondence

a. Municipality of the District of Guysborough to Premier Houston re: CFA Taxes – CAO S. Higdon reported that several correspondences received about the “Come From Away” tax; where the province implemented the \$2.00 per \$100 tax rate for those that don’t live in the province; monies collected do not go to the municipalities, but to the provincial general operating fund. She commented that some concerns are addressed at the municipal units, but it is a provincial process. This is for Council’s information.

- a) The Municipality of Chester to Premier Houston Re: non-residential residential tax
- b) Property Valuation Services Re: Bill 149 – Non-resident Deed Transfer and Property Tax

b. Resident Todd Smith Re: Deer Problem – CAO S. Higdon received an email from Todd Smith, River Street, wondering if Stellarton has plans to address the deer problem in Town. She received another similar complaint. S. Higdon discussed this issue with the other Towns. The Town of New Glasgow is proceeding with a year of PGI Inventory to collect information. S. Higdon updated Council on the PGI Inventory process and the associated costs. Discussion commenced. Mayor and Council agreed to invite Dave Steeves, Department of Lands and Forests, to a Council meeting to provide some recommendations.

6. Patching Tender

CAO S. Higdon reported that three tenders were submitted for the Patching Tender:

1. S.W. Weeks Construction \$59,800.00
2. Websters Bros. Paving & Concrete \$73,312.50
3. Dexter Construction Co. \$102,918.75

Above prices include HST.

The Town Engineer checked and verified all the prices and he recommends the low bidder S. W. Weeks. Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve patching tender from

S. W. Weeks Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$59,800 including HST, seconded Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

7. Transfer of Domain – Town of Stellarton

CAO S. Higdon reported that our new IT service provider, Lucas Technologies, has recommended that we transfer our domain, Town of Stellarton, from Add Value Inc. to Rebel.ca. S. Higdon agrees with this recommendation. Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve the transfer of the domain name registration from Add Value Inc. to Rebel.ca, seconded by Coun S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

8. Draft Vehicle Anti-Idling Policy

CAO S. Higdon commented on this issue; policy drafted from the HRM. She provided some scenarios of vehicles idling. Town departments are also reviewing draft policy. Mayor D. MacGillivray made motion to approve the Vehicle Anti-Idling Policy, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

9. Mentoring Plus Participation

CAO S. Higdon asked if Council wanted to be a part of this program; no cost to the Town. S. Higdon explained the concept the Mentoring Plus Participation. Mayor D. MacGillivray made motion to approve the participation of the Town into the Mentoring Plus Program, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

10. Commemorative Bench and Tree Policy Amendment

CAO S. Higdon re updating the Commemorative Bench and Tree Policy to replace the Community Development Recreation Department with Active Living Coordinator. S. Higdon also updated the commemoration fee from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Coun. B. Knight made motion to approve the Commemorative Bench and Tree Policy Amendment, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

11. Recreation Update

Challenger Baseball – Active Living Coordinator Noah Delorey met with Trevor Kearley, along with the Town's CAO and Town Engineer regarding the plans for the Sample Ball Field. Noah stated that Challenger Baseball hired a summer student for this year; they are re-applying for the RBC Grant to assist with construction; plan is to start construction in the spring of 2023. Noah reported that they are planning on realigning the field after this season. He commented on their fundraising projects. Other plans are to move the sea-can from the Sample to the Evansville field location.

Coun. S. Lawand informed Council that he was approached regarding a possible turf soccer field being constructed in Town; very early stages.

Volunteer of the Year – Noah met with Patti Lloyd, Paige Clarke, and Peggy Williams to review the applications for Volunteer of the Year. Their recommendation is Tracey Hale. Noah read her bio to Council. Coun. S. Lawand made motion to approve the recommendation of Tracey Hale as Stellarton's Volunteer of the Year for 2022, seconded by Coun. B. Knight. **Motion Carried.**

CAO S. Higdon stated that the Town will hold their Volunteer Recognition Ceremony in September, adding that the past two recipients will be invited as well since there were no ceremonies during Covid.

12. Climate Change Cooperation – Towns of Pictou, Trenton, Westville, and County of Pictou

CAO S. Higdon updated Council re the Town of New Glasgow's Climate Change Coordinator; there's a Clean Green Energy Fund; New Glasgow asked if the other

Towns would be interested with the application process; Stellarton, Pictou, Westville, Trenton and the County submitted together but S. Higdon reported that the application was not successful.

S. Higdon commented on the positive steps that Stellarton is going forward with such as the Anti-Idling Policy, and the installation of water meters.

General discussion commenced about other “green” incentives; utilize existing staff to look at the issue.

Deputy Mayor G. Pentz commented on the benches and how good they look with the blue paint. Coun. S. Lawand recommends having more benches or replacing some older benches. Council will look into costs during budget deliberations.

Deputy Mayor G. Pentz commented on the Town Clock and finding someone to do repairs. CAO S. Higdon replied that the Town Engineer is getting quotes to fix the clock in the Town Hall as well as the clock in the Allan Park.

Coun. B. Knight reported that the street light on the corner of Acadia and Stellar is blinking on and off.

13. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday May 24, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

14. Adjournment on motion by Mayor D. MacGillivray.