

SEPTEMBER 26, 2022
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A meeting of the Stellarton Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, September 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Large Committee Room, Stellarton Town Hall.

Deputy Mayor G. Pentz asked Mayor D. MacGillivray to chair.

PRESENT

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

1. Mayor D. MacGillivray called meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended to include Universal Basic Income and Hurricane Fiona, on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of July 11, 2022 were approved on motion by Coun. S. Lawand, seconded by Coun. G Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

5. Presentation – Support Healthy School Food – Lindsay Corbin

This presentation was postponed due to Hurricane Fiona response.

6. Correspondence

- a. **Stellar Curling Club** Re: Request for Tax Exemption – CAO S. Higdon received a letter from Roger Garby, President of the Stellar Curling Club, asking for a tax exemption for the Club. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve tax exemption beginning in 2022-23 for the Stellar Curling Club, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- b. **NSCC Student Association** Re: Welcome Back BBQ Donation – CAO S. Higdon re their annual request for \$500 towards the Welcome Back BBQ. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve \$500 for the NSCC Student Association's Welcome Back BBQ, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**
- c. **Real Canadian Recreation** Re: Request for Donation – This request was tabled until more information is obtained regarding their future plans.
- d. **Universal Basic Income** – CAO S. Higdon read letter received from Hallet and Karen Llewellyn, Regional Volunteer Coordinators for the United Church of Canada, regarding a universal basic income policy to address poverty. Mayor D. MacGillivray provided information. Discussion commenced; no action taken; received as information.

7. MGA Review Study

CAO S. Higdon reported that the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking direct input regarding a review of the Municipal Government Act. Council perused document and discussed proposed changes. Council can submit their comments electronically or send them to CAO to forward by October 7.

8. Rivers Association – Planting Trees along the East River – CAO S. Higdon reported that the Town Engineer received request from the Rivers Association asking about planting trees along the East River; where it's our water source; Blaine has no issues with their request; needs Council's approval. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to allow the Rivers Association to plant trees along the East River, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

Since there was no meeting in July, CAO S. Higdon commented on:

- the Nova Scotia UARB recap of the Boundary Review, it's been approved; status quo for the Town of Stellarton
- NRHS thank you letters from the Aubrey Dorrington recipient and Oulton Award recipient
- The Riverview Volunteer Association thanked Council for their donation
- Copy of the Pictou Antigonish Accessibility Plan
- Financial statements for the school
- Shared Services Authority Financial Statements March 31, 2022

9. Hurricane Fiona – CAO S. Higdon provided Council with update on the preparations taken by both Public Works and the Fire Department before the hurricane hit; she was in contact with Provincial Officials; and met with senior management. Two Public Works employees were out during the storm but went home because it was unsafe on the roads. The Fire Department had issues with their generator, but it was rectified on Saturday. Other issues such as impassible streets and downed communications. She attended a meeting with REMO on the Sunday to look at situation. The concerns were of downed power lines, trees, and other debris. A notice re "Post Hurricane Update" was issued by the Town and circulated on the Town's App, online, hard copies are at the Comfort Centre, Town Office, and any open business on Foord Street. Public Works will pick up manageable debris put out by residents; this will be a slow process. Damages will be directed through insurance. The Province made announcement regarding "Disaster Relief Funding". S. Higdon commented on the tremendous job performance of one of our Dispatchers, Megan Burns. She also commented on the great job by other staff and the Fire Department. Council agreed that staff did an excellent job.

10. Next Meeting Date: October 24, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

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