

**TOWN OF STELLARTON  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
December 1, 2025**

**MEETING**

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, December 1, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the large Committee Room, Stellarton Town Hall

**PRESENT**

Chair Deputy Mayor G. Pentz, Councillor S. Eis, Councillor M. Fortune, Councillor S. Campbell, Mayor D. Stroud, and CAO, A. Grover.

1. **Call to Order** by Deputy Mayor G. Pentz.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved as presented on motion Mayor D. Stroud, seconded by Councillor S. Eis. **Motion Carried.**

3. **Display of Religious Symbols on Municipal Property Policy**

A Grover shared a draft version of a policy regarding the Display of Religious Symbols on municipal property for the members to review. Mayor D. Stroud believed the policy was fair and concise. Councillor S. Campbell expressed that the display period of 45 days was excessively long, suggesting that 30 days would be adequate. Councillor S. Eis inquired about the duration for other religious organizations regarding the start and end dates. Councillor M. Fortune considered the policy to be well-written, with his only concern being the display's location. He would not oppose a display in the town square. Both Councillors G. Pentz and S. Campbell concurred that the town square would be a suitable location.

A Grover emphasized that due to the political implications of this policy, once it is approved by Council, the administration should manage the approval process to keep it non-political. The administration would oversee compliance with the policy approval by Council. She also suggested that the town solicitor review the policy before it is brought back for a vote by Council. This is her recommendation.

Councillor S. Eis stated her strong position on maintaining complete neutrality regarding religious displays on municipal property. She noted that Council must recognize the significant portion of the population that does not express religious beliefs, as well as those who firmly believe that religion should not intersect with government.

Chair G. Pentz inquired about the consensus on whether to proceed with the policy. Mayor D. Stroud felt that the policy adequately addresses the necessary points and would endorse its implementation.

Direction given to CAO Grover to revise the language in the policy to ensure it is acceptable to Council, provide recommendations from staff as to an adequate location and once it has been reviewed by the town solicitor, bring to next Committee of the Whole for a vote by members.

3. **Next Meeting Date: December 22, 2025**
4. **Adjournment** on motion Councillor S. Campbell.