



Before we begin our meeting, we would like to acknowledge that Stewiacke is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Call to Order

Mayor George Lloy called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm
Moment of silence to recognize those at war in the Ukraine.

2. Attendance

PRESENT:

	Mayor George Lloy	Deputy Mayor Roseanne Chapman
Councillors:	Mary Commo Susan Creelman Chad Ramsey	Suzanne Lutz Rebecca Rogers-Laing
Staff:	Dale Bogle, CAO Randi Buchi Josh Hilton Leah Bennett	Grant Cooke

REGRETS / ABSENT:

3. Approval of / Changes to Agenda

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Commo:
I so move to approve the Agenda as presented for March 10th, 2022 – Committee of the Whole Meeting
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items

NIL

5. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Rogers-Laing:
I so move to approve the Minutes as presented for February 10th, 2022 – Committee of the Whole Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Announcements / Proclamations

NIL



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7. Presentations

NIL

8. Written Petitions and Correspondence

Letter from resident regarding 50 St Andrews St – Mayor Lloy read the letter and opened for discussion.

We agree with Spring approaching, we will have to make a move. We might have to pay for the demolition, which will hopefully be in the month of May. Demo of a similar property was just under \$10,000. We had to follow the steps for Dangerous and Unsightly and the owner can appeal. Our lawyer is dealing with this now as a liability as insurance was on the property when the damage was done to the neighboring property. There is extensive damage to the neighbor's home as well as an immense amount of stress.

9. Business

a. Staff Reports

i. Administration – CAO Dale Bogle

- Riverside / Lewis / Pleasant Hill – ICIP application has been submitted, the deadline is 1 April 2022
- Well Source Study – There are a number of ways to move forward. Water quality look good and there was no gypsum in water.
- Accessibility Plan – Will have report in the next few weeks
- Solar Initiatives – Live now and earning money daily
- Splash Pad – Some of the equipment has arrived with more due to arrive early next week.
- Covid-19 – We had 3 staff members test positive over the last few months.
- Library – Erin is back now and will be the contact point for the Library.
- Council In-Person Meetings – Reached out to Legion, still waiting to hear back from them.
- Affordable Housing – Had a session last evening.
- \$4.7 Million in development already this year, very busy
- Solar Farm featured on page 54-55 in Atlantic Business Magazine.
- Just want to put on radar for discussion with our role with Ukraine regarding refugee's taken in by families, utilizing Community Centre, or maybe the old NSLC?

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- In this coming fiscal year, the Town will be closer to taking over the role of Dangerous and Unsightly
 - Amalgamation – The province will do a presentation to discuss the steps. Will check if they will do public or in-camera first.
- ii. Financial – Randi Buchi
- Randi reviewed the budget
- iii. Recreation – Josh Hilton
- Walkability Plan – Recommendations will be made to Council with findings.
 - Splash Pad – One pallet arrived today. There will be more equipment arriving on Monday.
 - Council Commo recommended we participate in Earth Day maybe with a litter clean up.
- iv. Planning – Grant Cooke
- In regards to the rezoning of KelRy Dr from R-2 to R3A will consist of 3 new buildings in total.
 - Discussion initiated regarding open space in each subdivision as opposed to cash-in-lieu, further work to be done prior to Committee making a formal decision.
 - Would like to see in person sessions again and April was suggested as a time to start again.
- v. Public Works – Jeff Sibley (CAO Bogle spoke on Jeff's behalf)
- First of all, I wanted to give a shout out to Public Works as they have been dealing with storms every weekend, and they are doing their best.
 - Have to discuss with Jeff regarding the outdoor rink.
 - Councillor Ramsey asked how the salt budget holding out? Randi replied that we are over budget. The original budget was for \$42,000 and the actual amount is \$58,000.
 - Deputy Mayor Chapman asked about the increase on water/sewer hookups to which Randi replied that our fees are low on the sewer and we are looking into it and the water is on par.

On the motion of Councillor Ramsey and Councillor Creelman:



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I so move to receive the Staff Reports as presented for March 10th, 2022 – Committee of the Whole Meeting.

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b. General and Water Operating Budgets

- Discussions on whether this is a good time to lower taxes with the turmoil in the world.
- Randi advised that our growth can sustain it, unlike Truro, we do not have high overheads.
- Some Councillors agreed that we should give our residents a break as our growth is fantastic

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Rogers-Laing:

- ***THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to approve the 2022-2023 fiscal year expenditures in general operations totaling \$2,297,474: and***
- ***FURTHER, that, after crediting all probable revenues of the Town for 2022-2023, the tax rates for 2022-2023 fiscal year be set as follows:***
 - Residential Tax Rate
 - \$1.615 per \$100.00 of Residential Assessment
 - Commercial Tax Rate
 - \$3.45 per \$100.00 of Residential and Commercial Assessment
- ***Further, that a Fire Protection Charge be set as follows:***
 - \$0.10 per \$100.00 of Residential and Commercial Assessment
- ***Further, that a Solid Waste Collection Charge be applied to residential tax bills, where applicable, as follows:***
 - \$151.36 per Residential Unit in the Town of Stewiacke

OPPOSED – 2

IN FAVOR – 5

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

Following the established schedule of meeting to review and obtain input on the 2022-2023 Water Utility Operational Budget, Staff recommend that members consider approval of the general operational budget as presented:

- ***THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to approve the 2022-2023 fiscal year expenditures in water utility operations totaling \$648,152***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Strategic Plan – next steps – vision - discussion

- Will begin discussions at next Council Meeting March 24th, 2022

d. Ravenous Rhubarb Festival



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- We will proceed this year provided we can find volunteers
- e. Stewiacke Town Days
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- f. Acknowledging Queens Platinum Jubilee
 - Find some information to put on Facebook
 - Maybe a good theme for the Stewiacke Town Days Festival
- g. Ukraine Flag
 - Suggestion was made during time of conflict to raise the flag in support
 - Councillor Creelman didn't see anything wrong in making a motion to allow this

On the motion of Councillor Creelman & Councillor Commo:

I so move to recommend to Council that staff fly the Ukrainian flag at Dennis Park for an appropriate amount of time.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- h. Rezoning KelRy Dr from R-2 to R-3A

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

I so move to recommend that Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee and give first reading to proposed amendment to the Land Use By-law to rezone from R-2 to R-3A the lot at the end of KelRy Drive off of Joffre Street (PID #21121877). Staff are hereby directed to set the date of the public hearing for this amendment.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- i. NSFM training 25 March 2022 in New Minas – if anyone wants to go, contact CAO Bogle

10. By-laws and Policies

- a. HR Policy Update
 - Councillor Creelman reviewed the Policy – anything with a line through it will be deleted to line up with pension plan.

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Rogers-Laing:



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I so move to recommend to Council to approve the changes to the HR policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Citizen Comments

12. Mayor Report

March 1 – Meeting with Jamie Dickie the new Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters in Truro

March 3 – Attended Business & Tourism Committee Zoom meeting

March 8 – Meeting with Christine Blair in Truro

March 9 – Attended Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce AGM & Luncheon in Truro with Councillor Creelman

March 9 – Attended and chair for Planning Advisory Committee Meeting

March 10 – HR Meeting with Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Creelman

Thank you, Deputy Mayor Chapman, for your hospitality.

** I attended various meetings with Councillor Lutz in her role as Chair of the Inclusion & Diversity Committee.

** Erin, welcome back.

** I would like to thank Deputy Mayor Chapman & Councillor Creelman for organizing and recognizing International Women's Day, in Stewiacke on March 8th.

** On behalf of Council, I issued a statement that we do not condone racism in Stewiacke. Those beliefs are not in line with the community we serve.

** The Town of Stewiacke has positioned the Ukrainian flag at the Town Hall to demonstrate our support for the people of Ukraine.

** Mr Bogle and I meet each Monday for a weekly briefing.

Deputy Mayor Report

Just a reminder for everyone that the deadline to have anything in to Leah for the Newsletter is March 18th

Attended HR Meeting with Mayor Lloy and Councillor Creelman today

PAC Meeting last night

Busy with Women's Day slideshow and thanks to Councillor Creelman for all your help and Councillor Commo for posing.



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13. Councillors Reports

Councillor Commo

- Attended Financial Workshop, learned a lot and well worth attending
- Attended PAC yesterday
- Attended Business & Tourism on March 3rd

Councillor Creelman

- Shout out to Deputy Mayor for taking the lead on International Women's Day Project

14. In-Camera Session

15. Notice of Motion and Reconsideration

16. Adjournment

- 8:51pm

[Handwritten signature]

George S. G.