

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Lloy called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. **Attendance**

PRESENT:

Mayor George Lloy

Deputy Mayor Roseanne Chapman

Councillors: Mary Commo
Susan Creelman
Suzanne Lutz

Rebecca Rogers-Laing

Staff: Dale Bogle, CAO
Lisa Feist – Recording Secretary
Erin Richard
Randi Buchi
Josh Hilton

REGRETS / ABSENT: Grant Cooke
Jeff Sibley
Chad Ramsey

3. **Approval of / Changes to Agenda**

On the motion of Councillor Commo and Councillor Rogers-Laing.

Moved that the agenda for May 13th, 2021 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items**

Nil.

5. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)**

Deputy Mayor Chapman requested that minutes for April 8, 2021 be reviewed for errors and cannot be approved as presented.

6. **Announcements / Proclamations**

Nil.

7. **Presentations**

Nil.

8. Written Petitions and Correspondence

- a) Municipal Travel Restrictions – for information only – Mr. Bogle reinforced staying at home during this Covid case increase and be safe.

9. Business

a) Staff Reports

i. Administration – Mr. Bogle highlights the following from submitted report:

- Animal Control call regarding an injured dog, took to the vet – a total of 4 calls over the past 10 months
- Still waiting on ICIP funding for Riverside, Lewis and Pleasant Hill
- Well Source Study – mail out sent today to council with update – phase 3 will be looking to expand the 6” hole to a 10” hole to increase capacity of testing.
- Proposed egress road – St. Andrews Street to #2 Hwy and George Street will be part of the upcoming Town Strategic Planning session
- Solar for community buildings – contract has been signed and installation is expected in the next few weeks
- Strategic Plan – preparation training from Municipal Affairs has been coordinated for staff and council
- River Trail – still looking at solutions to rising waters; long term project
- Splash Pad – due to Covid protocols we are delaying the splash pad as consultants are coming from other provinces and cannot come into NS
- Age Friendly – survey results are in and expect to send to council next week – this content is a springboard for the strategic planning process
- Town owned properties – school lot different options being considered, 8 Main Street is expected to close tomorrow – delays were due to determining water servicing to the lot, all worked out and conditions have been met
- BIPPC – reactivated the committee and staying on top of things with regards to recent Covid cases and the appropriate response and activities
- Rodent Infestation / Dangerous & Unsightly Premises – another case where traps have been set and being monitored; does not appear to be related to previous incident – four active Dangerous & Unsightly Premises files active at this time
- Development – experiencing incredible growth, growth chart demonstrates that we are near or surpassing permits for the entire year last year to date with four more applications coming – growth in town is absolutely outstanding and will be how we look at the strategic plan for infrastructure and water
- Counsellor Commo questioned the status of the mold removal at the Public Works building – CAO Bogle advised he will follow up
- Deputy Mayor Chapman inquired about the status of the digital sign – on hold due to Covid? CAO Bogle will try again to follow up as well source a second quote.

- ii. Public Works – report submitted; no questions or comments.
- iii. Recreation – report submitted; Counsellor Creelman inquired about the funding of the bleachers; looking for \$4,000 grant but what is the total cost? \$12,000 listed in capital per Mrs. Richard. Counsellor Creelman thanked Mrs. Richard on her assistance on the Rental Policy work. Counsellor Creelman notes that other municipalities post the Volunteer of the Year award, should we do the same? Mrs. Richard indicates she can do that as well. Regarding, Mr. Hiltons report - Mayor Lloy inquired about the grant application with through Infrastructure Canada – reduction pathway feasibility study grant; Mr. Hilton confirmed it is early in the process and is determining eligibility for the Town.
- iv. Planning – report submitted; no questions or comments.
- v. Financial – pension plan change presented, building permits values updated.

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman.

- Moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to approve the closing of the current Defined Contribution plan and join the NSPSSP.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

On the motion of Councillor Commo and Councillor Creelman.

- Moved that the staff reports for May 13th, 2021 be received as presented.***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b) Business & Tourism – Councillor Creelman updates that with the Tourism season approaching that Councillor Commo and Josh Hilton have been working on another Tide Times brochure, map of the downtown area, coupon project and a new project - day trips for the area. All good work – thank you Councillor Commo. Also, with Mastadon Ridge, there is a plan to have the staff at VIC promote Stewiacke and the South Colchester area as well as all of Nova Scotia. We have been partnering with the Chamber on a tourism project, contributing to our brochures and some local photography to use for future projects. And, finally, the TCPEP has offered to do an online survey targeting residents of the HRM asking what they know about Stewiacke and the area (at no cost). There are some local gift certificates being offered as a prize for online participants. Updates will come after the survey. And last, I sat in on a presentation from the Saltwire Network showing the different channels they have available for Stewiacke to use when going through the strategic planning process. No questions or comments.
- c) Splash Pad – Mr. Hilton updated council on the status of the splash pad project. Council requests further information on the different formats available to use – low flow, recirculation, dedicated well, other formats. As well, an update on proposed budget for install and operating costs and system design. A detailed update will be provided at next meeting for Council review.

- d) Ravenous Rhubarb festival – discussion to determine whether or not to cancel as time is of the essence to get details in progress – Deputy Mayor Chapman expressed that it be cancelled due to Covid and being able to deliver a safe and viable venue. The Committee is prepared to go ahead with planning if Council wants to.

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Commo.

- Moved that the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to approve that the Rhubarb Festival be postponed for a year and that the \$1,000 budget they have be rolled over for the next year.***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- e) Stewiacke Town Days – discussion to determine whether or not to cancel – CAO Bogle points out that this is a bigger event to plan and organize than the Rhubarb festival and other jurisdictions are cancelling events occurring into the fall due to Covid.

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman

- Moved that the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to approve that the 2021 Stewiacke Town Days be cancelled.***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- f) Town of Stewiacke – Committee List – finalizing the current list and members

On the motion of Councillor Commo and Deputy Mayor Chapman

- Moved that the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to approve the 2021 Committee List and members.***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- g) Building Official appointment – Avery Withrow

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Commo

- Moved that the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to approve the appointment of Avery Withrow as Residential Building Inspector of 1- & 2-unit Group C Buildings, their accessory buildings, and decks covered under the Nova Scotia Building Code Act Part 9.***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. By-laws and Policies

- a) Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Policy – Councillor Creelman updates the policy with the committee and presents to Council for review. Note that clause 4.2.1.1 is underlined and is a type-o – will be reformatted at council.

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Rogers-Laing

- Moved that the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to approve the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Policy No. 2002-14 revisions as presented.***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b) Town of Stewiacke Rental Agreement and Rental Policy – Councillor Creelman updates the policy with the committee and presents to Council for review.

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Commo

- Moved that the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to approve the update of the (currently un-numbered) Town of Stewiacke Rental Agreement and Rental Policy as presented.***

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. Citizens Comments

No comments.

12. Mayor's report

Mayor Lloy reports attending via Zoom the following:

- April 28 – BIPPC and NSFMM meetings
- April 30 – WSP Phase 3 water study
- May 6 – Business & Tourism committee meeting
- May 7 – WSP Phase 3 water study
- May 12 – BIPPC meeting and meeting with Minister Maguire (discussion about the strategies for successful growth for municipalities and potential funding sources as well as discussion about rising water strategies and affordable housing)
- Regular Monday meetings with myself and CAO Bogle
- In the Town office every Wednesday morning 10:00 – Noon
- NSFMM spring conference – attended virtually
- May 10th – follow up with Tim Hortons and related Covid support
- April 28 – Mr. Bogle and I met with Danielle Johnson of Truro News
- April 28 – email from MLA Harrison regarding provincial decision on the former NSLC building – on-going discussion
- Multiple briefings on Covid

- Sincerely want to thank the BIPPC, CAO Bogle, staff and in particular Deputy Mayor Chapman for going above and beyond to ensure the citizens of Stewiacke are informed through social media, the avenues during our current lockdown, kudos to you Deputy Mayor and I sincerely mean that, the town is very fortunate to have you.

13. Councillors Reports

Deputy Mayor Chapman – had a call on April 27 about affordable housing needs, April 15 attended presentation on Shubie Canal Commission, April 21 Human Resources meeting, April 27 Library Board meeting, April 28 & May 12 BIPPC meeting – note that next week May 16 – 22 is Public Works week in Canada.

Councillor Commo – updates that the VIC will be opening in early June, attended BIPPC, working on the coupon book and attended a session regarding a new website set up by Cumberland County, similar to the Chamber’s site explorecentralns.com

No other reports.

14. In Camera Session

Nil.

15. Notice of Motions and Reconsideration

16. Adjournment

Mayor Lloyd adjourned the meeting at 8:26 pm.

Read and approved this _____ day of _____, 2021.

X _____

Mayor

X _____

CAO