

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION
Regular Meeting #435
14th March 2022 at 7pm
Board Room, Pugwash Village Hall

Meeting Number 435

1 CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Chair Roger Mundle called the meeting to order at 7pm.
- 1.2 **Territorial Acknowledgment** - Declared by Commissioner Martin.

2 ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Chair Roger Mundle
Vice Chair Brent Wilson
Commissioner Bill Martin
Commissioner Sue Duncan

Regrets: Commissioner Dave MacEwan

Staff: Clerk Treasurer, Lisa Betts (recording secretary)

Gallery:

3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Wilson to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED

4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the minutes of regular meeting 434, 7th February 2022. MOTION CARRIED

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 5.1 None.

6 ACTION LIST

- 6.1 **Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin (MLA)** - request for office space
Progressing. Exterior sign is in place. The room has been cleared of most Village furnishings. Rental payments are start beginning of March. Rental contract (the province) and conditions contract (the tenant) yet to be signed and returned to the Village office.

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6.2 **Public Works Building**

Looking for new quotes for paint or siding.

6.3 **Gaelic Signs**

The signs are designed and ready to be ordered. The project has gone very well.

7 PRESENTATION

7.1 None.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 **Centre for Local Prosperity - request for letter of support**

Commissioner Martin commented that he had been included in early conferences and noticed a reduction of focus on the Village. A promotional video for the organization and the Village was appreciated.

8.1.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to send a general letter of support to the Centre for Local Prosperity. MOTION CARRIED**

8.2 **Centre for Local Prosperity - request for financial support**

8.2.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Wilson to send deny the request for a grant explaining that the previous grants were outside of the Village's normal scope of financial support. MOTION CARRIED**

8.3 **Route 6 Snowmobile Club - request for letter of support**

The Commissioners agreed this group has been doing some commendable work on local trails.

8.3.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Martin and seconded by commissioner Wilson to send the Route 6 Snowmobile Club a letter of support. MOTION CARRIED**

8.4 **Liberty Mutual - AGM proxy vote - Board of Directors**

The Commission agreed to send in a vote of abstention

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8.5 Burnham/Irons request for sculpture placement

It is proposed to place a sculpture at the Farmers Market. It is part of a fundraiser for the new tennis/pickleball courts to be built at the Sunset Community property. It will be secured and is not to impede traffic or parking.

8.5.1 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Martin and seconded by commissioner Wilson to approve the placement of a sculpture on the CN Train Station property near the Farmers Market.

MOTION CARRIED

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Accessibility (Joint with Municipality)

The Commission commented that accessibility standards change faster than the Village's financial ability to meet them. The Clerk will ensure the current Municipal Plan includes the Village of Pugwash to a level that meets the criteria required for a Village of Pugwash Accessibility Plan. This will be ready for the next regular commission meeting.

9.2 Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)

The Association sent a letter to the NS Minister of Public Works with concerns about curb and crosswalk maintenance within Villages. Reminder: Pugwash will be hosting the ANSV AGM and conference in September 2023.

9.3 Audit Committee

No report.

9.4 Physician Recruitment and Retention

Commissioner Martin reported that there had been another recent visit by a potential physician and feels that it went very well. Commissioner Martin feels that the new facility being built in Pugwash will greatly improve Pugwash's chances in attracting a new physician. A donation to assist the committee in its operations has been received. The Communities in Bloom Community Book (2017) edition has been very useful as part of the information package given to prospective doctors.

9.5 Communities in Bloom (CIB)

Pugwash will be competing in the national competition this year. The gardening committee (Mary Maron and the Village Clerk) agreed on reflecting the Canada Day theme of **Double Platinum** in the annual flowers used in planters by including silver foliated plants.

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9.6 **Library**

A news release received earlier in the day announced that a Request for Proposals for a Pugwash library design has been released. The budget will be \$2 million. \$1.5 million will come from the municipality and the remainder from the community and other sources.

9.7 **Clerk Treasurer's Reports**

9.7.1 **Nova Scotia Public Works**

Report from Adam Cameron (attached) includes: signage for parking restriction changes will be made in the Spring and that storm drainage infrastructure upgrades is in the design phase.

9.7.2 **Newsletter**

March 2022 was printed today and will be distributed tomorrow.

9.7.3 **Website statistics**

In the ten years since the new version of the Village website was launched, it has had 782,932 hits. The newsletter page has had 632,338 hits and the Village of Pugwash (as a level of government) is third at 381,173. See report attached.

9.7.4 **Banner brackets - update**

The Village banners were part of a larger project started in 2009. Communities in Bloom (CIB) contributed towards the project financially (?) and in design consultation. When the banners were delivered (Fall of 2010), the Clerk called Nova Scotia Power (NSPI) to ask if the Village could put the banner brackets on the power poles. The NSPI representative said that, as maintenance was now done by using bucket trucks, the company was no longer concerned about other uses of the poles. The Clerk had Village staff put the brackets on the inside of the poles. Over the next several years, CIB took on a more active role in the banners and changed the positions and locations of the brackets. More recently, other organizations (the Pugwash Legion and the high school) have used the brackets for their banners. Brackets and banners were added last summer, many of them much lower than an acceptable height to avoid collision with large vehicles. The remaining brackets will be removed and may be relocated to permanent locations that are high enough to avoid any contact with passing vehicles.

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9.7.5 **Minutes**

The format has been cleaned up recently to make the minutes easier to read.

9.7.6 **Windsor Salt Company - access agreement**

In progress.

9.7.7 **RV Dumping Station**

Municipal staff has recommended that the issue be bounced back to the Village to find a suitable location.

9.7.8 **Credit Card**

There is an increasing need for a business credit card to purchase online products and services. The Village VISA debit is not acceptable for payments by some vendors.

9.7.8.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Wilson that the audit committee and Clerk should investigate acquiring a credit card for the use of the Village of Pugwash. MOTION CARRIED**

9.7.9 **Gathering of the Clans**

The sound technicians have been confirmed. The entertainment lineup is to be confirmed. Due to mounting costs in maintenance, staffing and insurance, the midway carnival is no longer able to send the small show to Pugwash. Replacement events or attractions will be investigated. Where July 1st is on a Friday, expanding the festival into the weekend is a possibility. Sound and lighting equipment for an expanded weekend future events si being sourced.

9.7.9.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Wilson to approve the budget for the Gathering of the Clans as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

10 MOTIONS

10.1 None.

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11 NOTICE OF MOTION

11.1 None.

12 NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 The next regular Village meeting will be 11th April, 2022.

13 ADJOURNMENT

13.1 The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm by motion from Commissioner Wilson.

Respectfully submitted
Lisa Betts
Clerk Treasurer

Chair _____

Clerk Treasurer _____