

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting #449  
10th May 2023 at 7pm  
Board Room, Pugwash Village Hall

**Meeting Number 449**

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 Chair Brent Wilson the meeting to order at 7:10pm.
- 1.2 **Territorial Acknowledgment** – read by Chair Brent Wilson  
*We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.*

**2 ROLL CALL**

Commissioners: Chair Brent Wilson  
Vice Chair Sue Duncan  
Commissioner Roger Mundle  
Commissioner Dave MacEwan  
Commissioner Margaret Anderson

Staff: Clerk Treasurer, Lisa Betts (recording secretary)

**3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- 3.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner MacEwan to approve the agenda.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 4.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the minutes of regular meeting 448, held April 17th.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 5.1 None.

**6 ACTION LIST – actions completed**

- 6.1 **Additional pet waste signs have erected.**

- 6.2 **Village of Pugwash 75<sup>th</sup> birthday**

The Clerk reported that HarbourFest supported the Village marking the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday during the HarbourFest weekend.

**7 PRESENTATION**

- 7.1 None

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**8 CORRESPONDENCE**

8.1 **Pugwash and District High School** – thank you card  
Thanks for scholarships received for 2023 graduates.

8.2 **Cyrus Eaton Elementary School** - request for bursary fund

8.2.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner McEwan to grant \$300 to the Cyrus Eaton Elementary School bursary.** **MOTION CARRIED**

**9 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

9.1 **Standing Committees**

9.1.1 **Accessibility** [Betts]  
No report.

9.1.2 **Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)** [Duncan]  
Commissioner Duncan recommended sending to the Province a letter clearly expressing the Village's exception to being mandated to meet accessibility standards while not having full access to the funding to assist it to do so. The ANSV has already sent a letter to the same effect. Commissioner Duncan will compose a letter.

The Village has booked Thinkers' Lodge and Lobster factory for the ANSV conference and annual general meeting in September. The bedrooms will be sold to first responding delegates and staff. Workshop topics and fun activities are being investigated.

9.1.3 **Audit Committee** [Duncan]  
The Audit Policy was reviewed by the committee at a recent meeting. The committee meets at least twice a year.

9.1.4 **Policy Review** [MacEwan/Wilson]  
No report.

9.2 **Special Committees**

9.2.1 **CN Train Station** [MacEwan/Wilson]  
No report.

9.3 **Advisory Committees**

9.3.1 None

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9.4 **Community Committees or organizations with Village Commission/staff representation.**

9.4.1 **Communities in Bloom (CIB)** [Betts]

Garden committee met.

9.4.2 **Physician Recruitment and Retention** [Duncan/MacEwan/Bill Martin]

Duncan: No report.

Bill Martin: Very successful dinner at the curling club for all local health care workers. This may become an annual event.

Recent site visit by prospective physician. The visit was longer and more thorough than previous visits. Accommodation was provided at Fox Harb'r Resort.

9.5 **Clerk Treasurer's Reports** [Betts]

9.5.1 **Audit**

A site visit by Mr Lawrence Lake, as part of his audit. Most of the audit is conducted at his offices. No problems or issues were apparent.

9.5.2 **Insurance**

9.5.1 **Post tropical storm Fiona**

After several months of appeal, the Insurance company, Intact Insurance continues to deny the Village its claim for damages sustained during the storm last September, claiming the damage was from flooding, not wind. Further, the claim made for damage during Dorian (2019) should not have been allowed. An application to the Province for financial assistance to pay for damaged has already been made an application for Federal funding will be made if necessary.

9.5.2 **Change of renewal date**

The renewal date will now be in October, a time when Village financial resources are not so stretched as they are in the spring. The option to pay monthly was rejected due to the very high interest rates and conditions.

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Letter of support – Sunset Community – directed commission to ask for infrastructure – sewer & sidewalks

**9.5.3 Gathering of the Clans**

After several years' warning that the change was imminent, East Coast Amusements has confirmed that it will not be returning to Pugwash with a Midway (carnival). The one-day show is too small to be affordable for the company to sustain. The shortage of available staffing and increased costs resulting from the COVID pandemic made this decision certain. The Clerk presented some choices from HRM Mascots who provided some games last year. More are available this year. The Commissioners agreed on the main attraction game/ride ("Toxic Meltdown"). The Clerk will draft a press release explaining (again) why the Midway is not available.

**9.5.4 Staffing - Recreation Director & gardener**

We are happy to have been able to hire someone to direct recreational activities this summer and to keep the weeds down and flowers watered.

**9.5.5 Gaelic word a day**

A new word a day, with an illustration and phonetic pronunciation has been posted on Village social media during May, which is Gaelic Awareness Month. There have been many positive reactions to the posts.

**9.5.6 The Sunset Community – letter of support**

The Commissioners agreed to write a Letter of Support for the Community's application to Sports Nova Scotia for funding for equipment

**9.5.7 Support for the extension of Municipal services - to aid development in Pugwash and area**

The Clerk explained various options and jurisdictional issues to do with property assessment, tax rates, the provision of services and what the Village of Pugwash can do to help Village and area businesses continue to stay in business and provide employment to Village residents.

A letter will be sent to the Municipality requesting services be extended to areas to support business and housing development.

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**10 MOTIONS**

10.1 None.

**11 NOTICE OF MOTION**

11.1 None.

**12 NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS**

12.1 Election Day is June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

12.2 The Village Annual General Meeting is Thursday May 25<sup>th</sup>.

12.3 The next regular Village meeting will be 7pm, June 12<sup>th</sup> 2023.

**13 ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 The meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm by motion from Commissioner Mundle.

Respectfully submitted  
Lisa Betts  
Clerk Treasurer

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_