

Pugwash Village Commission

Regular Meeting #469

10 February 2025 at 6 pm

Board Room, Pugwash Village Hall

Minutes

1. Call to Order

1.1 Chair Brent Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

1.2 An in-camera meeting was held before this meeting.

In-camera Per Section 408B (2) of the Municipal Government Act, the Commission moves into the in-camera as per Section 408B (2) of the Municipal Government Act to discuss the following: [specific topics addressed in the in-camera meeting].

(a) Village property acquisition, sale, lease, and security.

(e) Contract Negotiations

1.3 Return to Public Meeting at 7:00 pm

1.4 Territorial Acknowledgement- read by Chair Wilson.

2. Roll Call

Brent Wilson, Chair

Commissioner Sue Duncan, Vice Chair

Commissioner Dave MacEwan

Commissioner Matthew Parker

Commissioner Margaret Anderson – Sends Regrets

Acting Clerk-Treasurer - Christie Blackie

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Parker moved, and Commissioner Duncan seconded, that the minutes of Meeting #469, held February 10th, 2025, be approved.

Motion Carried

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5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

5.1 In-camera meeting time officially begins at 6:00 pm instead of 6:30.

6. **Correspondences**

6.1 - Canada celebrates National Volunteer Week to recognize the extraordinary contributions of individuals who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in our communities. National Volunteer Week is April 27 - May 3, 2025, this year. Please submit your entries to the county by February 28, 2025.

7. **Presentation** - Core Active Transportation (AT) Network Partnership Agreement – Maddison Bennett

Project Goals

Develop an active transportation network plan to contribute to a more equitable, healthy, and sustainable future for residents. Engage residents to ensure the network adds value to the community and improves transportation options. Connect the Blue Route to the village to provide easy access to local businesses and attractions for cycling tourists. Provide communities with a plan that can leverage financial support from Provincial and Federal funds to build the community's vision for safe, active transportation.

Partner (village) expectations

Allocate appropriate staff resources (including in-kind staff time, any required local data, and community outreach support). No additional municipal capital funding is required other than the cost of staff involvement. Provide timely input, feedback, and local expertise to Cycling NS throughout each project phase. Facilitate local meetings, public engagement sessions, or workshops as necessary. Review and comment on draft deliverables, engineering concepts, and cost estimates within a reasonable timeframe. Coordinate any necessary municipal-level approvals (e.g., Council approvals). Consider in-kind contributions to further advance the quality of designs and costing to improve readiness and risk management for funding and implementing the Core AT Network Project.

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Moved by **Commissioner MacEwan** and seconded by **Commissioner Parker** that the Village Commission will work with the Core Active Transportation Network Partnership Agreement.

Motion Carried

8. Reports

8.1 Clerk-Treasurer Report

- A Job Ad for an Administrative Assistant was advertised.
- Meeting with Amans over Accessibility, anti racism, code of conduct and employee benefits.
- We contacted the Snowbirds for a flyover on the July 1st festival, but they cannot make it this year, but will reapply for 2026. We are looking at many activities and attractions for the July 1st festival.
- Working on the renovations at the train station to be ready for the May opening.
- A proposal has been brought to the commissioners by Commissioner Duncan, who wants to have the village look at passing a boot around at the July 1st festivities to help cover costs.

Commissioner Duncan moved and **Commissioner MacEwan** seconded that at the Gathering of the Clans festival on July 1st, 2025, a “boot” will be passed through the crowd to help raise money for the following year’s festival.

Motion Carried

8.2 Audit – This is an ongoing process, and we are working on having financials for the next meeting. Commissioner Duncan advised the commission that Clerk Blackie and Clara MacDonald is working on the accounting, and there will be an audit committee in the coming weeks.

8.3 Accessibility—Commissioner MacEwan reported that the last meeting was canceled and that there was no new news to report.

8.4 Communities in Bloom—Committee plans are moving forward. Commissioner Parker is organizing the reinstallation of the Pugwash gateway sign in West Pugwash with support from Rob Blake, Blake Electrical, a local contractor. Communities in Bloom were invited to participate in the international competition. The village staff is looking for information to support this honour. The commission may want a

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celebration or a get-together while the judges are here. Communities in Bloom contribute a lot to this community, and we should recognize their hard work and dedication.

Tree trimming and sidewalk plans, like the walk audit for all four seasons, have been mentioned. Unsightly premise issues have also been discussed.

8.5 Advisory Committees – None to report

9. New or Other Business

9.1 – Gathering of the Clans needs the proper signing authority. We need to have a motion that Clerk Blackie be added to the Gathering of Clans accounts, along with Commissioners Duncan and MacEwan.

Moved by **Commissioner MacEwan** and seconded by **Commissioner Parker** that Clerk Blackie be added to the Gathering of the Clans bank Accounts as a signing authority.

Motion Carried

9.2 – The Association Nova Scotia Village (ANSV) is asking for support in the paid position of a staff person to work on behalf of the organization. This was discussed at the last NSVA meeting; this is not a motion to fund the position; this is to have villages pay a fee to pay this person, based on the size of the village

Moved by **Commissioner MacEwan** and seconded by **Commissioner Parker**, the Village of Pugwash supported the investigation of hiring a staff person to support the Association of Nova Scotia villages.

Motion Carried

10. Adjournments

The meeting was adjourned at **7:43 p.m.** by a motion from Commissioner Duncan.

The next regular Village meeting is at 6:00 pm on March 10th, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Christie Blackie
Acting Clerk-Treasurer

Chair _____

Clerk Treasurer _____