

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting #455  
20th November 2023 at 7pm  
Board Room, Pugwash Village Hall

**Meeting Number 455**

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 Chair Brent Wilson the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
- 1.2 An *in camera* meeting was held prior to this meeting.
- 1.3 **Territorial Acknowledgment** – read by Chair 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 Margaret Anderson
- Regrets: Commissioner Dave MacEwan
- Staff: Clerk Treasurer & recording secretary, Lisa Betts

**3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- 3.1 **IT WAS MOVED** by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the agenda as amended.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 4.1 **IT WAS MOVED** by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Mundle to approve the minutes of regular meeting 454, held October 16th, 2023.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 5.1 None

**6 PRESENTATION**

**Replacement Village planters** – Maureen Leahey, Communities in Bloom (CIB)  
Train Station window boxes – to be replaced at no cost to the Village. New brackets will be installed if necessary. The boxes will cost about \$741.

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The current planters located during the summer on Water Street and the park are 10 years old and need replacement. Design will include inserts making them easier to transport and care for. They are being built by Sunset Industries and will be ready by April 2024. CIB requests the Village to cost share on the new planters. There was some discussion on the cost and need of planters as compared to other expenditures such as playground equipment.

**6.1 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve installation of new flower boxes at the old Train Station. MOTION CARRIED**

**6.2 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to cost share with Communities in Bloom for replacement planters up to a cost of \$2,100. MOTION CARRIED**

## **7 CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 To: **Minister Michelle Thompson, Minister NS Dept Health and Wellness**  
Re: Request for public consultation and input in determining the status of level of care at the Noth Cumberland Memorial Hospital. The letter was read out by the Clerk.

Bill Martin reported that, after several calls for a public meeting that were later cancelled or by invitation only, a public meeting had been announced in an email that evening. It will be at the Pugwash Fire Station on November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Anyone wishing to attend must register first. Martin said he is the chair of the event. He reported that Nova Scotia Health had agreed to the meeting reluctantly and that the Premier became involved by insisting there be a public meeting.

[Note: the meeting was relocated to the Pugwash District High School cafeteria and the requirement for pre-registration lifted.]

7.2 Response to letter (see 7.1) from: **Colin Stevenson, NS Dept Health and Wellness**  
The department is working hard to rectify low staffing levels. There was no mention from Stevenson on public input.

7.3 From: **Village of Chester**  
Thank you for hosting the ASNV AGM and conference.

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- 7.4 From: **Scotiabank – closure of Pugwash branch in June 2024**  
Those present all showed great concern at the loss of the branch and the repercussions. A press release is prepared should the media approach the Commission chair.
- 7.5 To **Municipality Cumberland County** – extension of services  
Confirmation that the Commission is in favour of potential extension of services easterly towards existing developments.
- 7.6 **HarbourFest** et al – community Christmas dinner  
**7.6.1 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to donate \$500 towards the community Christmas dinner. MOTION CARRIED**

## 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 8.1 **Standing Committees**
- 8.1.1 **Accessibility** [Betts]  
No report.
- 8.1.2 **Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)** [Duncan]  
No report.
- 8.1.3 **Audit Committee** [Duncan]  
No report.
- 8.1.4 **Policy Review** [MacEwan/Wilson]  
No report.
- 8.2 **Special Committees**
- 8.2.1 **CN Train Station** [MacEwan/Wilson]  
8.2.1.1 Emailed report from Jennifer Houghtaling  
8.2.1.2 An updated agreement for North Cumberland Historical Society is in discussion.
- 8.3 **Advisory Committees**
- 8.3.1 None
- 8.4 **Community Committees or organizations with Village Commission/staff representation.**
- 8.4.1 **Communities in Bloom (CIB)** [Betts]  
Winterscape decorations are in progress.

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

The Commission agreed to remove Commissioner MacEwan's name from the committee members.

Martin: A very likely candidate will be available to start practice in 18 months time.

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

8.5.1 **Phone and internet**

Services and change of carriers have been streamlined over the last year. This has more than halved expenses (from a high of \$660/month)

8.5.2 **Gateway sign – west**

Pricing on new posts has been completed but it is still too wet to safely replace the posts. This is deferred until Spring.

8.5.3 **Celebrate Canada grant for Canada Day 2024**

Application is submitted.

8.5.4 **Bike Trails**

There is no land available in the Village to build a whole trail, but there is bike rodeo equipment for loan at the Town of Amherst that could be used in the tennis/basketball courts. The Commission supported the idea. The Clerk will look into liability insurance.

8.5.5 **Security cameras**

Quotes for (1) two cameras and recorder hosted by Basic Spirit and/or (2) one solar powered, internal storage camera were discussed.

8.5.5.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to purchase a solar powered security camera.**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

9 **MOTIONS**

9.1 **IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner Duncan that the search personnel proceed.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**10 NOTICE OF MOTION**

10.1 None.

**11 NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 The next regular Village meeting is 7pm, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

**12 ADJOURNMENT**

12.1 The meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm by motion from Commissioner Mundle.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Betts

Clerk Treasurer

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

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